

## ACTIVITY 1C: TEACHER HANDOUT

### SPANISH AGELESS IDIOMS

1. Spanish Idiom: **“Está hecha leña”**

English Translation: “He has turned to wood”

Meaning: A person who looks worn by the years and appears older than their age.
2. Spanish Idiom: **“Mas sabe el Diablo por viejo que por Diablo”**

English Translation: “The devil is wise because he is old, not because he is the devil”

Meaning: A person may gain wisdom and experience with age and time, not simply because of who they are. This is true for both devilish and angelic people.
3. Spanish Idiom: **“Mas viejo que Matusalem”**

English Translation: “Older than Methuselah”

Meaning: A really old person. Methuselah, in the Old Testament of the Bible, lived more than 900 years. Teachers may want to further illustrate this idiom by bringing in the song “It Ain’t Necessarily So” from the Gershwin musical *Porgy and Bess*. The song contains a verse about Methuselah — “Methuselah lived 900 years...But what use is livin’ / When no gal will give in / to no man what’s 900 years.”
4. Spanish Idiom: **“El que no oye consejos no llega al viejo”**

English Translation: “He who doesn’t listen to advice will not reach old age”

Meaning: You learn not only by experience, but by listening to the advice of others. Younger persons may wish to heed the advice of older persons who have had more experience and learned from their mistakes and past errors in judgment. If one doesn’t listen to some advice one is likely to have a short life.
5. Spanish Idiom: **“No estoy tan viejo, es que estoy mal cuidado”**

English Translation: “I’m not so old, I’m just not well cared for”

Meaning: A person who looks older than their years because they have had a hard life and haven’t taken good care of themselves.

The students may also do an illustration of a Spanish language ageless idiom.