

LOS COGNADOS

One of the most helpful strategies to use when reading in Spanish is to look for cognates. A cognate is a word that looks similar and means the same thing in two or more languages. Here are several examples:



the computer	--	la computadora
the student	--	el estudiante
simplemente	--	simply

Occasionally, you will come across a word in Spanish that LOOKS like an English word, but it does not mean the same thing. These words are called FALSE cognates. Examples:

embarazada	--	pregnant	
librería	--	bookstore	(embarrassed = avergonzado) (library = biblioteca)



There will be cognates in every kind of reading that you do in Spanish: news articles, novels, short stories, advertisements, etc. Below is a list of cognates that came from a short article about the moon. Next to each word, please write down what you think that it means in English:

telescopios	atmósfera	formaron
refleja	cráteres	temperatura
mueve	montañas	diferencia
círculo	volcanes	misión
completa	impactos	satélite
órbita	meteoritos	detalles

Now, you will have the chance to find cognates in some reading materials that your teacher gives you. Write down at least 20 in this box (you'll have to write small!)