## # 1: Perífrasis de Movimiento

Spanish uses verbal phrases or *perífrasis* to describe the direction of movement for some verbs. A typical example is: *«entró corriendo»* (entered running) or *«salió volando»* (exited running) which would sound odd or unnatural in English.

In English the direction is expressed by means of a preposition, e.g. «ran <u>out</u>». According to the cognitive linguist Talmy (1985, 2000), English differs from Spanish because prepositions (into, out, away, etc) are used to indicate the path of movement whereas verbs indicate the manner of motion. Talmy's classic example describes this configuration: «The bottle floated into the cave». Here, the word "floated" describes the manner with which the bottle moves, but the direction is specified by "*into*". In contrast, in Spanish the direction is expressed by a one verb while the manner of motion is expressed by the "gerundio" (i.e. verbs ending in -ando and -iendo in Spanish that are translated into English as "ing" verbs such as "walking"). This results in a verb phrase which is normal in Spanish. Here is a diagram that shows the difference between English and Spanish in verbal phrases such as this:

> The bottle floated into the cave. La botella entró flotando en la cueva.

Therefore, main verbs in English become "manner verbs" in Spanish, while certain prepositions in English appear as "path verbs" in Spanish, as displayed below:

- Into ► Entrar
- Out ▶ Salir
- Up ▶ Subir
- Down ► Bajar
- Pass ► Pasar
- Back ► Regresar
- Through ► Atravesar
- Along ► Ir por
- Around Dar vuelta
- Away ► Alejar
- Apart ► Separar

All of the Spanish verbs above indicate direction path which is already inherent to the verb. In English, verbs require an external path indicators (prepositions). That being said, let us practice.

Express these sentences in Spanish using *perífrasis de movimiento*.

- 1. The dog ran out of the kitchen.
- 2. The bird flew into the bedroom.
- 3. The prisoner ran out of the jail.
- 4. In corrupt jails, some prisoners just walk out the place.
- 5. The baby crawled through the doorway.
- 6. The little bird flew out of the cage.
- 7. She walked back to the office.
- 8. The buoy floated past the boat.