

EL PRETÉRITO: -CAR, -GAR, -ZAR

In the preterit tense, verbs that end in -car, -gar, -zar have a spelling change in the YO form. The spelling change is required to maintain the original sound of the infinitive.

-CAR (c → qu)

-GAR (g → gu)

-ZAR (z → c)

| | <u>tocar</u> | <u>jugar</u> | <u>empezar</u> |
|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| yo | <u>to<u>qu</u>é</u> | <u>ju<u>gu</u>é</u> | <u>em<u>pe</u>ce<u>é</u></u> |
| tú | <u>to<u>ca</u>ste</u> | <u>ju<u>ga</u>ste</u> | <u>em<u>pe</u>zaste</u> |
| él ella Ud. | <u>to<u>c</u>ó</u> | <u>ju<u>g</u>ó</u> | <u>em<u>p</u>ezó</u> |
| nosotros nosotras | <u>to<u>ca</u>mos</u> | <u>ju<u>ga</u>mos</u> | <u>em<u>pe</u>zamos</u> |
| vosotros vosotras | <u>to<u>ca</u>steis</u> | <u>ju<u>ga</u>steis</u> | <u>em<u>pe</u>zasteis</u> |
| ellos ellas Uds. | <u>to<u>ca</u>ron</u> | <u>ju<u>ga</u>ron</u> | <u>em<u>pe</u>zaron</u> |