

Cognates & the English Language Learner



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Using Cognates to Develop Comprehension in English

By: Colorín Colorado (2007)

Cognates are words in two languages that share a similar meaning, spelling, and pronunciation. While English may share very few cognates with a language like Chinese, 30-40% of all words in English have a related word in Spanish. For Spanish-speaking ELLs, cognates are an obvious bridge to the English language.

Not surprisingly, researchers who study first and second language acquisition have found that students benefit from cognate awareness. Cognate awareness is the ability to use cognates in a primary language as a tool for understanding a second language. Children can be taught to use cognates as early as preschool. As students move up the grade levels, they can be introduced to more sophisticated cognates, and to cognates that have multiple meanings in both languages, although some of those meanings may not overlap. One example of a cognate with multiple meanings is *asistir*, which means to assist (same meaning) but also to attend (different meaning).

Here is a **helpful list of cognates** in Spanish and English.

Classroom strategies for teaching cognates

Read aloud

When you read aloud to your students, ask the Spanish speakers to raise their hand when they think they hear a cognate. Stop reading and discuss that cognate. Point out the subtle differences you hear between the Spanish and English words. If you have a French, Italian, or Portuguese speaker in your class, invite them to contribute cognates in that language.

Student reading

As ELLs read their texts, ask them to find three or four cognates and write them on sticky pads. Collect those notes and put them on an OUR COGNATES laminated chart. Before the class ends, read or have students read them to the class. Discuss spellings or sounds that are the same and different between the cognates.

Follow-up activities:

Word Sort

Pair students and give each pair a set of cognate cards: one card has the English cognate and the other has the Spanish cognate. For example:

English Spanish

family familia

radio radio

class clase

desert desierto

magic magia

gorilla gorila

Have students sort the words. Then ask them what the word pairs have in common and write responses on the board.

Circle Differences

Ask students to indicate which letters are different between the cognates by circling the letters. Alternate between having them call out differences with the teacher circling and occasionally having students come up and circle the differences themselves.

False Cognates

Write examples of false cognates on the board. For example: embarrassed/embarazada and pie/pie. Warn students that they might run into some words that are false cognates. These are words that look alike but do not have the same meaning in English and Spanish. Ask the students:

Does anyone know what pie means in Spanish (foot)? What does the word pie mean in English (dessert)?

Another example of a false cognate is the word embarrassed in English and embarazada in Spanish. What does embarrassed mean in English (to feel ashamed about something)? Does anyone know what embarazada means in Spanish (pregnant)?

Give students some cognates and false cognates and ask them to identify each. Examples of false cognates:

English	Spanish
---------	---------

globe	globo (balloon)
-------	-----------------

pie	pie (foot)
-----	------------

rope	ropa (clothes)
------	----------------

soap sopa (soup or pasta)

large largo (long)

exit éxito (success)

hay hay (there is)

Ask students to work with a partner to find as many cognates and false cognates as they can from a given list of words. After they finish, ask partners to share one example of each with the class.

Exaggerate intonation and stress

Cognate words can cause problems for Spanish speakers learning English and vice versa because of different stress patterns in the two languages. Point out how the emphasis changes in the following words:

- condition / condición
- animal / animal
- ability / habilidad

Common Greek and Latin roots that are cognates in English and Spanish

Root	Meaning	Origin	English examples	Spanish examples
aud	hear	Latin	auditorium audition	auditorio audición
astir	star	Greek	astrology astronaut	astrología astronauta
bio	life	Greek	biography biology	biografía biología
dict	speaking, tell	Latin	dictate dictator	dictar dictador
mit, mis	send	Latin	mission transmit	misión transmitir
ped	foot	Latin	pedal pedestal	pedal pedestal

phon	sound	Greek	phoneme	fonema
			microphone	micrófono

port	carry	Latin	transport	transportar
			portable	portatil

References

References

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Adapted from: Calderón, M., August, D., Durán, D., Madden, N., R. Slavin & M. Gil (2003 and in press). Spanish to English Transitional Reading: Teacher's Manual. Baltimore, MD: The Success for All Foundation.

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Selecting Vocabulary Words to Teach English Language Learners

By: Colorín Colorado (2007)

A student's maximum level of reading comprehension is determined by his or her knowledge of words. This word knowledge allows students to comprehend text. As the teacher, you can explicitly teach word meanings to improve comprehension. However, to know a word means knowing it in all of the following dimensions:

- The ability to define a word
- The ability to recognize when to use that word
- Knowledge of its multiple meanings
- The ability to decode and spell that word

Therefore, it is vitally important to teach key words that children will need to comprehend texts, learn the content in those texts, and pass tests. Words are taught through direct instruction of word meanings as well as through discussions about words (including prefixes, suffixes, and roots) – all combined with a lot of reading.

For English language learners (ELLs), **vocabulary development** is especially critical for their ability to read and comprehend texts. The selection of vocabulary words to teach ELLs can be grouped into three tiers.

Tier 1 words

Tier 1 words are words that ELLs typically know the concept of in their primary language, but not the label in English. For example, a Tier 1 word might be butterfly. This is a word that English language learners may not know, but it can be easily taught by pointing to a picture of a butterfly during text discussion.

Another Tier 1 word might be march (move like a soldier). A word like march can be easily instructed during text discussion by marching in place. But because this word has multiple meanings, it also merits further instruction. This can be accomplished through oral language activities that follow the text discussion.

Teaching Tier 1 words

We take it for granted that native English-speakers know most Tier 1 words, but this is not the case for ELLs. Many Tier 1 words may be unknown to ELLs and key to the comprehension of a passage. Different types of Tier 1 words require different teaching strategies:

- Some Tier 1 words cannot be demonstrated and do not have multiple meanings, but students will need to know them. An example of this is the word uncle. A simple explanation of the word's meaning during the story reading will suffice. Or, if the teacher and students are bilingual, a quick translation is sufficient.

- Idioms and everyday expressions (like "make up your mind," "let's hit the books," and "once upon a time") are also in the Tier 1 category. Teachers will need to explain the meanings of these phrases to students.
- Some Tier 1 words are simple **cognates** (like family/familia or preparation/preparación). The cognates in this category consist of words that are high-frequency words in Spanish and English. They may not require substantial instruction because students may know the word meanings in Spanish. The teacher can merely state the English cognate and have students provide the Spanish cognate. Or, the teacher can provide the English cognate and students can say both the English word and Spanish cognate.
- It is also important to point out false cognates and give the correct translation. Examples of **false cognates** are: rope/ropa (clothing) and embarrassed/embarasada (pregnant). There are also some false cognates that have multiple meanings in one language, and one or some of those meanings do not coincide with the meaning of the other language.

Here is a list of **helpful Spanish-English cognates**.

Tier 2 words

Tier 2 words are more complex than Tier 1 words. They may also be more abstract. These include:

1. Words that are important and useful to understanding the text, such as: character, setting, plot, even numbers, and country.
2. Words that have connections to other words and concepts, such as: between, among, by, combine, and estimate.
3. Words for which students understand the general concept, but need greater precision and specificity in describing a concept or a person, such as: sets, tables (for math or science, or for a table of contents), shy, ashamed, and stubborn.

Teaching Tier 2 words

Tier 2 words appear in grade-level texts. They can be worked with in a variety of ways so that ELLs build rich representations of them and connect them to other words and concepts. Different types of Tier 2 words require different teaching strategies:

- Some Tier 2 words will not require elaborate discussion, because they can be demonstrated. These include words with multiple meanings, such as trunk, which can be taught by using gestures to show that it is part of an elephant, part of a tree, part of our body, and the back of a car.
- In addition, many Tier 2 words are cognates. In this tier, they are high frequency words in Spanish and low frequency words in English. This means that Spanish-speaking ELLs will have a head start with these words (such as coincidence/coincidencia, industrious/industrioso, and fortunate/afortunado) because they will know both the concept and an approximation of the label in English.
- The Tier 2 words that should be targeted for **pre-teaching** include words that cannot be demonstrated and are not cognates.

ELLs should be expected to master Tier 2 words in order to do well on comprehension and on tests.

Tier 3 words

These are low-frequency words that are found mostly in content books in the upper grades. Examples include witticism, isotope, procrastinate, amoeba, or words that are not demonstrable or cognates. These words are rarely encountered in the early grades, but if they do appear, you can translate them or briefly explain them in either English or in the ELLs' first language.

Note: It is advisable at all grade levels to have bilingual dictionaries available in the classroom. If you do not know the translation for a vocabulary word into students' native language, it is an easy reference and clarification tool. Also, when reading texts on their own, students can look up unknown words and ensure their own comprehension.

References

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Click the "References" link above to hide these references.

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English

Spanish

A

accident	accidente
accidental	accidental
accompany (to)	acompañar
acrobatic	acrobático(a)
active	activo (a)
activities	actividades
admire (to)	admirar
admit (to)	admitir
adult	adulto
adventure	aventura
adopt (to)	adoptar
adoption	adopción
African	africano
agent	agente
air	aire
alarm	alarma
allergic	alérgico (a)
anaconda	anaconda
animal	animal
announce (to)	anunciar
appear (to)	aparecer
appetite	apetito
area	área
arithmetic	aritmética
artist	artista
association	asociación
astronomer	astrónomo
atmosphere	atmósfera
attention	atención
August	agosto
autograph	autógrafo
automobile	automóvil

English

Spanish

B

banana	banana
banjo	banjo
bicycle	bicicleta
biography	biografía
blouse	blusa
brilliant	brillante

C

cabin	cabina (de teléfono, avión, etc.)
cable	cable
cafeteria	cafetería
camera	cámara
camouflage	camuflaje
canyon	cañón
captain	capitán
capture (to)	capturar
catastrophe	catástrofe
cause	causa
celebrate (to)	celebrar
cement	cemento
center	centro
ceramic	cerámica
cereal	cereal
ceremony	ceremonia
chimney	chimenea
chimpanzee	chimpancé
cholera	cólera
circle	círculo
circular	circular
class	clase
coast	costa
colony	colonia
color	color

English

committee
common
complete
completely
company
concert
confeti
confusing
confusion
constellation
construction
contagious
continent
continue (to)
contract
contribution
coyote
crocodile
curious

Spanish

comité
común
completo(a)
completamente
compañía
concierto
confeti
confuso
confusión
constelación
construcción
contagioso(a)
continente
continuar
contrato
contribución
coyote
cocodrilo
curioso(a)

D

December
decide (to)
decoration
delicate
depend (to)
deport (to)
describe (to)
desert
destroy (to)
detain (to)
determine (to)
diamond
dictator
different

diciembre
decidir
decoración, adorno
delicado(a)
depender
deportar
describir
desierto
destruir
detener
determinar
diamante
dictador
diferente

English

dinosaur
direction
directions
directly
director
disappear (to)
disaster
discrimination
discuss (to)
disgrace
distance
distribute (to)
dollar
double
dragon
dynamite

Spanish

dinosaurio
dirección
direcciones
directamente
director
desaparecer
desastre
discriminación
discutir
desgracia
distancia
distribuir
dólar
doble
dragón
dinamita

E

electric
elephant
enormous
energy
enter (to)
escape (to)
especially
examine (to)
exclaim
explosion
exotic
extra
extraordinary

eléctrico(a)
elefante
enorme
energía
entrar
escapar
especialmente
examinar
exclamar
explosión
exótico(a)
extra
extraordinario(a)

English

Spanish

F

family	familia
famous	famoso(a)
fascinate (to)	fascinar
favorite	favorito(a)
ferocious	feroz
finally	finalmente
firm	firme
flexible	flexible
flower	flor
fortunately	afortunadamente
fruit	fruta
funeral	funeral
furious	furioso(a)

G

galaxy	galaxia
gallon	galón
garden	jardín
gas	gas
giraffe	jirafa
golf	golf
glorious	glorioso(a)
gorilla	gorila
group	grupo
guide	guía

H

helicopter	helicóptero
hippopotamus	hipopótamo
history	historia
honor	honor
hospital	hospital
hotel	hotel

English

Spanish

hour	hora
human	humano(a)

I

idea	idea
identification	identificación
imagine (to)	imaginar
immediately	inmediatamente
immigrants	inmigrantes
importance	importancia
important	importante
impressed	impresionando(a)
impression	impresión
incredible	increíble
incurable	incurable
independence	independencia
information	información
insects	insectos
inseparable	inseparable
insist (to)	insistir
inspection	inspección
intelligence	inteligencia
interesting	interesante
interrupt (to)	interrumpir
introduce (to)	introducir
introduction	introducción
invent (to)	inventar
investigate (to)	investigar
invitation	invitación
invite (to)	invitar
island	isla



English

Spanish

L

leader	líder
lemon	limón
lens	lente
leopard	leopardo
lesson	lección
lessons	lecciones
line	línea
lion	león
list	lista
locate (to)	localizar

M

machine	máquina
magic	magia
magician	mago
magnificent	magnífico(a)
manner	manera
map	mapa
March	marzo
march (to)	marchar, caminar
marionettes	marionetas, títeres
medal	medalla
memory	memoria
metal	metal
microscope	microscopio
million	millón
miniature	miniatura
minute	minuto
minutes	minutos
moment	momento
monument	monumento
much	mucho
music	música

English

Spanish

N

natural	natural
necessity	necesidad
nectar	néctar
nervous	nervioso(a)
notice	noticia

O

obedience	obediencia
object	objeto
observatory	observatorio
occasion	ocasión
ocean	océano
October	octubre
office	oficina
operation	operación
ordinary	ordinario

P

palace	palacio
panic	pánico
paper	papel
park	parque
part	parte
patience	paciencia
penguin	pingüino
perfect	perfecto (a)
perfume	perfume
permanent	permanente
photo	foto
photograph	fotografía
photographer	fotógrafo(a)
piano	piano



English	Spanish	English	Spanish
pioneer	pionero	splendid	espléndido(a)
pirate	pirata	statistics	estadística
planet	planeta	stomach	estómago
planetarium	planetario	study (to)	estudiar
plans	planes	surprise	sorpresa
plants	plantas		
plates	platos	T	
police	policía	telephone	teléfono
practice	práctica	telescope	telescopio
practice (to)	practicar	television	televisión
prepare (to)	preparar	terrible	terrible
present (to)	presentar	tomato	tomate
problem	problema	totally	totalmente
professional	profesional	tourist	turista
		traffic	tráfico
R		trap (to)	atrapar
radio	radio	triple	triple
ranch	rancho	trumpet	trompeta
really	realmente	tube	tubo
restaurant	restaurante		
retire (to)	retirar	U	
reunion	reunión	uniform	uniforme
rich	rico(a)		
rock	roca	V	
route	ruta	vegetables	vegetales
		version	versión
S		visit (to)	visitar
secret	secreto	volleyball	voleibol
September	septiembre	vote (to)	votar
series	serie		
sofa	sofá		
special	especial		

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English/Spanish Cognates

English	Spanish
acceptable	aceptable, admisible
accident	accidente
acquisition	adquisición
act	acto
action	acción
active	activo
actual	actual, real, verdadero
addition	adición, suma
adopt	adoptar
affect	afectar, influir
affection	afecto, cariño
air	aire
airport	aeropuerto
angle	ángulo
animal	animal
anterior	anterior
antique	antigüedad
appropriate	apropiado, adecuado
arch	arco
architecture	arquitectura
argument	argumento
art	arte
article	artículo
artist	artista
association	asociación
astral	astral
astologist	astrólogo
astronomy	astronomía
attack	ataque
attention	atención
augment	aumentar
author	autor
autograph	autógrafo
automatic	automático
automobile	automóvil
avenue	avenida
aviation	aviación
baby	bebé
band	banda, pandilla, raya
banquet	banquete
basic	básico
bicycle	bicicleta
bilingual	bilingüe
binoculars	binoculares
biography	biografía
biology	biología
block, blocks	bloque, bloques
boat	bote de pesca, barca, buque, lancha

English/Spanish Cognates

English	Spanish
button	botón
cabin	cabina
calendar	calendario
camera	cámara
camp	acampar
canal	canal
cancel	cancelar
capacity	capacidad
captain	capitán
capital	capital
car	carro
carbon	carbón
carnivorous	carnívoro
carpenter	carpintero
carton	cartón, caja
cathedral	catedral
caution	precaución, cautela
cement	cemento
cemetery	cementerio
cent	centavo
center	centro
cereal	cereal
cerebral	cerebral
ceremony	ceremonia
chimney	chimenea
chocolate	chocolate
circle	círculo
class	clase
classic	clásico
coffee	café
college	colegio
colors	colores
combat	combate
comfortable	confortable, cómodo
common	común
communicate	comunicar
company	compañía
comparison	comparación
compensate	compensar
computer	computadora
comrade	camarada, compañero/a
concentrate	concentrar
concept	concepto
conceptual	conceptual
concert	concierto
conclusion	conclusión
condition	condición
conference	conferencia

English/Spanish Cognates

English	Spanish
confident	confidente, confiado
confusion	confusión
congestion	congestión
congregation	congregación
congress	congreso
conservation	conservación
consideration	consideración
consist	consistir
constellation	constelación
construction	construcción
continent	continente
contra	contra (miembro de un grupo contrarrevolucionario)
contraband	contrabando
contribution	contribución
control	control
convoy	convoy
cooperative	cooperativo, servicial
cord	cordón
corral	corral
coyote	coyote
creation	creación
crystal	crystal
cube	cubo
cultural	cultural
curious	curiosa, curioso
curiosity	curiosity
curve	curva
decimal	decimal
decision	decisión
dedication	dedicación
defect	defecto
dentist	dentista
desert	desierto
dictionary	diccionario
different	diferente
difficult	difícil
digit	dígito
director	director
distribution	distribución
diversion	diversión
division	división
doctor	doctor
dollar	dólar
domination	dominación
domino	dominó
drug	droga
east	este
economy	economía

English/Spanish Cognates

English	Spanish
education	educación
effect	efecto
Egypt	Egipto
electricity	electricidad
element	elemento
elementary	elemental, primaria
elephant	elefante
emergency	emergencia
emotion	emoción
emperor	emperador
encyclopedia	enciclopedia
energy	energía
engineer	ingeniero
equal	igual
estimate	estimar
evolution	evolución
excellent	excelente
exclamation	exclamación
exotic	exótico
experience	experiencia
exterior	exterior
extra	extra
fable	fábulo
fabulous	fabulosa, fabuloso
facility	facilidad, habilidad, instalación
false	falso
family	familia
fantasy	fantasía
fatal	fatal
fertile	fértil
festival	festival
figure	figura, cifra
final	final
flowers	flores
folkloric	folklórico, folclórico
formal	formal, oficial
fruit	fruta
function	función
funeral	funeral
future	futuro
galaxy	galaxia
garage	garaje
garden	jardín
gasoline	gasolina
general	general
generator	generador
generic	genérico
geography	geografía

English/Spanish Cognates

English	Spanish
gesture	gesto
giant	gigante
globe	globo
grade	grado, categoría
group	grupo
guitar	guitarra
hamburger	hamburguesa
helicopter	helicóptero
history	historia
honest	honesto, honrado
honor	honor
horizontal	horizontal
horrible	horrible
hospital	hospital
hotel	hotel
humid	húmedo
idea	idea
ideal	ideal
illusion	ilusión
imagination	imaginación
immigration	inmigración
imperfect	imperfecto
impersonal	impersonal
impossible	imposible
impression	impresión
inacceptable	inaceptable
inappropriate	inapropiado
inaugural	inaugural
incredible	increíble
indifferent	indiferente
infantile	infantil
inferior	inferior
information	información
ingredient	ingrediente
insect	insecto
instruction	instrucción
instrument	instrumento
integration	integración
intelligent	inteligente
interior	interior
intermediate	intermedio
international	internacional
interrogation	interrogación
invitation	invitación
irregular	irregular
kilo	kilo
labor	labor, trabajo
lamp	lámpara

English/Spanish Cognates

English	Spanish
lantern	linterna, faro
lemon	limón
lesson	lección
letter	letra
liberty	libertad
limit	límite
line	línea
liquid	líquido
lyric	lírico
list	lista
literature	literatura
machine	máquina
magic	mágico, magia
mama	mamá
map	mapa
march	marcha
marginal	marginal
marine	marino
mark	marca
mask	máscara
material	material
mathematics	matemáticas
mechanic	mecánico
medicine	medicina
menu	menú
method	método
middle	medio
migrant	migrante
migration	migración
mile	milla
million	millón
minute	minuto
mission	misión
mobile	móvil
modern	moderno
moment	momento
mosquito	mosquito
motive	motivo
motor	motor
motorcycle	motocicleta
mountain	montaña
movement	movimiento
much	mucho
multiplication	multiplicación
musical	musical
nation	nación
natural	natural
necessary	necesario

English/Spanish Cognates

English	Spanish
no	no
normal	normal
north	norte
notable	notable
notary	notario
note	nota
notice	noticia
notion	noción
number	número
object	objeto
objective	objetivo
obligation	obligación
office	oficina
opinion	opinión
opportunity	oportunidad
organ	órgano
orient	oriente
original	original
oxygen	oxígeno
pacific	pacífico
palm	palma
panda	panda
papa	papá
paper	papel
park	parque
pass	pasar
patience	paciencia
pear	pera
pearl	perla
pelican	pelícano
peninsula	península
pension	pensión
perfect	perfecto
persons	personas
pesticide	pesticida
petroleum	petróleo
pharmacy	farmacia
photo, photograph	foto, fotografía
physical	físico
penguin	pingüino
pistol	pistola
planets	planetas
plastic	plástico
plate	plato
poem	poema
popular	popular
population	población
possible	posible

English/Spanish Cognates

English	Spanish
post	poste, puesto
posterior	posterior
postpone	posponer
present	presente
presentation	presentación
primary	primaria
prince	príncipe
princess	princesa
principal	principal
problem	problema
procession	procesión
profession	profesión
professor	profesor
program	programa
progression	progresión, evolución
project	proyecto
protect	proteger
protection	protección
psychology	psicología
public	público
pupil	pupila (del ojo)
pajamas	pijama
radio	radio
ranch	rancho
rapid	rápido
rat	ratón
ray	rayo
reaction	reacción
real	real
rectangle	rectángulo
refrigerator	refrigerador
regular	regular
religion	religión
resolution	resolución
resolve	resolver
restaurant	restaurante
revolution	revolución
rich	rico
rifle	rifle
rock	roca
rose	rosa
routine	rutina
sack	saco
salon	salón
salt	sal
sandals	sandalias
satisfaction	satisfacción
science	ciencia

English/Spanish Cognates

English	Spanish
scorpion	escorpión
second	segundo
selection	selección
semester	semestre
sensational	sensacional
sensible	sensible
sensitive	sensitivo
serpent	serpiente
service	servicio
silence	silencio
sincere	sincero
sincerely	sinceramente
singular	singular
social	social
soda	soda, refresco
soldier	soldado
solid	sólido
solitary	solitario
solo	solo
special	especial
state	estado
station	estación
statue	estatua
stomach	estómago
structure	estructura
students	estudiantes
study	estudio
subject	sujeto
sum	suma
superior	superior
system	sistema
tank	tanque
taxi	taxi
tea	té
technical	técnico
telegram	telegrama
telephone	teléfono
telescope	telescopio
television	televisión
temperature	temperatura
tempestous	tempestuoso
temporary	temporal, eventual
temptation	tentación
tennis	tenis
terminal	terminal
terrible	terrible
theater	teatro
thermometer	termómetro

English/Spanish Cognates

English	Spanish
title	título
tomato	tomate
torment	tormenta
tourist	turista
train	tren
transportation	transportación
tremendous	tremendo
triangle	triángulo
trompet	trompeta
tuberculosis	tuberculosis
tulip	tulipán
ultimate	último, final
universal	universal
utilization	utilización
valley	valle
vaseline	vaselina
vein	vena
ventilation	ventilación
verb	verbo
version	versión
vertical	vertical
victory	victoria
violence	violencia
violin	violín
visit	visita, visitar
visitors	visitantes
volcano	volcán
vote	votar
west	oeste
x-rays	rayos-x (equis)

the 1990s, the number of people in the UK who are aged 65 and over has increased from 10.5 million to 13.5 million (1990–2000) (ONS 2001).

There is a growing awareness of the need to address the health care needs of the elderly population. The Department of Health (2000) has set out a strategy for the NHS to meet the needs of the elderly population. This strategy is based on the following principles:

- To ensure that the NHS is able to meet the needs of the elderly population.
- To ensure that the NHS is able to meet the needs of the elderly population in a way that is cost-effective.
- To ensure that the NHS is able to meet the needs of the elderly population in a way that is sustainable.

The NHS is currently facing a number of challenges that are likely to impact on its ability to meet the needs of the elderly population. These challenges include:

- An increasing number of people aged 65 and over.
- An increasing number of people aged 65 and over who are in poor health.
- An increasing number of people aged 65 and over who are in long-term care.

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Spanish Cognates of ELA Assurance Words, Grades 6-12

English	Spanish
antonym	antónimo
compare	comparar
conflict	conflicto
connotation	connotación
context	contexto
convert	convertir
cooperation	cooperación
denotation	denotación
formal	formal
identity	identidad
image	imagen
informal	informal
predict	predecir
sequence	secuencia
synonym	sinónimo
text	texto
voice	voz
commentary	comentario
constructive	constructivo
describe	describir
elaborate	elaborar
inform	informar
interpret	interpretar
metaphor	metáfora
narrative	narrativo
persuade	persuadir
simile	simil
thesis	tesis
analogy	analogía
cause	causa
effect	efecto
evaluate	evaluar
expressive	expresivo
infer	inferir
inflection	inflección
logical	lógico
paraphrase	parafrasear
perspective	perspectivo
synthesis	síntesis
theme	tema
tone	tono
validate	validar

English	Spanish
annotation	anotación
antithesis	antítesis
apostrophe	apóstrofo
archetype	arquetipo
coherence	coherencia
credibility	credibilidad
decipher	descifrar
deductive	deductivo
dialect	dialecto
diction	dicción
distinction	distinción
epiphany	epifanía
euphemism	eufemismo
implicate	implicar
inductive	inductivo
justify	justificar
primary	primaria
rhetoric	retórica
secondary	secundario
strategy	estrategia
symbolism	simbolismo
synthesize	sintetizar
deconstruct	deconstruir
explicit	explícito
implicit	implícito
pretext	pretexto
silence	silencia
situational	situacional
structure	estructura
subliminal	subliminal
subtext	subtexto
subtle	sutil
tacit	tácito
transition	transición
analyze	analizar
annotation	anotación
cadence	cadencia
critique	crítica
evaluate	evaluar
extrapolate	extrapolar
generalizations	generalizaciones
genre	género
interrelated	interrelacionado
logos	logos

English	Spanish
personify	personificar
synthesize	sintetizar
relevance	relevancia
aesthetic	estético
annotate	anotar
clarify	clarificar
comprehension	comprensión
concede	conceder
criticism	crítica
delineate	delinear
discriminate	discriminar
distinguish	distinguir
evoke	evocar
expound	exponer
illustrate	ilustrar
negotiate	negociar
origin	origen
proverbial	proverbial
reason	razón
reiterate	reiterar
rhetorical	retórico
semantics	semántica
sentiment	sentimiento

Science English/Spanish Cognates

Spanish	English
accidente	accident
actividades	activities
adición	addition
agricultura	agriculture
aire	air
calidad del aire	air quality
analice	analyze
analizar	analyze
animales	animals
a apropiado	appropriate
área, superficie	area
artificial	artificial
asteroides	asteroids
astronauta	astronaut
atmósfera	atmosphere
atómica	atomic
átomos	atoms
axis	axis
bebés	babies
balanzas	balances
banana	banana
béisbol	baseball
básquetbol, baloncesto	basketball
bate	bat
biografía	biography
biología	biology
biomasa	biomass
botánica	botany
calcio	calcium
calculadoras	calculators
calorías	calories
camello	camel
capa	cape
ciclo del carbono	carbon cycles
carrera	career
catastrófico	catastrophic
células	cells
centro	center
centímetros	centimeters
cereal	cereal
ciertos tipos	certain types

Science English/Spanish Cognates

características	characteristics
propiedades químicas	chemical properties
círculo	circle
circular	circular
clasifican	classify
clasificar	classify
color	color
cometas	comets
comunique , <i>Comunicar</i>	communicate
compases	compasses
<i>Complejo</i>	complex
componentes	components
compuesto	composed
comprender	comprehend
computadora	computer
computadoras	computers
consumidores	consumers
concepto	concept
conceptual	conceptual
conclusiones	conclusions
conservación	conservation
consistencia	consistency
constantemente	constantly
constancia	constancy
contacto, <i>Contactar</i>	contact
continental	continental
contribuciones	contributions
correcto	correct
correctamente	correctly
crítico	critical
críticos	critics
cubo	cube
ciclo	cycle
datos	data
día	day
decidir	decide
decisiones	decisions
defina(e), <i>definir</i>	define
definición	definition
delicado	delicate
describa	describe
<i>describir</i>	describe
<i>descrito</i>	described
descripciones	descriptions

Science English/Spanish Cognates

diagrama	diagram
dieta	diet
diferente	different
directa, directo	direct
dirección	direction
desventajas	disadvantages
descubrimientos	discoveries
distancia	distance
distribuir	distribute
dividir	divide
división	division
dominante	dominant
este	east
sucesión ecológica	ecological succession
ecosistema	ecosystem
eléctrica	electrical
electricidad	electricity
electrónicos	electronics
elementos	elements
elefantes	elephants
emergencia	emergency
endotérmico	endothermic
enérgico	energetic
energía	energy
equilibrio	equilibrium
equipo	equipment
estimar	estimate
prácticas éticas	ethical practices
evaluar	evaluate
eventos	events
evidencia	evidence
examinar	examine
hacer ejercicio	exercise
exotérmico	exothermic
experimentos	experiments
experto	expert
explicar	explain
explique	explain
explicaciones	explanations
externo	external
extinción	extinction
extrapolar	extrapolate
favoritos	favorites
fiebre	fever

Science English/Spanish Cognates

figura	figure
finalmente	finally
fuerza	force
formular	formalate(-ing)
fórmula	formula
fórmulas	formulas
frecuencia	frequency
fresco	fresh
fruta	fruit
función	function
futuro	future
galaxia	galaxy
jardín	garden
gasolina	gas
general	general
generación	generation
generaciones	generations
genes	genes
genética	genetic
genético	genetic
geología	geology
globo terráqueo	globe
cambios graduales	gradual changes
cilindros graduados	graduated cylinders
gráficamente	graphically
gráficas	graphics
grupo	group
grupos	groups
guía	guide
hamburguesa	hamburger
historia	history
humano	human
huracanes	hurricanes
hidroeléctrica, hidro eléctrico	hydroelectric
hipótesis	hypothesis
idea	idea
ideas	ideas
identifican	identify
indentificar	identify
impacto	impact
importante	important
incluyendo	including
indirecta	indirect
individual	individual

Science English/Spanish Cognates

inagotable	inexhaustible
inferencias	inferences
información	information
informadas	informed
herencia	inheritance
inicial	initial
instrucciones	instructions
instrumento	instrument
instrumentos	instruments
interacciones	interactions
interdependencia	interdependence
interesante	interesting
interna	internal
interno	internal
internet	internet
interpretar	interpret
introducción	introduction
hacer jogging	jog
energía cinética	kinetic energy
laboratorio	laboratory
limonada	lemonade
lección	lesson
límite	limit
limitaciones	limitations
lista	list
mamíferos	mammals
manual	manual
mapas	maps
biología marina	marine biology
material	material
materiales	materials
materiales	materials
matemáticas	math
matemático	mathematical
materia	matter
mecánica, mecánico	mechanical
medalla	medal
medicina	medicine
metálico	metallic
meteoritos	meteorites
meteorología	meteorology
metros	meters
métodos	methods
microscopios	microscopes

Science English/Spanish Cognates

minerales	minerals
menos	minus
minutos	minutos
movimiento	movement
mula	mule
multiplicación	multiplication
multiplicación	multiply
multiplicar	multiply
música	musica
mostaza	mustard
natural	natural
naturaleza	nature
nitrógeno	nitrogen
no renovable	non-renewable
normal	normal
nutrición	nutrition
objetos	object
observaciones	observations
observar	observed
obtener	obtain
océano	ocean
océanos	oceans
operación	operation
opinión	opinion
opiniones	opinions
órbita	orbit
órbitas	orbits
sistemas de órganos	organ systems
organismos	organisms
organizar	organize
organizado	organized
órganos	organs
origen	origin
originales	original
oxígeno	oxygen
pintar	paint
papel	paper
partes	parts
pasta	pasta
porcentaje	percent
perímetro	perimeter
tabla periódica	periodic table
fases	phases
fenómeno	phenomenon

Science English/Spanish Cognates

físicos	physicists
física	physics
pino	pine
pizza	pizza
planear	plan
plantas	plants
plásticos	plastics
posición	position
patata (papas)	potatoes
energía potencial	potential energy
presencia	presence
probablemente	probable
problema	problem
producir	produce
producción	production
productos	products
proyecto	project
promoción de productos y servicios	promotion of products and services
proteger	protect
proteína	protein
pirámide	pyramid
radioactivo	radioactive
radioactividad	radioactivity
rata	rat
energía radiante	radiant energy
razonables	reasonable
recesivo(a)	recessive
recomendaciones	recommendations
rectángulo	rectangle
reciclaje	recycling
referencia	reference
referencias	references
renovar	renewable
representar	represent
representado	represented
reptiles	reptiles
recurso	resource
resultados	results
ciclo de la roca	rock cycle
rotación	rotation
ensalada	salad
sal	salt
sándwich	sandwich
ciencia	science

Science English/Spanish Cognates

científicos	scientists
cientista, científico	scientist
reproducción	sexual reproduction
simple	simple
máquinas simples	simple machines
sociedad	society
sistema solar	solar system
sólido	solid
solución	solution
resolver	solve
sopa	soup
espacio	space
especies	species
específico	specific
estatua	statue
estímulos	stimuli
estructura	structure(s)
substancias	substances
sugerido	suggested
resumir	summarize
resumen	summary
superficie	surface
Sustentar, sostener	sustain
sistemas	systems
tablas	tables
tacos	tacos
técnico	technical
teléfono	telephone
telescopios	telescopes
televisión	television
términos	terms
texto	text
teorías	theories
termómetro	thermometers
título	title
tomate	tomato
total	total
tren	train
transformar	transform
transformaciones	transformations
tubos	tubes
tipos	types
universo	universe
uranio	uranium

Science English/Spanish Cognates

usar	use
usualmente	usually
válidas	valid
variedades	varieties
variedad	variety
veterinario/a	vet
vitaminas	vitamins
actividad volcánica	volcanic activity
volcán	volcano
vomitir	vomiting
ciclo del agua	water cycle
vapor de agua	water vapor
sitio web	web site
cebra	zebra
cero	zero

66	51	population	La población
54	annul	anular	11	position (point of view)	La posición (punto de vista)
60	archeology	la arqueología	50	prejudice	Prejuicio
19	an attack	un ataque	51	president	El/la presidente/a
35	candidate	candidato	41	prisoner	Prisionero
32	communist	comunista	27	progressive	progresista , progresivo
7	congress	el congreso	11	protest	protesta, protestar
25	conservative	Conservador	39	province	la provincia
14	constitution	la constitución	20	racism	el racismo
2	democracy	democracia	33	racist	racista
38	a democrat	un demócrata	24	radical	radical
56	deport	deportar	16	a rebel	un rebelde
67	deportation	la deportación	43	refugee	el refugiado
58	deported	deportado	16	represent	representar
21	discrimination	la discriminación	5	republic	la república
41	dictator	Dictador	29	a republican	un republicano
50	document	documento	40	resident	el/la residente
46	escape	escapar	11	revolution	la revolución
45	exile	el exilio	37	revolutionary	revolucionario/a
34	extremist	extremista	0	senate	el senado
1	history	(la) historia	13	senator	el/la senador/a
19	illegal	ilegal	59	social	social
43	immigrant	el inmigrante	31	socialist	socialista
42	immigration	La inmigración	39	state	el estado
41	inhabitant	el habitante	02	study	estudiar
61	investigate	investigar	15	system	el sistema
48	legal	legal	55	validate	validar
17	liberal	liberal	41	vote	el voto , votar
64	map	El mapa			
3	monarchy	la monarquía			
30	a nationalist	nacionalista			
53	negate	negar			
4	oligarchy	la oligarquía			
36	opposition	la oposición			
51	passport	El pasaporte			
62	permission	permiso			
85	plan	el plano			
10	politics	la política			

SCIENCE COGNATES
ENGLISH-SPANISH
FOR K-6 BILINGUAL TEACHER CANDIDATES

hospital adulto artista eléctrico familia enorme
terrible fértil romántico

When English speakers are learning Spanish or Spanish speakers are learning English, there are some general rules that are helpful to remember. While many English words have double consonants (happy, puddle), Spanish words do not with the exception of c and n (acción, innecesario). It is also helpful to remember that words with ph in English (pharmacy) are written with f in Spanish (farmacia). What is especially helpful is to focus on cognates. Cognates are words that are convertible between English and Spanish. For the most part, English and Spanish cognates are words that share the same Latin root and are very similar. It is important to remember that cognates do not always translate from one language to another precisely. For example, in Spanish informal refers to a person that is unreliable rather than casual. Despite these false cognates, there are thousands of English words that can be converted into Spanish with their English meaning.

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RULE #

1 Most words ending in TION in English end in CIÓN in Spanish

invitation	invitación
occupation	ocupación
conversation	conversación

2 Many nouns ending in OR or OUR are often identical in Spanish

doctor	doctor
tractor	tractor
interior	interior

3 Many nouns and adjectives ending in AL are very often identical in Spanish

animal	animal
capital	capital
hospital	hospital

4 Many nouns ending in IST in English end in ISTA in Spanish

artist	artista
dentist	dentista
novelist	novelista

5 Many nouns ending in TY in English end in DAD in Spanish

variety	variedad
society	sociedad
electricity	electricidad

6 Many nouns ending in NCE in English end in NCIA in Spanish

distance	distancia
coincidence	coincidencia
independence	independencia

7 Many adjectives ending in IC in English end with ICO in Spanish

romantic	romántico
metallic	metálico
dramatic	dramático

8 Many adjectives ending in IVE in English end with IVO in Spanish

negative	negativo
expressive	expresivo
positive	positivo

9 Many adjectives ending in OUS in English end with OSO in Spanish

famous	famoso
nervous	nervioso
delicious	delicioso

10 Many adjectives ending in BLE in English end with BLE in Spanish

horrible	horrible
impossible	imposible
terrible	terrible

11 Many adjectives ending in NT in English end with NTE in Spanish

ignorant	ignorante
convenient	conveniente
patient	paciente

12 Many adjectives ending in ID in English end with IDO in Spanish

stupid	estúpido
rapid	rápido
splendid	espléndido

- 13 Many adjectives ending in ILE in English end with IL in Spanish
- | | |
|---------|--------|
| fertile | fértil |
| hostile | hostil |
| mobile | móvil |
- 14 Many adjectives ending in ARY in English end with ARIO in Spanish
- | | |
|------------|-------------|
| secondary | secundario |
| dictionary | diccionario |
| literary | literario |
- 15 Almost every English infinitive verb ending in ATE (e.g., celebrate) can be converted into a Spanish infinitive by replacing the final ATE with AR(e.g., celebrar).
- | | |
|-------------|------------|
| create | crear |
| calculate | calcular |
| concentrate | concentrar |
- 16 Many English verbs (infinitive) ending in VOWEL+CONSONANT+T (e.g., result) can be converted into Spanish infinitive verbs by adding AR, ER, or IR to the end of the English verb (e.g., resultar).
- | | |
|---------|-----------|
| insult | insultar |
| consult | consultar |
| present | presentar |
- 17 Many English infinitive verbs (of more than one syllable) ending in VOWEL+CONSONANT+E (e.g., examine) can be converted into Spanish infinitive verbs by dropping the final E and adding AR. (e.g., examinar)
- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| accuse | acusar |
| adore | adorar |
| authorise | autorizar |

18 Almost every English infinitive verb ending with IFY (e.g., signify) can be converted into a Spanish verb by replacing the final IFY with IFICAR (e.g., significar).

unify	unificar
simplify	simplificar
solidify	solidificar

19 In Spanish, MENTE combines with (feminine) adjectives to form Spanish adverbs.

In English, LY combines with many adjectives to form adverbs.

normally	normalmente
naturally	naturalmente
finally	finalmente

20 English nouns ending with "Y" often corresponds to Spanish nouns ending with "ía", "ia" or "io".

agency	agencia
day	día
mercury	mercurio

21 Many English nouns ending with "ISM" can be converted into Spanish nouns.

gravitropism	gravitropismo
magnetism	magnetismo
organism	organismo

