

English and Spanish Cognates: Verbs

There are many English verbs that can be converted into Spanish, usually by changing the ending of the English verb and adding *-ar*, *-er*, or *-ir*.

Almost every English infinitive verb ending with *-ate* (*celebrate*) can be converted into a Spanish infinitive verb by replacing the final *-ate* with *-ar* (*celebrar*).

-ate = -ar		
English		Spanish
calculate	→	calcular
concentrate	→	concentrar
create	→	crear
demonstrate	→	demostrar
estimate	→	estimar
exaggerate	→	exagerar
negotiate	→	negociar
operate	→	operar
participate	→	participar
terminate	→	terminar

Many English infinitive verbs of more than one syllable ending with VOWEL + CONSONANT + *e* (*examine*) can be converted into Spanish infinitive verbs by dropping the final *-e* and adding *-ar* (*examinar*).

-VC + e = -VC + ar		
English		Spanish
accuse	→	acusar
adore	→	adorar
authorize	→	autorizar
complete	→	completar
converse	→	conversar

Almost every English infinitive verb ending with *-ify* (*signify*) can be converted into a Spanish infinitive verb by replacing the final *-ify* with *-ificar* (*significar*).

-ify = -ificar		
English		Spanish
amplify	→	amplificar
certify	→	certificar
gratify	→	gratificar
justify	→	justificar
modify	→	modificar
notify	→	notificar
pacify	→	pacificar
simplify	→	simplificar
solidify	→	solidificar
unify	→	unificar

Many English infinitive verbs ending with VOWEL + CONSONANT + *t* (*result*) can be converted into Spanish infinitive verbs by adding *-ar*, *-er*, or *-ir* to the end of the English verb (*resultar*).

-VC + t = -ar, -er, -ir		
English		Spanish
consult	→	consultar
insult	→	insultar
present	→	presentar

continued

English and Spanish Cognates: Verbs (continued)

-VC + e = -VC + ar		
English		Spanish
escape	→	escapar
ignore	→	ignorar
imagine	→	imaginar
invite	→	invitar
organize	→	organizar
prepare	→	preparar
utilize	→	utilizar

-VC + t = -ar, -er, -ir		
English		Spanish
convert	→	convertir
export	→	exportar
import	→	importar
insist	→	insistir
represent	→	representar