

FALSE FRIENDS

Do you know what *false friends* are? Choose the correct answer:

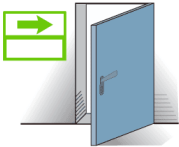





- A. They are words with a similar meaning.
- B. They are words with a similar spelling but a different meaning.
- C. They are words with the same pronunciation.
- D. They are words with identical spelling but different pronunciation.

Can you give me an example of a FALSE FRIEND in English and Spanish?

Let's see an example. **Idiom** is an English word which means *Frases hechas* in Spanish but it's easily confused with **Language**. You can't say: "I speak two *idioms*" but "I speak two *languages*."

Let's now work with FALSE FRIENDS.

1. First you have to decide on the meaning of the following words. Choose the suitable picture between the two given:

EXIT		
CARPET		
PARENTS		

2. Now you have to choose between two meanings. Underline the correct one.

1. **ACTUALLY** means: a. actualmente      b. realmente
2. **ARGUMENT** means: a. argumento      b. discusión
3. **PETROL** means: a. gasolina      b. petroleo
4. **FIRM** means: a. firma comercial      b. firma
5. **SUBURB** means: a. suburbio      b. barrio

How do you say that in English?

actualmente	argumento	petroleo	firma	suburbio

3. Have a look at this list of verbs. What do you think they mean in Spanish?

ASSIST	PRETEND	REALIZE	RESUME	ADVISE

Now try to match these verbs to their real meaning:

- |            |                             |
|------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. assist  | a. "retomar una tarea"      |
| 2. pretend | b. "atender, ayudar"        |
| 3. realize | c. "aconsejar"              |
| 4. resume  | d. "darse cuenta, percibir" |
| 5. advise  | e. "engañar, fingir"        |

Write down the wrong meaning of the verbs in Exercise 3 in the spaces provided and then try to look for their proper meaning from the ones given below:

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**WARN      TRY      SUMMARIZE      CARRY OUT      ATTEND**

