



COMMON Mistakes in Spanish



1. Realizar ≠ To realize

Realizar: "To do" or "To accomplish something"

To Realize: "Darse cuenta"

Hoy **me di cuenta** de que los perros destruyeron mis zapatos ayer. = Today I **realized** the dogs destroyed my shoes yesterday.

2. Embarazada ≠ Embarrassed

Embarazada: "Pregnant"

Embarrassed: "Avergonzado" or "Avergonzada"

Yo estaba **avergonzada** cuando me caí en la plaza. = I was **embarrassed** when I fell down at the plaza.

3. Parientes ≠ Parents

Parientes: "Relatives"

Parents: "Padres"

Mis **padres** viven en México = My **parents** live in Mexico.

4. Suceso ≠ Success

Suceso: "Event"

Success: "Éxito"

Nuestra fiesta improvisada fue todo un **éxito**. = Our last minute party was a big **success**.

5. Introducir ≠ To introduce

Introducir: "To put in", "To insert" or "To enter"

To introduce someone: "Presentar a alguien"

Jim **me presentó a** su mamá en Minnesota = Jim **introduced me to** his mom in Minnesota.

6. Actualmente ≠ Actually

Actualmente: "Nowadays", "In this day and age", "Now", or "At the moment"

Actually: "La verdad es que", "De hecho" or "En realidad"

En realidad, yo no quería ver esa película, pero mis amigos insistieron = **Actually**, I didn't want to see that movie, but my friends insisted.

7. Soportar ≠ To support

Soportar: "To stand"

To support: "Apoyar"

Nuestras familias **apoyan** nuestra decisión de no comer carne. = Our families **support** our decision of not eating meat.

8. Sentencia ≠ Sentence

Sentencia: "Court ruling" or "Court judgement"

Sentence: "Oración" or "Frase"

Esta **oración** es muy complicada. = This **sentence** is very complicated.

9. Colegio ≠ College

Colegio: "Private school"

College: "Universidad"

Fui a la **universidad** en Colima, México. = I went to **college** in Colima, Mexico.

10. Buscando para ≠ Looking for

Buscando para: WRONG!

Looking for: "Buscando"

Estoy **buscando** mi celular, ¿lo has visto? = I'm **looking for** my cell phone, have you seen it?

11. SER and ESTAR:

SER is commonly used to talk about more permanent things, things that cannot be changed, or that would be quite difficult to change.

For example: Nationality.

Yo **soy** Mexicana. = I am Mexican.

On the other hand, **ESTAR** expresses a state, something that can change and/or varies from time to time.

For example: Location.

Yo **Estoy** en Puerto Rico. = I am in Puerto Rico.