

## Accent Rules

### What are the rules for regular word stress, i.e. words with no accents?

We use accents to show irregular word or syllable stress. Therefore, first we should learn the rules for regular word stress (for words of more than one syllable).

#### Rule 1:

Words ending in a vowel; n or s are stressed on the last syllable but one. eg: **ca**sa, **li**bro, **me**sa, **co**che, **ma**dre, **lu**nes, **jo**ven

#### Rule 2:

Words ending in a consonant (not including n and s) are stressed on the last syllable. eg: **be**ber, **pa**pel, **ver**dad

### Now we will look at words that break the rules and therefore have an accent.

When a word does not follow the rules above we put an accent over the stressed vowel.

**Words that break rule 1** (they ought to have the stress on the penultimate syllable)

comí, miércoles, cuídate, vivió, estación

**Words that break rule 2** (they ought to have the stress on the last syllable)

lápiz, clímax, difícil,