

Vocabulario útil—cognados falsos

La lista siguiente incluye “cognados falsos”—palabras que se prestan a confusión porque son parecidas y tienen significado diferente en los dos idiomas. Nótese la diferencia de significado.

actual = present, current
actual = verdadero, real

anticipar = to act beforehand
to anticipate = esperar

apreciar = esteem, evaluate (a book, novel),
a person
appreciate = agradecer

argumento = plot summary of a story or novel
argument = disputa

asistir = to attend
to assist, to wait on = ayudar, atender

asumir = to adopt, to take on, to accept
to assume, suppose = suponer

casualidad = chance, opportunity, unforeseen event
casualty = víctima; **desgracia personal**

competencia = competition, contest
competence = eficacia

compromiso = engagement, appointment
compromise = arreglo, convenio

cualidad = quality (of character)
quality (of merchandise) = calidad

cuestión = problem, issue
question = pregunta

decepción = disappointment
deception = engaño

desgracia = misfortune
disgrace = vergüenza

educado = well-mannered
educated, schooled = instruido

emoción = excitement
emotion = pasión, sentimiento

entretener = to amuse
to entertain = dar una fiesta

éxito = success
exit = salida

facultad = college or school in a university
faculty = profesorado

fastidioso = annoying, bothersome
fastidious = esmerado, exigente

gracioso = witty, funny
gracious = generoso, gentil

honesto = honorable, chaste
honest = honrado

ignorar = to be unaware of, be ignorant of
to ignore = no hacer caso de

largo = long
large = grande

lectura = reading
lecture = conferencia

librería = bookstore
library = **biblioteca**

particular = private
particular = **exigente**

posición = position, location
position = **punto de vista; puesto, empleo**

pretender = to seek, claim
to pretend = **fingir**

quitar = to remove, take away
to quit = **dejar, abandonar**

realización = achievement
realization = **comprensión**

respecto = referring to
respect = **respeto**

restar = to subtract
to rest = **descansar**

reducir = to reduce, diminish
to reduce (lose weight) = **adelgazar, bajar de peso**

remover = to mix, stir
to remove = **quitar**

sensible = sensitive
sensible = **sensato, razonable**

sensitivo = pertaining to the senses
sensitive = **sensible**

simple = simple (not multiple), single;
stupid (simpleton)
simple (not complicated) = **sencillo**

soportar = to tolerate
to support (a family) = **mantener, sostener**

suceso = event, happening
success = **éxito**

sugestión = power of suggestion
suggestion = **sugerencia, recomendación**

urgir = to be urgent
to urge = **persuadir**