

# Spanish “Falsos Amigos” ...

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## Notes in Spanish - Falsos Amigos

### 1. Confusing Pairs

In the table below we've paired up words that can cause big confusion when translated between English and Spanish. For example, *Actualmente* doesn't mean "Actually", it means "Currently". So how do you say "Actually"? We give you the answer in the opposite column: *de hecho*. Enjoy the list!

SPANISH	MEANING	ENGLISH	MEANING
<b>Realizar</b>	To carry out	<b>To Realize</b>	Darse cuenta
<b>Cualidad (f.)</b>	A characteristic of a person or thing (e.g. generosity)	<b>Quality (as in measure of worth)</b>	Calidad (f.)
<b>Soportar</b>	To put up with, tolerate	<b>To support</b>	Apoyar
<b>Memoria (f.)</b>	The memory (as in brain's capacity to remember)	<b>A Memory (e.g. of an event)</b>	Recuerdo (m.)
<b>Atender</b>	To pay attention, to take care of someone or something	<b>To Attend (a meeting)</b>	Asistir
<b>Actualmente</b>	Currently	<b>Actually</b>	De hecho
<b>Estar embarazada</b>	To be pregnant	<b>To be embarrassed</b>	Tener vergüenza
<b>Éxito (m.)</b>	success	<b>Exit</b>	Salida (f.)
<b>Sensible</b>	Sensitive	<b>Sensible</b>	Sensato



## NOTES IN SPANISH

<b>Recordar</b>	To remember	<b>Record (verb)</b>	Grabar
<b>Introducir</b>	To insert, introduce (thing)	<b>To introduce (person)</b>	Presentar
<b>Carpeta (f.)</b>	Folder	<b>Carpet</b>	Alfombra (f.)
<b>Ganga (f.)</b>	Bargain	<b>Gang</b>	Pandilla (f.), grupo de personas
<b>Lectura (f.)</b>	Reading	<b>Lecture</b>	Conferencia (f.), charla (f.)
<b>Ropa (f.)</b>	Clothing	<b>Rope</b>	Cuerda (f.), soga (f.)
<b>Once</b>	Eleven	<b>Once</b>	Una vez
<b>Demostrar</b>	To show	<b>To Demonstrate</b>	Manifestarse
<b>Vaso (m.)</b>	Glass	<b>Vase</b>	Jarrón (m.), florero (m.)
<b>Balón (m.)</b>	Ball	<b>Balloon</b>	Globo (m.)
<b>Firma (f.)</b>	Signature	<b>Firm (company)</b>	Empresa (f.)
<b>Importe (m.)</b>	Amount, sum	<b>Import (noun)</b>	Importación (f.)
<b>Carta (f.)</b>	Letter	<b>Card (e.g. Birthday)</b>	Tarjeta (f.)
<b>Librería (f.)</b>	Bookshop or bookcase	<b>Library</b>	Biblioteca (f.)
<b>Complexión (f.)</b>	Build (e.g. medium build)	<b>Complexion</b>	Tez (f.) o Cutis (m.)
<b>Honesto</b>	Modest, virtuous	<b>Honest</b>	Sincero
<b>Nudo (m.)</b>	Knot	<b>Nude</b>	Desnudo (m.)



## NOTES IN SPANISH

<b>Apología</b>	Defence or praise for something or someone in a speech or in a piece of writing	<b>Apology</b>	Disculpa
<b>Sanidad</b>	Health system	<b>Sanity</b>	Juicio (m.) o cordura (f.)
<b>Preservativos (m.)</b>	Condoms	<b>Preservatives</b>	Conservantes (m.)
<b>Rape (m.)</b>	Monkfish	<b>To Rape</b>	Violar
<b>Decepción (f.)</b>	Disappointment	<b>Deception</b>	Engaño
<b>Condescender</b>	To give in	<b>Condescending</b>	Presumido
<b>Encumbrar</b>	To praise	<b>Encumber</b>	Cargar, agobiar
<b>Compromiso (m.)</b>	A promise	<b>Compromise</b>	Llegar a un acuerdo
<b>Constipado</b>	To have a cold	<b>Constipated</b>	Estreñido



## 2. When Gender Changes Meaning

Some words in Spanish change meaning completely depending on whether they are masculine or feminine. For example: *Un marco* is a frame, as in picture frame, but *una marca* is a brand or trademark! Here's a big list of more gender-changing words:

MASCULINO	MEANING	FEMENINO	MEANING
<b>Arco</b>	Arch	<b>Arca</b>	Chest
<b>Bolso</b>	Purse, handbag	<b>Bolsa</b>	Shopping bag
<b>Brazo</b>	Arm	<b>Braza</b>	Breast stroke
<b>Caballo</b>	Horse	<b>Caballa</b>	Mackerel
<b>Chorro</b>	Jet, stream	<b>Chorra</b>	Luck
<b>El frente</b>	Front (in a war/weather term)	<b>La frente</b>	Forehead
<b>Jaleo</b>	Noise, racket	<b>Jalea</b>	Jelly
<b>Marco</b>	Frame	<b>Marca</b>	Trademark
<b>Paleta</b>	Hick, country bumkin	<b>Paleta</b>	Trowel
<b>Palo</b>	Stick	<b>Pala</b>	Spade
<b>Pasto</b>	Pasture	<b>Pasta</b>	Money or Pasta
<b>Plato</b>	Plate	<b>Plata</b>	Silver / Money



## NOTES IN SPANISH

<b>Plazo</b>	Installment	<b>Plaza</b>	Square
<b>Rodillo</b>	Rolling pin	<b>Rodilla</b>	Knee
<b>Seto</b>	Hedge	<b>Seta</b>	Fungus
<b>Vacuno</b>	Bovine	<b>Vacuna</b>	Vaccine

We hope you enjoyed this special report! Our thanks go to Katie Goldstein for helping us to compile it.

*Un saludo,*

*Ben y Marina - Madrid*

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