

False friends

The AQA specification refers to 'false friends' (see section 3.4.1.6). These are words in Spanish that may be misunderstood as the equivalent of an English word with similar or identical spelling. This list contains words within the 2000 most frequent in Spanish, and not on the AQA vocabulary list, that might be misunderstood by an L1 English-L2 Spanish learner. For example, 'suceder' might appear like 'succeed', but actually means 'to happen'.

Word class key: adj: adjectives; adv: adverbs; conj: conjunctions; nm/nf: nouns (masculine/feminine); prep: prepositions; v: verbs

Source of frequency rankings, translations and word class data: Davies, M., & Davies, K. (2018). *A frequency dictionary of Spanish: Core vocabulary for learners* (2nd ed.). London: Routledge

Word	Frequency	Translation	Word class
suceder	483	to happen	v
actual	499	current	adj
dato	544	data, fact	nm
materia	643	matter, subject	nf
pretender	809	to attempt	v
plantear	956	to propose, present	v
retirar	1007	to take away, retire	v
atender	1027	to serve, attend to	v
actualmente	1037	now, at present	adv
voluntad	1051	will, willpower, intention	nf
firmar	1056	to sign	v
familiar	1152	relative	nm
régimen	1167	regime, diet	nm
inversión	1192	investment, outlay	nf
asistir	1200	to attend	v
arena	1672	sand	nf
experimentar	1682	to experience, experiment	v
discusión	1699	discussion, argument	nf
ilusión	1733	illusion, hope, dream	nf
reclamar	1787	to demand, require	v
efectivamente	1794	in fact, actually, indeed	adv
respectar	1933	to concern	v