

THE SPANISH SPOT issue #1

¡Bienvenidos! Welcome to The Spanish Spot! Inside you'll find a short article about a Spanish speaking destination, a free grammar lesson, activity, & quiz, as well as information about our websites & featured Spanish teaching products. For more free online lessons and worksheets check out our Spanish learning website and weekly newsletter at www.spanish.bz

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Travel: San Pedro de Atacama, Chile

Did you know that the driest desert in the world is located in Northern Chile? Land of spectacular colors that resemble the landscape of Mars in places...San Pedro is also home to famous archaeological finds such as the Miss Chile mummy. The history of the area dates from 11,000 years b.c., the age of the oldest human remains found there. The great geological activity of the area has created volcanoes as well as the remarkable Geysers del Tatio (4,200 meters high). If you visit the thermal waters near the geysers in the early hours of the morning, you can enjoy a soothing thermal bath while the sun comes up. The water temperature may reach up to 54 degrees Celsius, and caution must be taken when walking around the area closest to the geysers. The little village of San Pedro de Atacama also boasts a charming little white church and a couple of quaint restaurants, which if you're lucky might be featuring Andean flute style music while you eat. While it's a bit off the beaten path, the desert region of Chile is a trip you'll never forget!



Related Web Links:

History & Pictures: <http://www.gochile.cl/html/SanPedro/SanPedro.asp>

More Photos: <http://www.insite.com.br/rodrigo/images/chile/chile.html>

Spanish Grammar: Cognates (Easy Words!)

Cognates are words that are easy to translate and recognize in English. You can apply these formulas to many other English words to find their equivalents in Spanish. Here are some of the most common forms of Spanish cognates - remember that these are **GENERAL rules** and don't always work!

	Spanish		English
-a	problema	—	problem
-o	paraíso	—	paradise
-ado/ada	complicado	-ed	complicated
-ario	diccionario	-ary	dictionary
-ción	nación	-tion	nation
-dad	humanidad	-ty	humanity
-fía	geografía	-phy	geography
-ia	farmacia	-y	pharmacy
-io	matrimonio	-y	matrimony
-ista	artista	-ist	artist
-mente	personalmente	-ly	personally
-orio	dormitorio	-ory	dormitory
-oso	fabuloso	-ous	fabulous
-acio	palacio	-acio	palace
-ología	biología	-ology	biology
-sión	misión	-sion	mission
-ura	cultura	-ure	culture
-ismo	comunismo	-ism	communism

Spanish Cognates Worksheet

Translate the following ENGLISH words into Spanish - answers are upside down below the worksheet

1. Yo voy a llamar por _____ (telephone)
2. Necesito un buen _____ (dictionary)
3. La _____ (geography) en California es muy diversa
4. Ella es un _____ (artist)
5. La _____ (pharmacy) está cerrada
6. Los Estados Unidos es una _____ (nation) grande
7. ¡Qué _____ (fabulous) - ganó mi equipo!
8. Esta playa es un _____ (paradise)
9. Los estudiantes viven en un _____ (dormitory)
10. Llegar a la luna era paso importante para _____ (humanity)

Answers: 1. teléfono 2. diccionario 3. geografía 4. artista 5. farmacia
6. nación 7. fabuloso 8. paraíso 9. dormitorio 10. humanidad

Spanish Cognates Quiz

1. Which below is NOT a cognate?
estudiante carro bicicleta hacer
2. What ending do these cognates have in their Spanish form?
personally, continually, extremely _____
3. Translate the following cognate into English: *electricidad*
electric electricity elected
4. Cómo se traduce el cognado "*instruction*" en español? _____
5. Which is the correct ending in Spanish for these cognates:
nation, action, evolution?

sión ción tión zión

Answers: 1. hacer 2. mente 3. electricity
4. instrucción 5. ción

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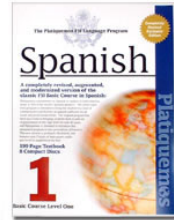
Featured Audio Programs

Platiquemos FSI Spanish Course www.spanish.bz/course.htm
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The world's best Spanish course just got better! Don Casteel, fluent in several languages and a former Foreign Service Officer, is well trained in the FSI method. He has completely revised and improved "the course that works." New 2002 Edition!

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- 8 levels lead to mastery of Spanish
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Viva la Música www.spanish.bz/audio.htm
\$19.99

Fun Audio CD and Lyrics Booklet

"I wrote the first ten songs for travelers, and the others I composed with certain vocabulary and grammar points in mind. The songs are practical, melodious and sometimes humorous. The CD comes with a booklet containing the Spanish lyrics and English translations. My CD is appropriate for young children, 1st-3rd year high school students, and for college students during the first year and a half of study."

-- author and singer Elise Carr Sumner

A Spanish music CD with *28 original songs* for all ages

- A 61-page Spanish lyric booklet
- English translations and teacher notes
- Composed by a veteran high school Spanish teacher and songwriter



The Real Spanish Path www.spanish.bz/audio.htm
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The Real Spanish Path™ is a highly innovative structural training process that will allow you to master approximately 70% of verb structure in the Spanish language by leveraging the Power of Patterns. Stop struggling and laboring with tense and conjugation — begin leveraging the Power of Patterns. In this 60 minute learning experience you quickly and easily develop a high level of structural proficiency.

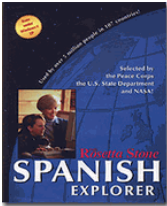
Interactive Materials include:

- The Real Spanish Path Language Map
- Audio Instruction on CD or audio tape (whichever you choose)
- Verb Pattern Retention Cards



Featured Software Programs - from Spanishsoftware.net

Rosetta Stone Explorer www.spanishsoftware.net/beginning.htm
\$19.99



Selected by the Peace Corps, the U.S. State Department, and NASA! The Rosetta Stone for PC/Mac makes it possible to learn a new language the way you learned your first language: without translation, memorization or studying the rules of grammar!

Now you can learn a new language with the revolutionary program that fulfills the promise of true interactive language learning made fast, easy and fun. This special edition for beginning learners is taken from the award-winning Rosetta Stone Level 1 program. It presents 22 lessons of interactive multimedia immersion instruction.

Product Features:

- Nearly 900 real-life color pictures and phrases
- All phrases, sentences and dialogues spoken by native speakers
- Lesson previews, step-by-step exercises and a wide variety of tests
- Automated tutorials that "learn" where you need extra help
- Graphical Speech Recognition displays your voiceprint as you speak and measures it against the native speaker's voiceprint to help you improve your pronunciation

Talk Now! Eurotalk Interactive www.spanishsoftware.net/beginning.htm
\$19.99

For PC & Mac - From Eurotalk Interactive, Talk Now! is designed for people who want to learn a language quickly. It's fun, fast, and makes learning easy. If you don't have time to become fluent, but need the basics in a hurry, Talk Now! is for you. Ideal for beginners, Comprehensive, and Interactive. Topics include:

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- phrases
- food
- shopping
- numbers
- time

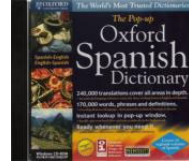


Immediate response to every choice you make. Compare your pronunciation to that of native speakers, using the record facility. Test your knowledge with easy and hard quizzes, plus a challenging memory game. Monitor your progress, keep a check on your total score, and print your own awards. Print your own picture dictionary for handy reference.

Shipping Price: \$2.95 regular mail, \$4.95 priority (usps)

Oxford Spanish Dictionary for PC www.spanishsoftware.net
\$19.99

Contains over 170,000 words and phrases and 240,000 translations and describes Spanish as it is used throughout the whole Spanish-speaking world.

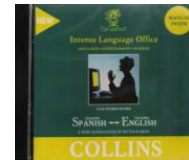


The Pop-up Oxford Spanish Dictionary is an unrivaled language reference for students, business people and translators working between English and Spanish on the Web or in Windows. Also includes 24 regional variations of Spanish.

- Spoken Instant lookup in pop-up window
- Spoken Ready whenever you need it
- Spoken The iFinger engine is user-friendly and unobtrusive. It runs seamlessly in the background when you start Windows.

Collins Spanish Talking Dictionary for PC www.spanishsoftware.net
\$19.99

Collins Bilingual Talking Dictionary is an electronic version of a well-known Collins Spanish-English & English-Spanish dictionary. The dictionary has over 80,000 words and phrases and more than 120,000 translations, and incorporates audio sound samples throughout.



Key Features:

- Spoken by professional native speakers.
- It also includes a quick search facility.
- The software includes crosswords & exercises
- The Dictionary includes various computer-based learning exercises to expand vocabulary and practice spelling and pronunciation.
- The AudioPad module is designed to teach correct pronunciation.

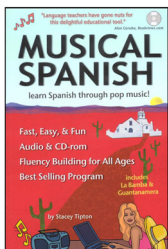
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