



Similar Spanish – English Words

Cognates are words in two languages that share a similar meaning, spelling, and pronunciation. Almost 40 percent of all words in English have a related word in Spanish. For Spanish-speaking English language learners, cognates are an obvious bridge to the English language.

The following is an alphabetical list of English and Spanish cognates. Please see <http://www.colorincolorado.org/introduction/cognates.php> for suggestions on how to use cognates to help students learn English.

English	Spanish	English	Spanish	English	Spanish
A accident	accidente	C cabin	cabina (de teléfono, avión, etc.)	continue (to)	continuar
accidental	accidental	cable	cable	contract	contrato
accompany (to)	acompañar	cafeteria	cafetería	contribution	contribución
acrobatic	acrobático(a)	camera	cámara	coyote	coyote
active	activo (a)	camouflage	camuflaje	crocodile	cocodrilo
activities	actividades	canyon	cañón	curious	curioso(a)
admire (to)	admirar	captain	capitán	curiosity	curiosidad
admit (to)	admitir	capture (to)	capturar	D December	diciembre
adult	adulto	catastrophe	catástrofe	decide (to)	decidir
adventure	aventura	cause	causa	decoration	decoración, adorno
adopt (to)	adoptar	celebrate (to)	celebrar	delicate	delicado(a)
adoption	adopción	cement	cemento	depend (to)	depender
African	africano	center	centro	deport (to)	deportar
agent	agente	ceramic	cerámica	describe (to)	describir
air	aire	cereal	cereal	desert	desierto
alarm	alarma	ceremony	ceremonia	destroy (to)	destruir
allergic	alérgico (a)	chimney	chimenea	detain	detener
anaconda	anaconda	chimpanzee	chimpancé	determine (to)	determinar
animal	animal	cholera	cólera	diamond	diamante
announce (to)	anunciar	circle	círculo	dictator	dictador
appear (to)	aparecer	circular	circular	different	diferente
appetite	apetito	class	clase	dinosaur	dinosaurio
area	área	coast	costa	direction	dirección
arithmetic	aritmética	colony	colonia	directions	direcciones
artist	artista	color	color	directly	directamente
association	asociación	committee	comité	director	director
astronomer	astrónomo	common	común	disappear (to)	desaparecer
atmosphere	atmósfera	complete	completo(a)	disaster	desastre
attention	atención	completely	completamente	discrimination	discriminación
August	agosto	company	compañía	discuss (to)	discutir
autograph	autógrafo	concert	concierto	disgrace	desgracia
automobile	automóvil	confetti	confeti	distance	distancia
B banana	banana, plátano	confusing	confuso	distribute (to)	distribuir
banjo	banjo	confusion	confusión	dollar	dólar
bicycle	bicicleta	constellation	constelación	double	doble
biography	biografía	construction	construcción	dragon	dragón
blouse	blusa	contagious	contagioso(a)	dynamite	dinamita
brilliant	brillante	continent	continente	dinosaur	dinosaurio



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E electric	eléctrico(a)	I idea	idea	medal	medalla
elephant	elefante	identification	identificación	memory	memoria
enormous	enorme	imagine (to)	imaginar	metal	metal
energy	energía	immediately	inmediatamente	microscope	microscopio
enter (to)	entrar	immigrants	inmigrantes	million	millón
escape (to)	escapar	importance	importancia	miniature	miniatura
especially	especialmente	important	importante	minute	minuto
examine (to)	examinar	impressed	impresionando(a)	minutes	minutos
exclaim (to)	exclamar	impression	impresión	moment	momento
explosion	explosión	incredible	increíble	monument	monumento
exotic	exótico(a)	incurable	incurable	much	mucho
extra	extra	independence	independencia	music	música
extraordinary	extraordinario(a)	information	información	N natural	natural
F family	familia	insects	insectos	necessity	necesidad
famous	famoso(a)	inseparable	inseparable	nectar	néctar
fascinate (to)	fascinar	insist (to)	insistir	nervous	nervioso(a)
favorite	favorito(a)	inspection	inspección	O obedience	obediencia
ferocious	feroz	intelligence	inteligencia	object	objeto
finally	finalmente	interesting	interesante	observatory	observatorio
firm	firme	interrupt (to)	interrumpir	occasion	ocasión
flexible	flexible	introduce (to)	introducir	ocean	océano
flower	flor	introduction	introducción	October	octubre
fortunately	afortunadamente	invent (to)	inventar	office	oficina
fruit	fruta	investigate (to)	investigar	operation	operación
funeral	funeral	invitation	invitación	ordinary	ordinario
furious	furioso(a)	invite (to)	invitar	P palace	palacio
G galaxy	galaxia	island	isla	panic	pánico
gallon	galón	L leader	líder	paper	papel
garden	jardín	lemon	limón	park	parque
gas	gas	lens	lente	part	parte
giraffe	jirafa	leopard	leopardo	patience	paciencia
golf	golf	lesson	lección	penguin	pingüino
glorious	glorioso(a)	lessons	lecciones	perfect	perfecto (a)
gorilla	gorila	line	línea	perfume	perfume
group	grupo	lion	león	permanent	permanente
guide	guía	list	lista	photo	foto
H helicopter	helicóptero	locate (to)	localizar	photograph	fotografía
hippopotamus	hipopótamo	M machine	máquina	photographer	fotógrafo(a)
history	historia	magic	magia	piano	piano
honor	honor	magician	mago	pioneer	pionero
hospital	hospital	magnificent	magnífico(a)	pirate	pirata
hotel	hotel	manner	manera	planet	planeta
hour	hora	map	mapa	planetarium	planetario
human	humano(a)	March	marzo	plans	planes
		march (to)	marchar, caminar	plants	plantas
		marionettes	marionetas, títeres		



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

