



Grammar Talks 4-01 Do for Emphasis

## I do speak Spanish!

Two people share languages they do and don't speak.

**Todd:** Sarah, you've taught in a bunch \_\_\_\_\_ places. What countries have you taught again?

**Sara:** Quite a few. I've taught in Korea, Ecuador, Taiwan, Mexico, Japan, and the USA.

**Todd:** Okay, so you're-

**Sara:** And China. Sorry.

**Todd:** Oh wow. So you're a language teacher; you've taught in all these amazing countries. So let's \_\_\_\_\_ the languages first. Do you speak Japanese?

**Sara:** I don't. I'm embarrassed. I've lived \_\_\_\_\_ years, but I don't. How about you? Do \_\_\_\_\_ Japanese?

**Todd:** I \_\_\_\_\_ Japanese-

**Sara:** Oh, you do?

**Todd:** ... yeah, but it's \_\_\_\_\_ good.

**Sara:** Oh.

**Todd:** People don't \_\_\_\_\_ say it that much, because it's really bad, \_\_\_\_\_ speak Japanese. But it's bad. But what about the other languages? You lived in Korea. Did \_\_\_\_\_ Korean?

**Sara:** I did. I \_\_\_\_\_ Korean. And I \_\_\_\_\_ to read very well. But now, I've forgotten. So I can't speak it anymore.

**Todd:** I heard that it's relatively easy to learn the alphabet in Korea.

**Sara:** Yes, it is. It was invented by a scientist to be simple and easy to \_\_\_\_\_ to read.

**Todd:** Oh wow.

**Sara:** So it is very easy.

**Todd:** What about China? Did you learn Chinese?

**Sara:** I didn't. I did study a lot. But, in the end, I found it too difficult. Do you speak Chinese?

**Todd:** I don't speak Chinese, but I lived in Thailand for five years. And I do speak Thai, and I did study Thai when I was there. So, yeah.

**Sara:** Oh, wow.

**Todd:** And it's tonal, so it's similar, in some ways, to Chinese.

**Sara:** And can you read Thai?

**Todd:** I can read Thai.

**Sara:** Oh, wow.



## Quiz

1) Who taught in Mexico?

- a) Todd
- b) Sarah
- c) Neither of them

2) Who studied Korean?

- a) Todd
- b) Sarah
- c) Both of them

3) Who taught in Korea?

- a) Todd
- b) Sarah
- c) Both of them

4) Who speaks Thai?

- a) Todd
- b) Sarah
- c) Both of them

5) Who speaks Japanese?

- a) Todd
- b) Sarah
- c) Both of them

## Grammar Challenge

Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

- |           |              |           |            |
|-----------|--------------|-----------|------------|
| but I do  | of different | hear me   | you study  |
| did study | not very     | did learn | here six   |
| do speak  | learn how    | you speak | talk about |

## Speaking Challenge

Match the answers with the questions.

- 1) Do you speak Japanese?
- 2) Do you play the guitar?
- 3) Do you cook every night.
- 4) Does your friend speak English?
- 5) Did you study last night?

- ( \_ ) I do cook most nights, but only easy stuff.  
 ( \_ ) I did study last night, but not for long.  
 ( \_ ) I do speak Japanese, but not very well.  
 ( \_ ) I do play the guitar, but just basic chords.  
 ( \_ ) He does speak English, actually.

**What about you?** Share your answers to the questions.

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**Todd:** Yeah, I do read Thai. So actually, my Thai reading is probably better than my Japanese.

**Sara:** Oh, wow.

**Todd:** Yeah. But it's hard, because in Thai the words kind of stick together. Now, you were in Mexico and in Ecuador.

**Sara:** Yes.

**Todd:** So do you speak Spanish?

**Sara:** I do speak Spanish. That was one of my goals for moving there, was to become fluent. And I'm very happy now I can say, "I do speak Spanish."

**Todd:** And your husband was with you. Does he speak Spanish?

**Sara:** Yeah. He does speak Spanish. He studied a lot, and it really improved a lot. So now he can say the same thing. He does speak Spanish.

**Todd:** And your children?

**Sara:** They do, too. They speak Spanish.

**Todd:** Oh, nice. And your children are with you now in Japan. Do they speak Japanese?

**Sara:** They don't. They're learning very quickly. So I think they will improve, and in a couple of months, I can say that they can. But right now, their Japanese is very low.

**Todd:** So you were just in Mexico. Do you miss Mexico?

**Sara:** I do miss Mexico. I miss the food the most. I miss the Spanish language. And I miss the music. How about you? Do you miss Thailand?

**Todd:** I do miss Thailand a little bit, but not too much, because I visit there a lot. So it's not that big of a deal. I go there usually once or twice a year. But when I'm in Japan, I do miss it. I miss the food, especially.

**Sara:** Mm-hmm.

**Todd:** Now we both are outside of the U.S. We don't live in the U.S. Do you miss living in the U.S.?

**Sara:** I do miss living in the U.S. I often miss that I understand and I know the culture so well. Sometimes in Japan, I feel like an outsider. And so I do miss being in the USA, and being able to blend into the background. To be just another person. How about you? Do you miss the USA?

**Todd:** I don't.

**Sara:** You don't?

**Todd:** No, I don't miss it at all. So I visit it ... I do miss my family, and I do miss some things, especially like the food and the nature. But I don't miss actually living in America. Maybe because I go back so often. So these days, it just doesn't seem like a big deal. Now, we are both in Japan. Do you plan to teach somewhere else soon?

**Sara:** I don't. I hope to stay in Japan for a couple of years. We are relaxed, we are settled, the children are in school. I hope we can stay here. How about you? Are you going to stay? Or do you have plans to go?

**Todd:** I do have plans to go, actually. And I want your old job. I want to work for the U.S. government and I want to work in a different country.

**Sara:** You should do it!

**Todd:** I will.

## Grammar

### Do / Does / Did for Emphasis

When we want to emphasize a statement we can use **do**, **does**, and **did** with stress to add meaning.

For negative sentences, extra stress is added to **don't**, **doesn't** and **didn't** to emphasize.

**Point 1:** In present simple sentences, you can use '**do**' to show emphasis.

(Q) Do you have a car?

(A) I **do** have a car.

(N) I **don't** have a car.

(Q) Do they serve bagels?

(A) They **do** serve bagels.

(N) They **don't** serve bagels.

**Point 2:** If the subject is third person singular, then you use '**does**' to show emphasis.

(Q) Does he work here?

(A) He **does** work here.

(N) He **doesn't** work here.

(Q) Does it cost a lot to live there?

(A) It **does** cost a lot.

(N) It **doesn't** cost a lot.

**Point 3:** If the action happens in the simple past tense, use '**did**' to show emphasis.

(Q) Did he come to work today?

(A) He **did** come to work today.

(N) He **didn't** come to work today.

(Q) Did they find an apartment?

(A) They **did** find an apartment.

(N) They **didn't** find one.

**Point 4:** We can add '**do/does/did**' and '**though**' to a sentence to show contrast between two actions

1. I hate math. I **do** like science **though**.
2. He does not have much money. He **does** have a nice house **though**.
3. I got sick on vacation. We **did** have a good time **though**.



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**Sara:** I don't. I'm embarrassed. I've lived **here six** years, but I don't. How about you? Do **you speak** Japanese?

**Todd:** I **do speak** Japanese-

**Sara:** Oh, you do?

**Todd:** ... yeah, but it's **not very** good.

**Sara:** Oh.

**Todd:** People don't **hear me** say it that much, because it's really bad, **but I do** speak Japanese. But it's bad. But what about the other languages? You lived in Korea. Did **you study** Korean?

**Sara:** I did. I **did study** Korean. And I **did learn** to read very well. But now, I've forgotten. So I can't speak it anymore.

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## Quiz

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b) **Sarah**  
c) Neither of them
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- 3) Who taught in Korea? ✓  
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- 4) Who speaks Thai? ✓  
a) **Todd**  
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- 5) Who speaks Japanese? ✓  
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