

Cognates: True or False?

Directions: This grid contains sixteen pairs of English-Spanish cognates (the English word appearing first in each square). Use the Visual Thesaurus and its Spanish language database to look up each pair of words to determine which cognates are "true cognates" (having very similar meanings in both languages) or "false cognates" (having different meanings despite their similar appearance or sound). Draw a large X through each square containing a false cognate pair and then complete the exercise at the bottom of the page.

exit	compromise	quarter	thesis
éxito	compromiso	cuarto	tesis
contest	biography	author	velocity
contestar	biografía	autor	velocidad
record	pie	transport	list
recordar	pie	transportar	lista
library	theme	narrate	vary
librería	tema	narrar	variar
question	identity	object	center
cuestión	identidad	objeto	centro

List the false cognate pairs you found in the left-hand column below and explain the differences between their definitions in the right-hand column. The first row provides you with an example.

How did you determine that this was a false cognate pair?	
Embarrass (Eng.) means to cause someone shame and embarazo	
(Sp.) means pregnancy	