

# English and Spanish Cognates

You know Spanish.....

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# English Spanish Cognates

- The 'convertible' words between English and Spanish are known as cognates. English and Spanish Cognates are words in both languages that share the same Latin root and which are very similar. For example: "inferior" in Spanish may be used to refer to a subordinate in the work-place, without carrying any of the derogatory meaning in the English usage. In Spanish, "informal" means unreliable rather than casual. In spite of these 'false cognates', there are thousands of English words which can be converted into Spanish along with much of their English meaning (especially the literal meaning).

# **NOUNS #1. *-or = -or***

- **Many Spanish nouns can easily be converted into English nouns. English nouns and Spanish nouns ending in '-or' are very often identical.**
- **English and Spanish**
- Actor
- Color
- Doctor
- Director
- Horror

## #2. *-al = -al*

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- **English and Spanish**
- Animal
- General
- Hospital
- Manual
- Moral

## **.#3. -ist → -ista**

- Many English nouns ending with '-ist', can be converted into Spanish nouns by changing to '-ista'
- **English    Spanish**
- Artist.....Artista
- Egoist.....Egoista
- List.....Lista
- Socialist.....Socialista
- tourist.....Turista

## #4. *-ism* → *-ismo*

- **English Spanish**
- Idealism.....Idealismo
- Despotism.....Despotismo
- Mechanism....Mecanismo
- Organism .....Organismo
- Optimism.....Optimismo

## #5. *-nce* → *-ncia*

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- **English Spanish**
- Abundance.....Abundancia
- Arrogance.....Arrogancia
- Experience.....Experiencia
- Patience.....Paciencia
- Intelligence .....Inteligencia

## #6. *-ty* → *-dad*

- **English Spanish**
- Activity.....Actividad
- Curiosity.....Curiosidad
- Electricity....Electricidad
- Identity.....Identidad
- University....Universidad



## #7. *-tion* → *-ción*

- **English Spanish**
- Association.....Asociación
- Combination...Combinación
- Condition.....Condición
- Exemption.....Exempción
- Instruction.....Instrucción

# '-io'.#8. -y → '-ía', '-ia', or '-io'

- **English**      **Spanish**
- Agency.....Agencia
- Agony.....Agonía
- Battery.....Batería
- Family.....Familia
- History.....Historia
- Urgency.....Urgencia
- Remedy.....Remedio
- Salary.....Salario
- Testimony.....Testimonio
- Dictionary.....Diccionario

Like nouns, many English adjectives can be converted into Spanish simply by changing the word ending. Here are some useful rules. **#1. *-ive* → *ivo***

- **English      Spanish**
- Active.....Activo
- Decisive.....Decisivo
- Festive.....Festivo
- Effective.....Efectivo
- Indicative....Indicativo

## **#2. *-al = -al***

- **English and Spanish**
- Brutal
- Usual
- Local
- Criminal
- Natural

## #3. *-ous* → *-oso*

- **English**                      **Spanish**
- Ambitious.....Ambicioso
- Gracious.....Gracioso
- Delicious.....Delicioso
- Generous.....Generoso
- Venomous.....Venenoso

## #4. *-ic* → *-ico*

- **English**                      **Spanish**
- Magnetic.....Magnético
- Fantastic.....Fantástico
- Electric.....Eléctrico
- Artistic.....Artístico
- Automatic.....Automático

## #5. *-ble* = *-ble*

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- **English and Spanish**
- Admirable
- Impossible
- Terrible
- Favorable
- Notable

## #6. *-nt* → *-nte*

- **English**                      **Spanish**
- Ignorant.....Ignorante
- Convenient.....Conveniente
- Prudent.....Prudente
- Important.....Importante
- Triumphant.....Triunfante



## #7. *-id* → *-ido*

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- **English**                      **Spanish**
- Stupid.....Estúpido
- Lucid.....Lúcido
- Splendid.....Espléndido
- Candid.....Cándido
- Solid.....Sólido
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## #8. *-ile* → *-il*

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- **English**                      **Spanish**
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- Agile..... ágil
- Fragile.....Frágil
- Mobile.....Móvil
- Juvenile.....Juvenil
- Automobile ...Automóvil
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## #9. *-ary* → *-ario*

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- **English**                      **Spanish**
- Actuary.....Actuario
- Arbitrary.....Arbitrario
- Ordinary.....Ordinario
- Imaginary....Imaginario
- Ordinary.....Ordinario

# Verbs

- **There are many English verbs that can be converted into Spanish, usually by changing the ending of the English verb and adding the Spanish verb suffices 'ar', 'er' or 'ir'.**
- **Almost every English verb ending in '-ate' can be converted into a Spanish infinitive by replacing the final '-ate' with '-ar'.**

- **#1. -ate → -ar**

<b>English</b>	<b>Spanish</b>
• accelerate	acelerar
• accentuate	acentuar
• aggregate	agregar
• associate	asociar
• demonstrate	demostrar
• estimate	estimar
• exaggerate	exagerar
• negotiate	negociar
• operate	operar
• participate	participar
• terminate	terminar

- Many English verbs ending in **VOWEL + CONSONANT + T** can be converted into Spanish verbs by adding '-ar' or '-ir' to the end of the English verb.#2. **VOWEL + CONSONANT + T** → '*-tar*' or '*-tir*'

<b>English</b>	<b>Spanish</b>
• insult	insultar
• consult	consultar
• exalt	exaltar
• present	presentar
• represent	representar
• comment	comentar
• ferment	fermentar
• lament	lamentar
• import	importar
• comport	comportar
• insert	insertar
• support	soportar
• export	exportar
• convert	convertir
• Insist	insistir

- Many English infinitive verbs ending **VOWEL + CONSONANT + E** can be **converted into Spanish infinitive verbs** by dropping the final E and adding '-ar'.#3. **VOWEL + CONSONANT + E → VOWEL + CONSONANT + 'AR'**
- **English      Spanish**
- abuse      abusar
- accuse      acusar
- cause      causar
- excuse      excusar
- admire      admirar
- adore      adorar
- compare      comparar
- declare      declarar
- implore      implorar
- analyze      analizar
- authorize      autorizar
- civilize      civilizar
- paralyze      paralizar
- complete      completar

- converse            conversar
- escape            escapar
- ignore            ignorar
- invite            invitar
- imagine            imaginar
- prepare            preparar
- organize            organizar
- utilize            utilizar



- Almost every English infinitive verb ending with **'-ify'** can be converted into a Spanish verb by replacing the final **'-ify'** with **'-ificar'**.#4. **'-ify' → '-ificar'**

<b>English</b>	<b>Spanish</b>
• unify	unificar
• simplify	simplificar
• Solidify	solidificar
• Classify	clasificar
• notify	notificar
• Modify	modificar
• gratify	gratificar
• justify	justificar
• pacify	pacificar
• verify	verificar

# Adverbs- Adverbios

- In English, "-ly" combines with many adjectives to form adverbs. In Spanish, "-mente" combines with (feminine) adjectives to form Spanish adverbs.
- **English**                      **Spanish**
- absolutely                      absolutamente
- normally                      normalmente
- naturally                      naturalmente
- finally                      finalmente
- correctly                      correctamente
- exactly                      exactamente
- evidently                      evidentemente
- difficultly                      difícilmente