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every day corporations are connecting the dots about our personal behavior silently scrutinizing clues left behind by our work habits and internet use the data compiled and portraits created are incredibly detailed to the point of being invasive but who connects the dots about what firms are doing with this information the black box society argues that we all need to be able to do so and to set limits on how big data affects our lives hidden algorithms can make or ruin reputations decide the destiny of entrepreneurs or even devastate an entire economy shrouded in secrecy and complexity decisions at major silicon valley and wall street firms were long assumed to be neutral and technical but leaks whistleblowers and legal disputes have shed new light on automated judgment self serving and reckless behavior is surprisingly common and easy to hide in code protected by legal and real secrecy even after billions of dollars of fines have been levied underfunded regulators may have only scratched the surface of this troubling behavior frank pasquale exposes how powerful interests abuse secrecy for profit and explains ways to rein them in demanding transparency is only the first step an intelligible society would assure that key

decisions of its most important firms are fair nondiscriminatory and open to criticism silicon valley and wall street need to accept as much accountability as they impose on others

after explaining the challenges levels and strategies of integration the book explains soa web services and the enterprise services bus before covering processing xml and web services on the net and jee platforms in more detail then it covers bepl and demonstrates service composition into business processes with a realistic although simple example bpel process finally it shows how esb provides a concrete infrastructure for soa this book is for architects and senior developers who are responsible for setting up soa for integration for applications within the enterprise intra enterprise integration and applications across enterprises inter enterprise integration or b2b

image is a tool that guarantees success but only if you know how to use it even if you are the best the most experienced or the most talented you cannot enjoy prosperity until you build an image that makes you visible to your potential market the persona principle will teach you the most powerful image marketing secrets of the world s leading enterprises you ll learn to create an effective plan to reach your business sales marketing and personal goals all on image alone

provides the most complete and up to date account of our understanding of the magellanic clouds and the astrophysical processes within them

argues that the privacy of individuals actually hampers accountability which is the foundation of any civilized society and that openness is far more liberating than secrecy

this book presents the best articles and columns published in java report between 1997 and 1999 each article is independent of any specific version of java and relies mainly on those classes that are now part of the standard java class library and apis also each article and column discusses java topics and implementations that are not readily available in a single book the book serves as an excellent reference to anyone involved with java the reader can learn more about the language perform analysis design and modeling work on specific implementations check performance and perform testing this book presents the good ideas of people who have used java for real applications

a wall street journal best business book of 2012 a kirkus reviews best book of 2012 in this revealing account of how the digital universe exploded in the aftermath of world war ii george dyson illuminates the nature of digital computers the lives of those who brought them into existence and how code took over the world in the 1940s and 50s a small group of men and women led by john von neumann gathered in princeton new jersey to begin building one of the first computers to realize alan turing s vision of a universal machine the codes unleashed within this embryonic 5 kilobyte universe less memory than is allocated to displaying a single icon on a computer screen today broke the distinction between numbers that mean things and numbers that do things and our universe would never be the same turing s cathedral is the story of how the most constructive and most destructive of twentieth century inventions the digital computer and the hydrogen bomb emerged at the same time

the washington post has called jeffrey davidson a human dynamo of business book writing ideas that win setting up shop start up money are only a few of the topics in this comprehensive

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the well being of individuals routinely depends on their success in obtaining goods and avoiding burdens distributed by society local justice offers the first systematic analysis of the principles and procedures used in dispensing local justice in situations as varied as the admission of students to college the choice of patients for organ transplants the selection of workers for layoffs and the induction of men into the army a prominent theorist in the field of rational choice and decision making jon elster develops a rich selection of empirical examples and case studies to demonstrate the diversity of procedures used by institutions that mete out local justice from this revealing material elster fashions a conceptual framework for understanding why institutions make these crucial allocations in the ways they do elster s investigation discloses the many complex and varied approaches of such decision making bodies as selective service and adoption agencies employers and universities prison and immigration authorities what are the conflicting demands placed on these institutions by the needs of applicants the recommendations of external agencies and their own organizational imperatives often as elster shows methods of allocation may actually aggravate social problems for instance the likelihood that handicapped or minority infants will be adopted is further decreased when agencies apply the same stringent screening criteria exclusion of people over forty single parents working wives and low income families that they use for more sought after babies elster proposes a classification of the main principles and procedures used to match goods with individuals charts the interactions among these mechanisms of local justice and evaluates them in terms of fairness and efficiency from his empirical groundwork elster builds an innovative analysis of the historical processes by which at given times and under given circumstances preferences become principles and principles become procedures local justice concludes with a comparison of local justice systems with major contemporary theories of social justice utilitarianism john rawls s a theory of justice robert nozick s anarchy state and utopia and discusses the common sense conception of justice held by professional decision makers such as lawyers economists and politicians the difference between what we say about justice and how we actually dispense it is the illuminating principle behind elster s book a perceptive and cosmopolitan study local justice is a seminal work for all those concerned with the formation of ethical policy and social welfare philosophers economists political scientists health care professionals policy makers and educators

where is god in the universe if anywhere why did god make germs why should we be so special could the universe have been different this is a book that brings home in no uncertain fashion the discrepancy between the universe envisaged by the ancient sages and prophets and that of modern scientific cosmology where the possibility of divine intervention looks less and less likely butchins demonstrates with clarity how the scientific method may be used despite certain drawbacks in an attempt to verify objective truth it describes how the effect of the copernican revolution in the seventeenth century has steadily undermined the basic structure of the three great monotheistic religions of our day judaism christianity and islam especially with respect to their eschatological concepts the eastern religions being less anthropomorphic are less affected the theistic argument from design is shown to be powerful enough to have caused disagreement among present day scientists in spite of the strictures of professor dawkins in general the book

attempts to make some sense of the structure of the universe in terms of our own consciousness it behoves the reader to consider tha

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this is your foolproof guide on how to make your start up stand out from the crowd get professional business advice in the palm of your hands this uniquely visual guide equips you with everything you need to know about setting up and running your own business are you looking to start a business you ll need advice on how to identify your customer what pitfalls to anticipate and how best to spend your time and money to turn your idea into a profitable venture this insightful business book takes you through everything from balancing the books to building a brand it inspires you to take that giant leap towards making your entrepreneurial dreams come true the simplest most visual guide to becoming an entrepreneur ever this comprehensive guide to starting your own business acts as an invaluable blueprint for your path to business success it s the ultimate gift for entrepreneurs or anyone who wants to learn more about the world of business management this informative reference book is packed with practical authoritative information on the skills required to run a small business easy to understand graphics no nonsense advice and jargon free language insightful and inspiring quotes from the most successful minds in business this entrepreneur book gives you all the tools you need to understand how a modern start up works and then start your own whether you re a ceo or an aspiring tech entrepreneur the information and advice in how to start your own business can be applied to anyone complete the series this guide to setting up a small business is part of the how it works series from dk books expand your knowledge about business and management even further with how business works and how management works

a poignant uplifting heartbreaking love story from the beloved bestselling pulitzer prize winning author to read a novel by anne tyler is to fall in love people thirty eight year old jeremy pauling has never left home he lives on the top floor of a baltimore row house where he creates collages of little people snipped from wrapping paper his elderly mother putters in the rooms below until her death and it is then that jeremy is forced to take in mary tell and her child as boarders mary is unaware of how much courage it takes jeremy to look her in the eye for jeremy like one of his paper creations is fragile and easily torn especially when he s falling in love

there is a long tradition of opposition to war and organized peace campaigns date from 1815 since 1945 however modern weapons technology has threatened world wide destruction and has stimulated widespread protests this book sketches in the background of thinking about peace and resistance to war before 1945 and then examines how public opposition to nuclear weapons and testing grew in the 1950s and early 1960s later chapters cover the major resurgence of nuclear disarmament campaigns in the 1980s the book also looks at how peace protest has spread from its origins in north america and north west europe to embrace many parts of the world opposition to nuclear testing has indeed been particularly strong in japan australia new zealand and the pacific islands the period 1945 to 1990 was dominated by the cold war between the usa and ussr and the role of the soviet sponsored world peace council caused difficulties for indeptendent peace groups in the west during the 1980s the emergence of autonomous peace activity in a number of east european countries and even on a very small scale in the ussr itself transformed the possibilities for east west co operation between citizens to urge disarmament and political change a chapter examines these developments opposition to all forms of militarism has spread in the last 30 years this book charts the struggles to extend the right to conscientious objection to military service and draft resistance to particular wars for example in southern africa and israel it also looks in some detail at the growing opposition to the war in the vietnam the recent protests against the gulf war are surveyed briefly in an epilogue

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deputy billy lafitte is not unfamiliar with the law he just prefers to enforce it rather than abide by it but his rule bending and bribe taking have gotten him kicked off the force in gulfport mississippi and he s been given a second chance in the desolate siberian wastelands of rural minnesota now billy s only got the local girls and local booze to keep him company until one of the local girls cute little drew bassist for a psychobilly band asks billy for help with her boyfriend something about the drugs ian s been selling some product he may have lost and the men who are threatening him because of it billy agrees to look into it and before long he s speeding down a snowy road tracking a cell of terrorists with a severed head in his truck s cab and that s only the start praise for yellow medicine on my list of the most original voices in crime fiction today anthony neil smith easily makes it into the top five yellow medicine is a terrific read a crime noir bullet train ride on unsafe tracks scott wolven author of controlled burn yellow medicine gets its hooks into you from its first turbulent pages it is the novel s complicated captivating hero deputy billy lafitte who holds you from beginning to end he s a liar a cheat and a pretty bad guy but so richly rendered that before you know it you find yourself following him through the darkest of terrains and eagerly megan abbott author of the edgar nominated queenpin yellow medicine starts

with one of the most memorable and engaging anti heroes in recent memory mix in bent cops a psychobilly band called elvis antichrist meth cooks in the minnesota sticks and a truly nasty pack of wannabe jihadists add a liberal helping of guns knives and explosives you re gonna love it j d rhoades author of a good day in hell and safe and sound anthony neil smith has taken the stark freezing landscape of rural minnesota and brought it to life with an injection of louisiana hot sauce in the form of deputy billy lafitte a violent bawdy thrilling edgy gut churning masterpiece victor gischler author of go go girls of the apocalypse pistol poets and the edgar nominated gun monkeys smith deserves credit for taking a risk by creating a character like lafitte whose private code of honor if any is far more obscure than an anti hero like mickey spillane s mike hammer publishers weekly all in all though smith has a powerful voice and delivers quite a romp offering along the way a sort of tony hillerman glimpse into a part of the country that is not often the subject of crime fiction steve glassman booklist

adam west star of the classic batman television series gives a behind the scenes account of what really went on when the cameras stopped rolling includes candid photos and an episode guide no bat fan should be without

be your own boss entrepreneurs enjoy a freedom few ever know starting your own business is one of the few remaining paths to wealth and this book is a valuable road map robert k kiyosaki author of rich dad poor dad tap into more than 30 years of small business expertise as you embark on the most game changing journey of your life your new business this unmatched guide the best selling business startup book of all time offers critical startup essentials and a current comprehensive view of what it takes to survive the crucial first three years giving you exactly what you need to survive and succeed plus you ll get advice and insight from experts and practicing entrepreneurs all offering common sense approaches and solutions to a wide range of challenges pin point your target market uncover creative financing for startup and growth use online resources to streamline your business plan learn the secrets of successful marketing discover digital and social media tools and how to use them take advantage of hundreds of resources receive vital forms worksheets and checklists from startup to retirement millions of entrepreneurs and small business owners have trusted entrepreneur to point them in the right direction we ll teach you the secrets of the winners and give you exactly what you need to lay the groundwork for success

these are not mere dreams and visions these are a calling six people five mind numbing visions four ancient and mysterious artifacts two exotic locations and one greedy man who will stop at nothing not even murder to achieve his goal rev adam bridger and his wife dr rachel tremaine are once again in the center of an adventure not of their making and joining them are four total strangers who along with rachel have seen visions that most mortals can t imagine they have been called on a mission that will forever change the world if they survive

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Decoding "Como Estas": A Deep Dive into Spanish Greetings

Learning a new language can feel overwhelming, but mastering simple greetings is a fantastic first step. One of the most common phrases you'll encounter in Spanish is "Como estas?" This seemingly simple question holds more nuance than meets the eye. This article will break down its meaning, usage, and variations to help you confidently navigate Spanish conversations.

1. The Literal Meaning and its Nuances

The literal translation of "Como estas?" is "How are you?" However, the depth of meaning isn't always directly equivalent to the English counterpart. While it can be used as a formal or informal greeting depending on context, it's often less about receiving a detailed health report and more about initiating a friendly interaction. Think of it as a social lubricant rather than a medical inquiry. In many situations, a simple "Bien, gracias" (Fine, thank you) is a perfectly adequate response, even if you're not feeling your best.

2. Formal vs. Informal Variations: Context Matters

While "Como estas?" is perfectly acceptable in most informal settings, Spanish distinguishes between formal and informal speech. The "usted" form is used for formal situations, and it changes the question slightly. The formal equivalent is "¿Cómo está usted?" Notice the addition of "usted" and the change in verb conjugation. Using the incorrect form can sound either overly familiar or excessively stiff depending on the context. Using "¿Cómo está usted?" to a close friend might feel unnatural, while using "¿Cómo estas?" to your boss could be perceived as disrespectful. Examples: Informal: "¿Cómo estas, Maria? ¿Qué tal tu día?" (How are you, Maria? How's your day going?) – Used with friends, family, or people you know well. Formal: "¿Cómo está usted, señor Garcia? ¿Cómo le va?" (How are you, Mr. Garcia? How is it going?) – Used for addressing elders, strangers, or authority figures.

3. Responding Appropriately: Beyond "Bien, Gracias"

While "Bien, gracias" is a safe and common response, don't be afraid to elaborate slightly, especially with close friends or family. You can add details like: Bien, gracias, ¿y tú? (Fine, thanks, and you?) – This shows politeness and keeps the conversation flowing. Más o menos (So-so) – A useful response if you're not feeling great, but don't want to go into detail. Regular, gracias (Okay, thank you) – A straightforward and neutral option. ¡Genial! (Great!) – Expresses enthusiasm and positive feelings. Remember, the response should match the level of formality of

the greeting. A simple "Bien, gracias" is perfectly acceptable in most formal situations.

4. Expanding the Conversation: Beyond the Greeting

"Como estas?" often acts as a springboard for further conversation. The person asking isn't necessarily expecting a detailed health update but rather an opening to interact and connect. Be prepared to respond with a brief update on your day or a simple comment about the weather or current events. This demonstrates engagement and shows you're interested in the conversation. Example: "¿Como estas?" "Bien, gracias. Un poco cansado, pero bien. ¿Y t ? ¿Qu  tal el partido de f tbol anoche?" (Fine, thanks. A little tired, but good. And you? How was the football match last night?)

5. Regional Variations and Similar Phrases

While "¿Como estas?" is widely understood across Spanish-speaking regions, slight variations exist. You might hear similar phrases like "¿Qu  tal?" ("What's up?") or "¿Qu  pasa?" ("What's happening?") These are generally more informal than "¿Como estas?" and are usually reserved for close friends and family.

Key Insights & Actionable Takeaways

Context is key: Use " C mo est  usted?" in formal settings and " C mo estas?" in informal ones. A simple "Bien, gracias" is often sufficient, but feel free to elaborate. Use the question as a starting point for further conversation. Don't be afraid to experiment and practice!

FAQs

1. Is it rude to answer "Como estas?" with just "Bien"? Not necessarily rude, but adding "gracias" ("thank you") is generally considered more polite. 2. What if I don't understand the response? Don't be afraid to politely ask for clarification. You can say " Perd n? No entiendo." (Excuse me? I don't understand.) 3. Are there any other ways to ask "How are you" in Spanish? Yes, many! " Qu  tal?" and " Qu  pasa?" are common informal alternatives. " C mo te encuentras?" is a more formal and slightly more inquisitive way to ask. 4. How should I respond if someone asks "Como estas?" and I'm having a bad day? You can use "M s o menos" (so-so) or briefly explain your situation without going into excessive detail. Remember, it's a greeting, not an interrogation. 5. Can I use "Como estas?" with people I've just met? While generally acceptable in less formal situations, using " C mo est  usted?" with strangers is safer and more respectful, particularly with older individuals.

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