

Opening extract from

Oxford Primary Spanish Dictionary

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Introduction

The *Oxford Primary Spanish Dictionary* is a completely new dictionary written for primary schoolchildren between the ages of 7 and 11.

This dictionary is much more than a basic resource for looking up translations: it also helps children to see patterns in the way Spanish is used and structured and identify relationships between similar-looking Spanish and English words. It provides an understanding of the basic concepts of grammar and also includes age-appropriate and interesting cultural information.

A selection of the most important Latin American words are included. There are lots of differences between European and Latin American Spanish. For example, the words **tú** and **ustedes** (the familiar word for 'you' in the singular and plural) are not usually used in Latin America – **vos** and **vosotros/vosotras** are used instead.

The layout is modern and clear with Spanish picked out in green and English picked out in blue. Child-friendly example sentences and phrases illustrate common usage and constructions, and feature panels present information in a simple graphic way.

The illustrated thematic centre section of the dictionary is a further opportunity to develop key vocabulary skills with its topic-based phrases and sentences. The central verb table section provides a simple first step into using and understanding verb tenses.

The *Oxford Primary Spanish Dictionary* makes learning another language enjoyable, fun, and easy. It is a vital and effective tool that will enable children to start using Spanish confidently.

The publishers and editor are indebted to all the advisors, consultants, teachers, and readers who were involved in planning and compiling this dictionary. Special thanks go to Martyn Ellis and Rosa Martín.

MJ

Get to know your dictionary

The dictionary is divided into two halves, the *Spanish-English* side and the *English-Spanish* side. These are separated by a picture section and verb tables in the middle.

Spanish
English

- **Where do I find the English translation of a Spanish word?**
- Look in the *Spanish-English* half which comes first.

English
Spanish

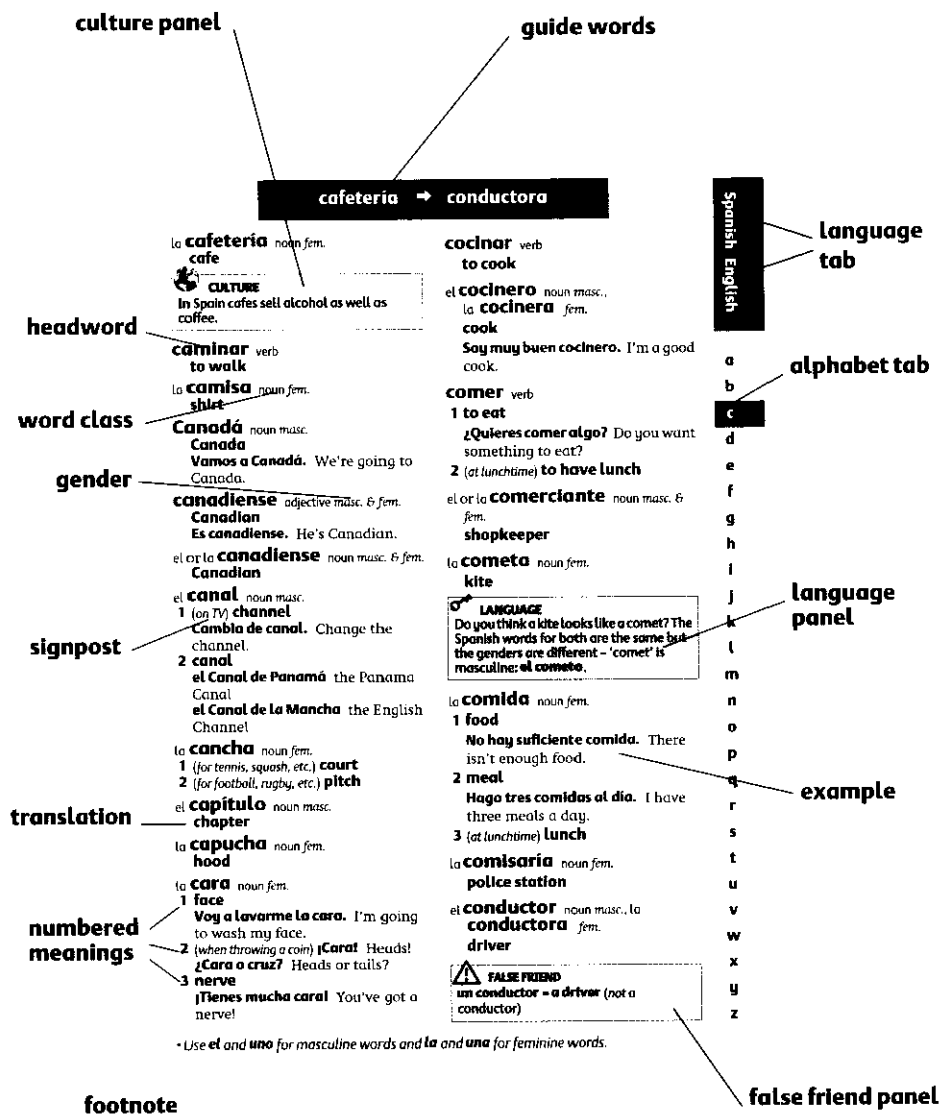
- **Where do I find the Spanish translation of an English word?**
- Look in the *English-Spanish* half towards the back of the book.

b
c
d

- **How do I find a word quickly?**
- Use the alphabet on the edge of each page to find the first letter of the word you need.

carroza → castañuelas

- Then use the guidewords highlighted on the top of the page. They are the first and last words on the page. Think of the order of letters in your word to make sure you are on the right page.
For example, what does **casi** mean in English?
- Look in the *Spanish-English* half.
- Find where **c** is highlighted in the alphabet on the edge of the page.
- Look at the two words at the top of a page. Find the words beginning with **ca**, then **cas**, until you get to **casi**.



headwords

These are the words you look up. The Spanish headwords are in green. The English headwords are in blue.

word classes

Most headwords in the dictionary are nouns, verbs, or adjectives. Sometimes a word can be more than one word class: for example, 'phone' can be a noun (He's on the phone) or a verb (Phone me tomorrow). For nouns, the dictionary gives the Spanish word for 'the', e.g. **el autocar**, **la barca**, **los espaguetis**, **las gafas**.

gender

Spanish nouns and adjectives are either masculine (*masc.*) or feminine (*fem.*). Nouns and adjectives can be singular (just one) or plural (more than one).

translations

These are the headwords translated in English or Spanish.

examples

Examples show you how to use the headword in a typical way.

numbered meanings

If a headword has more than one translation, numbers separate each translation.

signposts

These point you to the right translation, usually when there is more than one meaning of the word you are looking up, e.g. a 'picture' can be a (*drawing*), and the Spanish is **debajo**, or a picture you see (*on TV*) and then the Spanish is **imagen**.

language panels

Vital information about how to use the headwords correctly is shown in the key language panels.

false friend panels

These are important warnings to stop you from using a Spanish word which looks like an English one but which has a completely different meaning!

culture panels

Interesting facts about Spanish culture are shown in these panels.

alphabet tab

To help you navigate your way through the dictionary, the letter you are on is highlighted on the alphabet strip on every page.

language tab

This shows which side of the dictionary you are on.

guide words

These help you to find the word you are looking for easily. They show you the first and last word on the page.

footnotes

These give you useful general language reminders.

Aa

a preposition

 **LANGUAGE**
a + el = al

- 1 to
a la biblioteca to the library
a España to Spain
Voy al médico. I'm going to the doctor.
He aprendido a leer. I've learnt to read.
- 2 (with words of giving, sending, etc.) to
Doy un regalo a mi amigo. I am giving my friend a present.
- 3 at
a las siete at seven o'clock
a medianoche at midnight
Llego a casa a las cuatro. I arrive home at four.
- 4 on
a la derecha on the right
Voy a pie. I go on foot.
Subí al tren. I got on the train.
- 5 in
a lápiz in pencil
al sol in the sun
Me tiré al agua. I jumped in the water.
- 6 (in the distance) away
Está a cinco kilómetros de aquí. It's five kilometres away.
- 7 (with dates)
Estamos a diez de marzo. It's the tenth of March.
- 8 (when saying how many times) a
dos veces al día twice a day
- 9 (not translated, with a person or a pet)

 **LANGUAGE**
A is used after verbs in front of nouns for people or pets.

¿Has visto a Rafael? Have you seen Rafael?

Conozco a tu padre. I know your dad.
Lavo a mi perro. I wash my dog.

- abajo** adverb
- 1 down
arriba y abajo up and down
No mires abajo. Don't look down.
 - 2 downstairs
Estoy abajo en el salón. I'm downstairs in the living room.
 - 3 de abajo below
el piso de abajo the flat below
 - 4 (talking about the lowest one)
de abajo bottom
en el estante de abajo on the bottom shelf
- el **abanico** noun masc.
fan
- el **abecedario** noun masc.
alphabet
- la **abeja** noun fem.
bee
- abierto** adjective masc.,
abierta fem.
- 1 open
La puerta está abierta. The door's open.
 - 2 on
El grifo está abierto. The tap's on.
- el **abogado** noun masc.,
la **abogada** fem.
lawyer
She's a lawyer. Es abogada.
- el **abrazo** noun masc.
hug
Un abrazo, Antonio. (in a letter) With best wishes, Antonio.
- el **abrigo** noun masc.
coat

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- x
- y
- z

• Languages and nationalities do not take a capital letter in Spanish.

abril *noun masc.*
April
en abril in April
Mi cumpleaños es en abril.
 My birthday's in April.

abrir *verb*
1 to open
Abre la puerta. Open the door.
¿A qué hora abre el supermercado? What time does the supermarket open?
2 to turn on
abrir el grifo to turn on the tap

abrochar *verb*
to do up
Abróchate la chaqueta. Do up your jacket.

abuelo *noun masc.,*
la abuela *fem.*
grandfather, grandmother
mis abuelos my grandparents

aburrido *adjective masc.,*
aburrida *fem.*
1 boring
Es aburrido. It's boring.
2 bored
Estoy aburrido. I'm bored.

aburrirse *verb*
to get bored
Me aburro. I get bored.

acabar *verb*
1 to finish
He acabado mis deberes. I've finished my homework.
2 acabar de hacer algo to have just done something
Acabo de llegar. I've just arrived.

 **LANGUAGE**
 Use **acabar de** with the infinitive when you want to say you've done something a short time ago/just now.

acampar *verb*
to camp

acariciar *verb*
to stroke
Me gusta acariciar al gato. I like stroking the cat.

el accidente *noun masc.*
accident
Mi amigo tuvo un accidente de coche. My friend had a car accident.

la acción *noun fem.*
action
una película con mucha acción
 a film with lots of action

el aceite *noun masc.*
oil
el aceite de oliva olive oil

la aceituna *noun fem.*
olive

el acento *noun masc.*
accent
'Fútbol' lleva acento en la 'u'.
'Fútbol' has an accent on the 'u'.
María tiene acento español. Maria has a Spanish accent.

aceptar *verb*
to accept

la acera *noun fem.*
pavement

acercarse *verb*
to get closer
Acércate a la ventana. Get closer to the window.

acertar *verb*
acertar algo to get something right
¿Acertaste? Did you get it right?

acompañar *verb*
to go with, to come with
¿Me acompañas? Are you coming with me?

acordarse *verb*
to remember
No me acuerdo. I don't remember.

• The months of the year and days of the week do not take a capital letter in Spanish.

acordarse de algo to remember something
Me acuerdo del número. I remember the number.
¿Te acuerdas de mí? Do you remember me?

acostarse verb
to go to bed
Me acuesto a las ocho. I go to bed at eight.

el or la **acróbata** noun *masc. & fem.*
acrobat

la **actividad** noun *fem.*
activity

activo adjective *masc.*, **activa** *fem.*
active

el **actor** noun *masc.*
actor

la **actriz** noun *fem.* (plural **las actrices**)
actress

actuar verb
(*in a play, film, etc.*) **to act**

el **acuerdo** noun *masc.*
estar de acuerdo to agree
Estoy de acuerdo contigo. I agree with you.

acusar verb
to accuse

el or la **acusica** noun *masc. & fem.*
telltale

adelantar verb
1 (in a car) to overtake
2 (in a game) to move forward
Adelanta una casilla. Move to the next square.

adelante adverb
forward
más adelante further on
¡Adelante! Come in! (*entering a room*); Go on! (*telling somebody to do something*)

además adverb
as well, besides

• See the centre section for verb tables.

Es inteligente y además trabajador. He's intelligent and hard-working as well.
Es caro y además es feo. It's expensive and it's ugly besides.

adentro adverb
inside
Pasa adentro. Come inside.

el **adhesivo** noun *masc.*
sticker

adiós exclamation
goodbye

adivinar verb
to guess

el **adjetivo** noun *masc.*
adjective

el or la **adolescente** noun *masc. & fem.*
teenager

adónde adverb
where
¿Adónde vas? Where are you going?

los **adornos** plural noun *masc.*
decorations
Los adornos de Navidad the Christmas decorations

adrede adverb
on purpose
Lo has hecho adrede. You did it on purpose.

el **adulto** noun *masc.*,
la **adulta** *fem.*
adult

el **adverbio** noun *masc.*
adverb

advertir verb
to warn
¡Te lo advierto! I'm warning you!

el **aeropuerto** noun *masc.*
airport

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la **afición** noun *fem.***hobby****¿Qué aficiones tienes?** What hobbies do you have?**aficionado** adjective *masc.,***aficionada** *fem.***ser aficionado a algo** to be a fan of something**Es aficionado al fútbol.** He's a football fan.**África** noun *fem.***Africa****africano** adjective *masc.,***africana** *fem.***African**el **africano** noun *masc.,*la **africana** *fem.***African****los africanos** Africans**afuera** adverb**outside****Vete afuera.** Go outside.**agacharse** verb**to bend down, to crouch down****¡Agáchate!** Bend down!, Crouch down!**agarrar** verb**to get hold of****Me agarró del brazo.** He got hold of my arm.**agarrarse** verb**to hold on****¡Agárrate!, que te caes.** Hold on or you'll fall down.la **agencia de viajes** noun *fem.***travel agent's**la **agenda** noun *fem.***diary****la agenda del colegio** the school diary**FALSE FRIEND****una agenda = a diary (not an agenda)****agosto** noun *masc.***August****el ocho de agosto** the eighth of August**Me voy de vacaciones en agosto.**

I'm going on holiday in August.

agradable adjective *masc. & fem.***pleasant****agradecer** verb**agradecer algo a alguien** to thank somebody for something**Le he agradecido el regalo.** I've thanked him for the present.el **agricultor** noun *masc.,*la **agricultora** *fem.***farmer****agrio** adjective *masc.,* **agria** *fem.***sour****La naranja está agria.** The orange is sour.el **agua** noun *fem.***water****¿Quieres agua?** Do you want some water?**el agua mineral** mineral water**LANGUAGE**Be careful: you use **el** with **agua** but it is not a masculine noun.el or la **aguafiestas** noun *masc. &**fem.* (plural **los** or **las aguafiestas**)**spoilsport****aguantar** verb**to stand, to tolerate****No aguanto este ruido.** I can't stand this noise.el **águila** noun *fem.***eagle****LANGUAGE**Be careful: you use **el** with **águila** but it is not a masculine noun.la **aguja** noun *fem.***needle**• Use **el** and **uno** for masculine words and **la** and **una** for feminine words.

las agujas del reloj the hands of the clock

el agujero noun masc. hole

ahí adverb there
¡Ahí está! There she is!
ahí abajo down there
buscar por ahí to look around there
Ve por ahí. Go that way.
¿Adónde vas? – Me voy por ahí. Where are you going? – I’m going that way.

la ahijada noun fem. goddaughter

el ahijado noun masc. godson

ahogarse verb to drown
Se ahogó en el mar. He drowned in the sea.

ahora adverb now
Ahora estoy en casa. I’m at home now.
ahora mismo right now

ahorrar verb to save
Tienes que ahorrar dinero. You have to save money.

el aire noun masc. air
Tiré el balón al aire. I threw the ball into the air.
el aire acondicionado air conditioning

el ajedrez noun masc. 1 chess
¿Quieres jugar al ajedrez? Do you want to play chess?
2 chess set

el ajo noun masc. garlic

ajustado adjective masc., ajustada fem. tight
unos vaqueros ajustados tight jeans

al preposition
LANGUAGE
a + el = al

to the
ir al cine to go to the cinema
LANGUAGE
For more examples of al look at a.

el ala noun fem. wing

LANGUAGE
Be careful: you use el with ala but it is not a masculine noun.

la alarma noun fem. alarm
una alarma contra incendios a fire alarm

el albañil noun masc. builder

el albergue juvenil noun masc. youth hostel

el álbum noun masc. album
un álbum de fotos a photo album

el alcalde masc., la alcaldesa noun fem. mayor

alcanzar verb 1 to catch up with
Corre si quieres alcanzarlo. Run if you want to catch up with him.
2 to reach
¿Alcanzas al techo? Can you reach the ceiling?

el alcohol noun masc. alcohol

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- y
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alegrarse verb
to be happy
Me alegro de verte. I'm pleased to see you.

alegre adjective *masc. & fem.*
happy

Estás muy alegre hoy. You're looking very happy today.

la **alegría** noun *fem.*
joy

el **alemán** noun *masc.*
(the language) **German**
¿Hablas alemán? Do you speak German?

alemán adjective *masc., fem.*
alemana *fem.*
German
Frankes alemán. Frank is German.

el **alemán** noun *masc., fem.*
la **alemana** *fem.*
German
los alemanes the Germans

Alemania noun *fem.*
Germany

la **alergia** noun *fem.*
allergy
Tengo alergia a la penicilina. I'm allergic to penicillin.

alérgico adjective *masc., fem.*
alérgica *fem.*
allergic

alfabético adjective *masc.*
en orden alfabético in alphabetical order

el **alfabeto** noun *masc.*
alphabet

la **alfombra** noun *fem.*
rug

algo pronoun
1 something
¿Buscas algo? Are you looking for something?
algo interesante something interesting
2 anything
¿Algo más? Anything else?

el **algodón** noun *masc.*
cotton
unos calcetines de algodón cotton socks

alguien pronoun
1 somebody
Alguien ha llamado. Somebody phoned.
2 anybody
¿Alguien ha visto mi libro? Has anybody seen my book?

alguno adjective & pronoun *masc., fem.*
alguna *fem.*

LANGUAGE
The masculine singular **alguno** becomes **algún** when it is used before a noun.

1 some
Algunos niños tienen bicicletas. Some children have bicycles.
alguna vez sometimes
en alguna parte somewhere
Sólo me gustan algunos. I only like some.
2 any
¿Tocas algún instrumento? Do you play any instrument?
Tengo muchos caramelos.
¿Quieres alguno? I've got lots of sweets. Do you want any?

la **alimentación** noun *fem.*
diet
una alimentación sana a healthy diet

allá adverb
over there
La farmacia está más allá. The chemist is further away.

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