

Vivir Mi Vida by Marc Anthony

This is an uplifting and fun song to dance to. The overall message of "vivir mi vida" (literally translated as "to live my life") is to live your life freely. It's very similar to the saying "live in the moment."

The chorus of the song is simple and catchy. It also has some key words you can use in every day conversation, but we'll get to that later.

Key Words

Bailar - to dance

Reír - to laugh

Gozar - to enjoy

Vivir - to live

Vida – Life

Coro (Chorus)

Letra (Lyrics)

Voy a reír, voy a bailar
(I'm going to laugh, I'm going to dance)

Vivir mi vida, la la la la
(Live my life, la la la la)

Voy a reír, voy a gozar
(I'm going to laugh, I'm going to enjoy [myself])

Vivir mi vida, la la la la
(Live my life, la la la la)

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First Verse

A veces llega la lluvia
(Sometimes the rain comes)

Para limpiar las heridas
([in order] to clean the wounds)

A veces sólo una gota
(Sometimes just one drop)

Puede vencer la sequía
(Can overcome the drought)

Y para qué, llorar, pa'qué?
(so why cry? For what?)

Si duele una pena, se olvida
(If something is troubling you, forget [about] it)

Y para qué, sufrir, pa'qué?
(And why suffer, for what?)

Si así es la vida, hay que vivirla, la la le
(If that's the way life is, you [just] have to live [your life], la la le)

Explanations

"Sometimes the rain comes to clean our wounds" is similar to saying tears wash away your pain. The metaphor of the drought being overcome by a raindrop is like the idea of the straw that broke the camel's back, but with a positive spin.

Key Words

Limpiar - to clean
Vencer - to overcome
Puede - [it] can
Lluvia - rain
Llega - [it] arrives
Gota - drop
Sequia - drought
Llorar - to cry
Duele - [it] hurts
Olvida - forget
Sufrir - to suffer

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This is a beautiful concept. We all struggle sometimes, and although things we go through can be painful, one small thing can make a difference. Someone simply saying "thank you," a friend calling just to say "hi," or a smile from a stranger may be all we need to go from being in a funk to having a good day.

"Si duele una pena, se olvida" would be literally translated as "if a sorrow hurts, forget it" but in English that sounds odd. The way we might express this is "if something is bothering you, forget about your troubles/let it go."

"Para que" is a complete phrase that means "for what [reason]." Often the "ra" in "para" isn't pronounced in spoken Spanish in the Caribbean and other places, so it sounds like "pah-kay."

"Hay que" is a phrase that means "one must." In English, we generally say "you have to" instead. For example, "one must work" would be "you have to work."

Key Words

Soñar - to dream

Entender - to understand

Escuchar - to listen

Camino - way

Sigue - continue

Second Verse

Voy a vivir el momento
(I'm going to live [in] the moment)

Para entender el destino
(To understand my destiny)

Voy a escuchar en silencio
(I'm going to listen in silence)

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Para encontrar el camino
Para encontrar el camino
(To find the path)

<Chorus Repeats>

siente y baila y goza
(feel and dance and enjoy)

que la vida es una sola
(you only live once)

voy a reír, voy a bailar
(I'm going to laugh, I'm going to dance)

vive, sigue
(live, keep going)

siempre pa'lante, no mires pa' tras
(always forward, don't look back)

mi gente, la vida es una
(my people, you only live once)

<Chorus Repeats>

Explanations

"Pa'lante" is short for "para adelante (forward)." Similarly, "Pa' tras" is the shortened version of "para tras (back)." "Para," in this case, is used to indicate direction. In these examples, it means "to" or "toward."

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One final note about this song. You will hear Marc Anthony say ¡Eso! in this song and others. It literally means "that," but in this context it's just an exclamation of excitement that doesn't have a direct translation into English. The closest might be "That's it!" or "Alright!"

That's the whole song! Now try to listen to it in full speed after you've reviewed each section and are confident you understand most of what's being said.

Download the Whole Song - Full Speed



Spanish You Can Use

1) I am going to...

"Voy a" is a phrase repeated over and over in this song, and you can use it in everyday conversation. It means "I am going to," and can be used whenever you want to express something you are going to do in the near future. Just add the action word (verb) to it.

Examples:

- *Voy a comer (I'm going to eat)*
- *Voy a dormir (I'm going to sleep)*
- *Voy al supermercado (I'm going to the store)*

Note: **al** is the contraction of "to" (a) and "the" (el)

A common phrase is "Voy a irme" (pronounced "boy - ah - eer - meh) which means "I'm going to leave." You can also say "me voy" which means "I'm leaving."

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2) I am not going to...

You can also use it to talk about what you won't do by just adding the word "no" at the beginning:

- *No voy a llorar (I'm not going to cry)*
- *No voy a regresar (I'm not coming back)*
- *No voy a limpiar la casa (I'm not going to clean the house)*

3) I forgot

The song uses the word "olvida" which means "forget." But, if you want to say "I forgot" you can use the phrase **se me olvidó** (hear the pronunciation in the audio file below).

4) Sometimes

"A veces" is another phrase used in this song. It means "sometimes" and is used the same way you would use it in English. It's a very useful phrase to know and it pretty common.

What You've Learned

1. How to say "I'm going to" do something
2. How to say "I'm not going to" do something
3. How to say "I'm leaving"
4. How to say "I forgot"
5. How to say "sometimes"

Sample Phrases with Translations ([Download .mp3](#))

Isn't it amazing how much Spanish you can learn with one song?

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Your Assignment

Beginner/Novice: Write 5 sentences using one of the words or phrases you learned from the song. To practice your pronunciation, record a voice note or video of yourself reading the sentences and post to the [Facebook group](#) for feedback.

Intermediate: Write a paragraph about your plans for the day. To practice speaking, record a voice note or video reading your paragraph and post to the [Facebook group](#) for feedback.

Advanced: Write a paragraph or record a voice note/video about how you feel about the message of the song. Does this song resonate with you? What brings you joy in life and makes you feel like you're living in the moment? Share in the [Facebook group](#).

Vocabulary Booster

To review the vocabulary from this song, here are audio files for each section. The words are provided in Spanish, then in English. Repeat the word with the native speaker after the English translation to practice your pronunciation.

- Key Words - Chorus ([Download .mp3](#))
- Key Words - First Verse ([Download .mp3](#))
- Key Words - Second Verse ([Download .mp3](#))