**STEM-CHANGING VERBS: E:I**

Remember, there are three types of infinitives: -ar, -er, -ir. Infinitives are made up of two parts: the ending and the stem. In the following examples, the stem is underlined, and the ending is in **bold**.

*habl****ar*** *com****er*** *viv****ir***

With regular verbs, the stem stays the same, and the ending changes as they are conjugated.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| habl**o** | com**o** | viv**o** |
| habl**as** | com**es** | viv**es** |
| habl**a** | com**e** | viv**e** |
| habl**amos** | com**emos** | viv**imos** |
| habl**áis** | com**éis** | viv**ís** |
| habl**an** | com**en** | viv**en** |

With some verbs, the stem also changes when you conjugate them. In the present tense, there are three groups of stem-changing verbs:

*o:ue e:ie* ***e:i***

**OVER**

With the third group of stem-changing verbs, the letter **e in the stem changes to I,** in all forms **except** the nosotros and vosotros.

*rep****e****tir*

*rep****i****to  
rep****i****tes  
rep****i****te*

*repetimos  
repetís*

*rep****i****ten*

Here’s another e:i stem changing verb. Compare it to the regular verb vivir. Notice that the endings are the same for regular verbs and stem-changing verbs.

*competir (e:i)  
vivir (regular -ir verb)*

*compit****o*** *viv****o***

*compit****es*** *viv****es***

*compit****e*** *viv****e***

*compet****imos*** *viv****imos***

*compet****ís*** *viv****ís***

*compit****en*** *viv****en***

Here’s another e:i stem-changing verb. Notice how the stem doesn’t change in the nosotros and vosotros forms.

*pedir (e:i)*

*pido  
pides  
pide*

*pedimos  
pedís*

*piden*

Here is a list of common e:i stem-changing verbs. ***bendecir****(\*) to bless*

***Impeder*** *to impede*

***Colegir*** *to deduce* ***OVER***

***maldecir****(\*) to curse*

***competir*** *to compete*

***medir*** *to measure*

***conseguir*** *to get, obtain*

***pedir*** *to ask for, to order*

***corregir*** *to correct*

***perseguir*** *to pursue, to persecute*

***decir****(****\*****) to say, tell*

***reír*** *to laugh*

***despedir*** *to dismiss, fire*

***repetir*** *to repeat*

***elegir*** *to elect*

***seguir*** *to follow, continue*

***freír*** *to fry*

***server*** *to serve*

***gemir*** *to groan, moan*

***sonreír*** *to smile*

**\* Note: The verb “decir” and its derivative forms are irregular in the first person: yo digo, etc.**