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**Terrell, Tracy, Magdalena Andrade, Jeanne Egasse, and Elías Miguel Muñoz. *Dos mundos: Comunicación y comunidad*. 6th Edition.**

**New York: McGraw Hill, 2006. ISBN: 0-07-295925-8 (9780072959253). For orders and information, please contact McGraw-Hill-Higher Education at [www.mhhe.com](http://www.mhhe.com).**

McGraw-Hill's *Dos mundos: Comunicación y comunidad*, by the late Tracy D. Terrell, Magdalena Andrade, Jeanne Egasse and Elías Miguel Muñoz, is the latest version of a now classic introductory college-level Spanish language and culture program published by McGraw-Hill, and the new edition is every bit as comprehensive as earlier ones.

There are new changes and features added to this edition, though the format of the text has not changed; grammar sections are still separate from the communicative exercises, and vocabulary is condensed into just one or two pages. The current program includes not only the exquisitely colorful main text (teacher and student editions) but also the *cuaderno de actividades* (teacher and student editions), with both hard copy and online workbook options. Also new to this edition are Flash-based animations that bring to life the cast of characters from the textbook. They are called *Los amigos norte-americanos* and *Los amigos hispanos* and are a hallmark of the *Dos mundos* program. Students are able to click on the *Los amigos animados* link on the left-hand side of the screen to view samples of these exciting new animations. In addition, for instructors who choose to have students submit homework and lab assignments electronically, there is an Online Learning Center Website where students can access Premium Content ([www.mhhe.com/dosmundos6](http://www.mhhe.com/dosmundos6)) and complete homework and lab/listening activities.

Now for a few specifics:

- Each chapter opener now includes a brief cultural timeline of the country (or countries) featured in that chapter to enhance students' cultural and historical knowledge. This is in addition to the *Ventanas culturales* that introduce important people from each country and the clear *metas* (or goals) to be accomplished in each chapter.
- A new feature of the online media provides a quick review of the theme, vocabulary, and grammar of the previous chapter in a unique, interactive, Flash-based animation format. The new *Los amigos animados* animations (30 in total!) bring the cast of characters from the textbook to life. These animations are available as Premium Content on the Online Learning Center, on the optional interactive CD-ROM, and also in the video program.
- A new literary feature in each chapter — *Enlaces literarios* — introduces students to short readings (poetry or narrative) by renowned Hispanic writers. Each reading has been carefully selected for its quality and level of difficulty to facilitate reading comprehension and language acquisition.

Vocabulary for the reading is presented in a separate vocabulary box on the same page as the literary text.

- A new cultural feature called *Ventanas al pasado* focuses on specific historical aspects of the Spanish-speaking world: artists, and other important figures, significant historic events, traditions, folklore, and so forth.
- Minor changes have been made to the scope and sequence of grammar in the early chapters, in response to reviewer feedback.
- Activities, photos, art, and *realia* have been updated throughout.

The multimedia package items for instructors include the following:

- 1.) Instructor's Edition and Instructor's Manual
- 2.) Instructor's Resource Kit, pre-punched for a binder, with many activities to do in class to elicit speech in Spanish
- 3.) Testing Program with Testing Audio script and 4 CDs
- 4.) Electronic testing program with Testing Audio CD
- 5.) Instructor's Resource CD (Instructor's Manual, Instructor's Resource Kit, Testing Program, Audio Script, Overhead Transparencies)
- 6.) Institutional CD-ROM package
- 7.) Adopter's Audio CD Program (20 CDs)
- 8.) Pre-punched Overhead Teacher Transparencies
- 9.) Picture file and instructor guide with sample questions for each picture
- 10.) Video on CD (or two VHS tapes) that accompany the text.
  - a. Minimum system requirements for the Video on CD for Windows: Intel Pentium II Processor or greater (min. 266 MHz); Windows 98SE/ME/2000/XP; 64 MB RAM; QuickTime 6.0 or greater; Sound card and speakers; and 10X CD-ROM drive or faster.
  - b. Minimum system requirements for the Video on CD for Macintosh: Power PC Processor (min. 266 MHz); Mac OS 8, 9, X; 64 MB RAM; QuickTime 6.0 or greater; Sound card and speakers; and 10X CD-ROM drive or faster.
- 11.) Interactive Student CD-ROM for both PC and Mac has the same system requirements as the Video on CD and may require a microphone to record exercises. The interactive CD is designed to help students practice Spanish. It includes the following:
  - a. Activities and games to practice vocabulary and grammar
  - b. A talking dictionary where students can click on a word and hear how it is pronounced
  - c. Hours of audio and video recordings
  - d. A wealth of cultural information on customs and traditions in all Spanish-speaking countries

- e. The Flash animations feature called *los amigos animados*
- f. Simulated video conversations with heritage speakers of Spanish

The multimedia package items for Students include the following:

- 1.) Student Edition text
- 2.) Student Edition CD-ROM to supplement the *cuaderno de actividades*
- 3.) Your choice of a two-part workbook: *Cuaderno de actividades, Part A* and *Cuaderno de actividades, Part B* OR the complete workbook *Cuaderno de actividades*, combined
- 4.) Student Audio CD Program, Part A and Student Audio CD Program, Part B
- 5.) Two-part Online *Cuaderno de actividades*: Part A and Part B
- 6.) Online *Cuaderno de actividades*, combined
- 7.) Interactive CD-ROM
- 8.) Video on CD or in VHS format

Potential adopters of *Dos mundos: Comunicación y comunidad* should be aware that system requirements for the CD-ROMs are the same as those listed above for the Interactive CD-ROM. Moreover, the publisher, McGraw-Hill, provides hard copy versions of the *Dos mundos: Comunicación y comunidad* sample lesson planner and video guide in the Instructor's Manual. The publisher also provides hard copy and electronic versions of the assessment program.

What this reviewer particularly likes about *Dos mundos: Comunicación y comunidad*, beyond the impressive array of teacher and student interactive resource materials, is the sequencing of each textbook chapter as well as the fact that each chapter focuses on a different geographic area of the Spanish-speaking world. There is an introduction explaining to both teachers and students how to use the textbook, clarifying what to expect from the *Natural Approach*, and providing tips for students on how to become successful language learners. Each chapter starts out with activities, and the vocabulary section for each chapter is located in the same place — right before the blue grammar section. With this type of consistency, students can easily find vocabulary and grammar explanations. This reviewer also likes the fact that each chapter now includes a timeline with important events in history for each featured country. Chapter *metas* (or goals) are clearly stated; traditional artwork and cultural information are also included in the chapter openers. Furthermore, even though there are hard copy examinations provided by the publisher, the Electronic Testing CD makes it possible for the individual teacher to create his/her own examinations.

As for format, the first three chapter sequences, *Paso A*, *B*, and *C*, include (listed in order):

- 1.) Chapter opener page — with timeline, chapter goals, and overview of activities and grammar
- 2.) *Actividades de comunicación*

3.) *Vocabulario*

4.) *Gramática y ejercicios*

Chapter sequences for *Capítulo 1* to 15 include:

- 1.) Opening page — with timeline, chapter goals, and overview of activities and grammar
- 2.) *Actividades de comunicación y lecturas* — *Ventanas culturales*, *Enlace literario*, and *Ventanas al pasado*
- 3.) *En resumen*
- 4.) *Vocabulario*
- 5.) *Gramática y ejercicios*

Each chapter has a good balance of activities that emphasize the four key skill areas of reading, speaking, writing, and listening. All exercises are geared toward language competency and production. Potential users of *Dos mundos: Comunicación y comunidad* should bear in mind that students are also able to do chapter self-tests or quizzes online at [www.mhhe.com/dosmundos6](http://www.mhhe.com/dosmundos6) and click on the student link on the Online Learning Center icon to access course-wide content and listen to vocabulary, practice verb conjugation, access Flash grammar tutorials, and do practice quizzes. Truly distinctive is the separate section exclusively devoted to grammar explanations and exercises.

The text also discusses timelines of the different Hispanic regions of the world and includes one or two countries per chapter. The countries presented in chapter order are: Panamá, Nicaragua, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, Los Estados Unidos, Guatemala, Venezuela, Costa Rica, Argentina, El Salvador, Bolivia, La Republica Dominicana and Puerto Rico, Uruguay and Paraguay, Chile, Perú, España, and México. It is refreshing to see a textbook that includes the United States as part of the Spanish-speaking world, especially as in the twenty-first century, the Hispanic population is the fastest growing minority population here. With the addition of timelines, brief as they may be, important events in each of these countries are highlighted. For example, in the *Ventanas* sections famous Hispanics, such as *Antoni Gaudí, gran arquitecto*, are introduced. In the section entitled *Lecturas*, important cultural events, literary works, and places of interest are mentioned, some of which include: *La presencia vital de los hispanos (en los Estados Unidos)*, *Machu Picchu*, *Deliciosos platos andinos*, *Costa Rica*, and *Mérida*.

*Dos mundos: Comunicación y comunidad* is a genuinely solid program. While this reviewer has used previous versions of the text, she believes that the additions make it even better. This reviewer therefore heartily encourages prospective adopters of the textbook package to visit [www.mhhe.com](http://www.mhhe.com) to explore for themselves the rich possibilities of using *Dos mundos: Comunicación y comunidad* with their students.

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## Publisher's Response

McGraw-Hill is happy to have the opportunity to respond to Professor Saterbo's favorable review of the sixth edition of *Dos mundos*, which she describes as a classic text that has added new features to make the program even stronger. In its sixth edition, *Dos mundos* retains its hallmark approach, focusing on communicative activities with grammar serving to reinforce the language acquisition process. As Professor Saterbo points out, the sixth edition also includes expanded cultural content and new literary selections, additions that were based on feedback from instructors using the text.

In her review, Professor Saterbo provides a comprehensive summary of *Dos mundos* and its "impressive array" of student and instructor resources. She also highlights many of the features that were added in its sixth edition, such as the Flash-based "Amigos animados," the chapter-opening cultural timeline, and new cultural and literary features called *Enlaces literarios* and *Ventanas al pasado*. As someone who has used previous editions of *Dos mundos*, she is well-qualified to observe and comment on changes appearing in the sixth edition. We are grateful to Professor Saterbo for sharing her enthusiasm for the *Dos mundos* program and for encouraging others to "explore for themselves the rich possibilities" of using this popular program.

McGraw-Hill World Languages is committed to publishing high quality foreign language print and digital materials, and we are proud to include *Dos mundos* and its ancillary program among our many titles. We again thank Professor Saterbo for sharing her review of *Dos mundos* with the readership of *The NECTFL Review*.

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Sponsoring Editor, World Languages  
McGraw-Hill