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How are you in spanish word

By Ken Michaels, Guest Writer In Shakespeare's play "Hamlet," Polonius inquires of the prince, "What do you read, my lord?" Not at all pleased with what he's reading, Hamlet replies, "Words, words, words." I have previously described the communication model in which a sender encodes a message and then sends it via some channel (or medium) to a receiver, who decodes the message and, ideally, understands what was sent. Surely the most common way of encoding a message is in choosing the most appropriate words for the listener or reader. In Hamlet's case, he so disliked what he read that he described it elementally, as mere words, rather than a message. So I thought I'd devote a little ink to words themselves. "Nym" Words Have Specific Meaning Words ending in nym describe classes of words. Some of the more frequently used nym words are synonym (means the same as); antonym (means the opposite of); homonym (has the same sound as); and acronym (a word derived from the first letters of a more complex term, such as SCUBA or AIDS). Homo means "same," and hetero means "different." Therefore, if there are homonyms, it stands to reason that there are also heteronyms. While homonyms have the same sound but different spellings (like pair and pear), heteronyms are spelled the same but have different meanings and, often, pronunciation: a person who sews is a sewer, but a repository for waste products is a sewer; Sewer, then, is a heteronym. But the lexicon of nym words by no means ends here. One of the websites I visited recently² lists no fewer than 26 nym words, many of which are pretty arcane and of interest to relatively few. Some are downright amusing. Do we really need a word to mean another word composed of two identical parts? If so, then tutu, pawpaw, yo-yo, and bye-bye are tautonyms. A couple of weeks back, my son asked me what is meant by a metonym. I didn't know, so we looked it up. In retrospect, I ought to have been able to logic it out, as "meta" means change. A metonym is a word that designates something by a word that is associated with it. For example, Hollywood is a metonym used to mean the U.S. motion picture industry, while the Crown refers to royalty, and the bottle refers to alcohol. My use of the expression "a little ink" a couple of paragraphs back is also a metonym for written communication, even when no actual ink or writing on paper is involved. The point of all of this has to do with precision in the use of our language. It will do me no good to encode a message using a word like metonym, or heteronym, or tautonym, unless I'm certain that my listeners (or readers) are familiar with its meaning. Either that, or I'm prepared to add the definition for their benefit, in which case I might have just used the definition in the first place. Still, learning the proper use of words, however arcane, can be useful, and if you like words themselves, even fun. What's Your Idiolect? In his book "The Half-Life of Facts: Why Everything We Know Has an Expiration Date," Samuel Arbesman³ discusses the changes in language that occur over time, and the two camps that see this phenomenon differently. He explains prescriptive grammarians as those who focus on the way words ought to be used, and descriptive grammarians as those who are more concerned with the way they actually are used. Arbesman asserts that every individual develops his or her own set of rules about how to use words, and that all of us—yep, me, and everybody else—have our own personal idiolect. This delightful term describes our unique language and speech pattern, as determined by what we learned when we were young, as well as by who's around us, and includes our grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation of words, and even our accent. There's an important lesson here. If we're really going to communicate effectively, we need to be mindful that every time we encode a message, someone whose idiolect is significantly different from our own may very possibly decode it in such a way as to get a different message entirely. So it pays to be careful about our choice of words: is it really a message, or simply "words, words, words"? ⁴ 2013 Ken Michaels. All rights reserved. References: Shakespeare, William: "Hamlet," act 2 scene 2. Arbesman, Samuel: "The Half-Life of Facts: Why Everything We Know Has an Expiration Date," New York: Penguin Books, 2012, page 190. Ken Michaels, retired manager of Visual Communications, Leidos Biomedical Research, is a special volunteer for NCI at Frederick. Image: Pixabay / kirkanđmimi Spanish and Italian come from the same language family tree, but they are definitely sisters and not twins. Both languages are known for their romantic flair and are technically Romance languages. This means that both Spanish and Italian share a main common ancestor. They both have their roots in the dead language Latin, which was spoken by the Ancient Romans. Today, Italian is spoken by over 60 million people in nearly 30 countries, though the highest concentration of Italian-speakers can be found in Europe. Spanish, on the other hand, is one of the most spoken languages on earth, with over 430 million native speakers around the globe. Native Spanish speakers can be found in the Americas, Africa, and Europe. These two smooth languages are known for their beautiful sound, but that does not mean they are easy to learn and master. If you don't know your stuff, it might be easy to confuse the words of the two of them. Each, however, has its own distinct way of pronouncing the letters of the Latin alphabet and stringing them together. If you are a language whiz with a love for all things romantic, see if you can tell Spanish and Italian words apart with this quiz! TRIVIA Can You Tell Italian From Spanish Words? 6 Minute Quiz 6 Min TRIVIA Can You Tell Spanish Words from Italian? 5 Minute Quiz 5 Min TRIVIA Can You Complete These Common Spanish Phrases? 6 Minute Quiz 6 Min TRIVIA Do You Know the Meaning of These Simple Spanish Words? 6 Minute Quiz 6 Min TRIVIA Spanish Vocabulary Quiz 6 Minute Quiz 6 Min TRIVIA If We Give You One Definition for a Word, Can You Give Us Its Second Meaning? 6 Minute Quiz 6 Min TRIVIA Can You Conjugate These Spanish Verbs Correctly? 6 Minute Quiz 6 Min TRIVIA Can You Tell Spanish Words From French? 6 Minute Quiz 6 Min TRIVIA Can You Identify the Correct Spelling of These Spanish Vocabulary Words? 6 Minute Quiz 6 Min TRIVIA Can You Name the Spanish Words From These 5 Categories? 6 Minute Quiz 6 Min How much do you know about dinosaurs? What is an octane rating? And how do you use a proper noun? Lucky for you, HowStuffWorks Play is here to help. Our award-winning website offers reliable, easy-to-understand explanations about how the world works. From fun quizzes that bring joy to your day, to compelling photography and fascinating lists, HowStuffWorks Play offers something for everyone. Sometimes we explain how stuff works, other times, we ask you, but we're always exploring in the name of fun! Because learning is fun, so stick with us! Playing quizzes is free! We send trivia questions and personality tests every week to your inbox. By clicking "Sign Up" you are agreeing to our privacy policy and confirming that you are 13 years old or over. Copyright © 2021 InfoSpace Holdings, LLC, a System1 Company Image: Image Source / Photodisc / Getty Images As in any language, Spanish speakers come in a wide range of fluency. Even native speakers, people who learned Spanish as their first language, vary broadly in their knowledge of the language. Many speakers learned Spanish in the home but never learned official grammar and spelling. Others may have learned Spanish in school and acquired all the formal Spanish, yet, when it comes to surviving an informal conversation, they may as well be speaking Chinese. Where are you in your language journey? Do you travel with a dictionary or look up words on your phone every other sentence? Do you dream in Spanish? Some say that once you begin dreaming in a foreign language, you've reached a higher level of fluency — you are beginning to process information in the new language subconsciously.Learning a new language gives us more than the ability to communicate in a new tongue. It opens a portal into the culture which gave birth to the language in the first place. Because language and culture are so intertwined, gaining fluency lets you step into a culture in ways that are locked to you if you don't speak the language. Are you fluent, proficient or just dangerous with a dictionary? Translate these questions into answers, and we'll tell you what other people hear when you speak Spanish! TRIVIA Spanish Vocabulary Quiz 6 Minute Quiz 6 Min TRIVIA Can You Name the Spanish Words From These 5 Categories? 6 Minute Quiz 6 Min TRIVIA Vocabulary Category Quiz: Spanish Edition 6 Minute Quiz 6 Min PERSONALITY How Good Is Your French? 5 Minute Quiz 5 Min TRIVIA EASY Can You Tell Italian Words from Spanish? 5 Minute Quiz 5 Min TRIVIA Can You Identify the Correct Spelling of These Spanish Vocabulary Words? 6 Minute Quiz 6 Min TRIVIA You're 100% Canadian If You Get More Than 10 Right on This Canadian Citizenship Test 6 Minute Quiz 6 Min TRIVIA Is This English Grammar Rule Germanic or Latin? 6 Minute Quiz 6 Min TRIVIA Can You Tell Spanish Words From French? 6 Minute Quiz 6 Min PERSONALITY Are You Ready to Visit a Spanish-Speaking Country? 5 Minute Quiz 5 Min How much do you know about dinosaurs? What is an octane rating? And how do you use a proper noun? 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Copyright © 2021 InfoSpace Holdings, LLC, a System1 Company Published on May 18, 2021 We have two ears and one mouth for a reason—effective communication is dependent on using them in proportion, and this involves having good listening skills.The workplace of the 21st century may not look the same as it did before COVID-19 spread throughout the world like wildfire, but that doesn't mean you can relax your standards at work. If anything, Zoom meetings, conference calls, and the continuous time spent behind a screen have created a higher level of expectations for meeting etiquette and communication. And this goes further than simply muting your microphone during a meeting.Effective workplace communication has been a topic of discussion for decades, yet, it is rarely addressed or implemented due to a lack of awareness and personal ownership by all parties.Effective communication isn't just about speaking clearly or finding the appropriate choice of words. It starts with intentional listening and being present. Here's how to improve your listening skills for effective workplace communication.Listen to Understand, Not to Speak There are stark differences between listening and hearing. Listening involves intention, focused effort, and concentration, whereas hearing simply involves low-level awareness that someone else is speaking. Listening is a voluntary activity that allows one to be present and in the moment while hearing is passive and effortless.Which one would you prefer your colleagues to implement during your company-wide presentation? It's a no-brainer. Listening can be one of the most powerful tools in your communication arsenal because one must listen to understand the message being told to them. As a result of this deeper understanding, communication can be streamlined because there is a higher level of comprehension that will facilitate practical follow-up questions, conversations, and problem-solving. And just because you heard something doesn't mean you actually understood it.We take this for granted daily, but that doesn't mean we can use that as an excuse.Your brain is constantly scanning your environment for threats, opportunities, and situations to advance your ability to promote your survival. And yet, while we are long past the days of worrying about being eaten by wildlife, the neurocircuitry responsible for these mechanisms is still hard-wired into our psychology and neural processing.A classic example of this is the formation of memories. Case in point: where were you on June 3rd, 2014? For most of you reading this article, your mind will go completely blank, which isn't necessarily bad.The brain is far too efficient to retain every detail about every event that happens in your life, mainly because many events that occur aren't always that important. The brain doesn't—and shouldn't—care what you ate for lunch three weeks ago or what color shirt you wore golfing last month. But for those of you who remember where you were on June 3rd, 2014, this date probably holds some sort of significance to you. Maybe it was a birthday or an anniversary. Perhaps it was the day your child was born. It could have even been a day where you lost someone special in your life.Regardless of the circumstance, the brain is highly stimulated through emotion and engagement, which is why memories are usually stored in these situations. When the brain's emotional centers become activated, the brain is far more likely to remember an event. And this is also true when intention and focus are applied to listening to a conversation. Utilizing these hard-wired primitive pathways of survival to optimize your communication in the workplace is a no-brainer—literally and figuratively.Intentional focus and concentrated efforts will pay off in the long run because you will retain more information and have an easier time recalling it down the road, making you look like a superstar in front of your colleagues and co-workers. Time to kiss those note-taking days away! Effective Communication Isn't Always Through Words While we typically associate communication with words and verbal affirmations, communication can come in all shapes and forms. In the Zoom meeting era we live in, it has become far more challenging to utilize and understand these other forms of language. And this is because they are typically easier to see when we are sitting face to face with the person we speak to.Body language can play a significant role in how our words and communication are interpreted, especially when there is a disconnection involved. When someone tells you one thing, yet their body language screams something completely different, it's challenging to let that go. Our brain immediately starts to search for more information and inevitably prompts us to follow up with questions that will provide greater clarity to the situation at hand. And in all reality, not saying something might be just as important as actually saying something.These commonly overlooked non-verbal communication choices can provide a plethora of information about the intentions, emotions, and motivations. We do this unconsciously, and it happens with every confrontation, conversation, and interaction we engage in. The magic lies in the utilization and active interpretation of these signals to improve your listening skills and your communication skills.Our brains were designed for interpreting our world, which is why we are so good at recognizing subtle nuances and underlying disconnect within our casual encounters. So, when we begin to notice conflicting messages between verbal and non-verbal communication, our brain takes us down a path of troubleshooting. Which messages are consistent with this theme over time? Which statements aren't aligning with what they're really trying to tell me? How should I interpret their words and body language?Suppose we want to break things down even further. In that case, one must understand that body language is usually a subconscious event, meaning that we rarely think about our body language. This happens because our brain's primary focus is to string together words and phrases for verbal communication, which usually requires a higher level of processing. This doesn't mean that body language will always tell the truth, but it does provide clues to help us weigh information, which can be pretty beneficial in the long run.Active interpreting body language can provide you with an edge in your communication skills. It can also be used as a tool to connect with the individual you are speaking to. This process is deeply ingrained into our human fabric and utilizes similar methods babies use while learning new skills from their parents' traits during the early years of development.Mirroring a person's posture or stance can create a subtle bond, facilitating a sense of feeling like one another. This process is triggered via the activation of specific brain regions through the stimulation of specialized neurons called mirror neurons. These particular neurons become activated while watching an individual engage in an activity or task, facilitating learning, queuing, and understanding. They also allow the person watching an action to become more efficient at physically executing the action, creating changes in the brain, and altering the overall structure of the brain to enhance output for that chosen activity.Listening with intention can make you understand your colleague, and when paired together with mirroring body language, you can make your colleague feel like you two are alike. This simple trick can facilitate a greater bond of understanding and communication within all aspects of the conversation. Eliminate All Distractions. Once and for all As Jim Rohn says, "What is easy to do is also easy not to do." And this is an underlying principle that will carry through in all aspects of communication. Distractions are a surefire way to ensure a lack of understanding or interpretation of a conversation, which in turn, will create inefficiencies and a poor foundation for communication. This should come as no surprise, especially in this day in age where people are constantly distracted by social media, text messaging, and endlessly checking their emails. We're stuck in a cultural norm that has hijacked our love for the addictive dopamine rush and altered our ability to truly focus our efforts on the task at hand. And these distractions aren't just distractions for the time they're being used. They use up coveted brainpower and central processes that secondarily delay our ability to get back on track.Gloria Mark, a researcher at UC Irvine, discovered that it takes an average of 23 minutes and 15 seconds for our brains to reach their peak state of focus after an interruption. Yes, you read that correctly—distractions are costly, error-prone, and yield little to no benefit outside of a bump to the ego when receiving a new like on your social media profile.Meetings should implement a no-phone policy, video conference calls should be set on their own browser with no other tabs open, and all updates, notifications, and email prompt should be immediately turned off, if possible, to eliminate all distractions during a meeting.These are just a few examples of how we can optimize our environment to facilitate the highest levels of communication within the workplace. Actions Speak Louder Than Words Effective communication in the workplace doesn't have to be challenging, but it does have to be intentional. Knowledge can only take us so far, but once again, knowing something is very different than putting it into action.Just like riding a bike, the more often you do it, the easier it becomes. Master communicators are phenomenal listeners, which allows them to be effective communicators in the workplace and in life. If you genuinely want to own your communication, you must implement this information today and learn how to improve your listening skills. Choose your words carefully, listen intently, and most of all, be present in the moment—because that's what master communicators do, and you can do it, too! More Tips Improving Listening SkillsFeatured photo credit: Mailchimp via unsplash.com

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