**a barrage of [s]**: una lluvia de (fig: insultos, preguntas al mismo tiempo) | *The suspect endured a barrage of questions during the investigation.*

**a fit of [s]**: ataque, arranque | *My boss flew into a fit of rage when he didn't get the report on time.*

**accolade [s]**: premio, mayor signo de elogio | *The director won a special accolade for his achievements in film.*

**acrid [adj]**: acre, áspero y picante al gusto/olfato | *Acrid smoke poured from the windows of the burning factory.*

**act on a tip-off [phrase/idiom]**: actuar tras aviso | *The police, acting on a tip-off, arrested the thieves as they left the building.*

**act your age [phrase/idiom]**: compórtarte conforme a tu edad

**acumen [s]**: perspicacia, agudeza, visión | *Though obviously talented, I feel he lacks business acumen.*

**allay [v]**: aliviar, apaciguar | *What can we tell them to allay their fears about the operation?*

**ally [s]**: aliado | *Laura can be relied on as our ally.*

**assertion [s]**: afirmación; reivindicación | *You make an assertion but provide. Their assertion of your rights is based on the constitution.*

**auburn [adj]**: castaño rojizo (pelo) | *The little girl with auburn curls is Abigail. The girl with the auburn hair is very attractive.*

**awaken [v]**: despertar, despertarse; despertar (fig: interés, emociones) | *Her stories awakened memories of my childhood. When you awaken, reflect on what you want.*

**backwater [s]**: remanso, páramo | *As a child living in an Australian backwater, I dreamed of visiting a big city.*

**balance the books [v]**: cuadrar las cuentas | *We have set ourselves clear objectives and want to balance the books.*

**based on fact [phrase/idiom]**: basado en hechos | *If those fears are based on fact, we can deal with them by information and participation.*

**be dab hand at [v]**: tener maña para | *I am dab hand at painting.*

**be pressed for time [v]**: estar con prisas, estar presionado por el tiempo | *I'd love to stop and talk, but I'm pressed for time.*

**bed [s]**: base, capa | *The salad was served on a bed of lettuce.The road was made of tar and stones on a bed of gravel.*

**beef up [v]**: fortalecer; fotalecerse, echar músculos (inf) | *The coach him to beef up in the gym. They need to beef up their finances.*

**behind one's back [v]**: a espaldas de | *She often told lies about him behind his back.*

**belittle [v]**: minimizar, menospreciar, subestimar, restar importancia | *He belittled the budget shortfall as if it didn't matter.*

**beloved [adj]**: amado, querido | *Daphne's uncaring husband showed no sympathy when her beloved cat died.*

**berserk [adj]**: enloquecido, furioso | *A berserk driver rammed his car into a storefront.*

**blare [v]**: sonar fuerte (sonido) | *Music blared from a passing car.*

**blatant [adj]**: descarado, desvergonzado | *His blatant disregard for authority got him in serious trouble.*

**blatantly [adv]**: descaradamente, abiertamente | *Steve's mother gets upset when he lies blatantly to her about where he has been.*

**blinder [s]**: gran partido, victoria brillante | *They played a blinder and secured a convincing victory.*

**blissful [adj]**: dichoso, feliz | *They were blissful for the first few months of their marriage.*

**blockade [s]**: bloqueo, asedio | *Workers coordinated a blockade of the port. They agreed to lift a blockade.*

**blow a fuse [v]**: calentarse, enfadarse

**boast about [v]**: jactarse de, hacer alarde de, presumir de | *Jillian is boasting about her children again.*

**bold [adj]**: atrevido | *The bold child loudly contradicted the teacher. It was a bold expermient to ...*

**bone idle [adj]**: extramadamente vago (inf) | *He does nothing around the house - he's bone idle!*

**booming [adj]**: floreciente, en auge; resonante | *A booming catering business. The actor is known for his booming voice.*

**bottle up [v]**: reprimir (emociones) | *It is not emotionally or physically healthy to bottle up one's emotions.*

**bottom line [s]**: mínimo aceptable; balance (empresa) | *They evaluated the company's positive bottom line. The bottom line is you cannot be late for work.*

**boundless [adj]**: ilimitado, inagotable | *Childminders need boundless patience.*

**brainy [adj]**: inteligente, listo (inf) | *Nina is brainy; she comes first in every maths test.*

**breach [s]**: brecha, fisura; infracción, violación; rompimiento, ruptura | *He was arrested for breach of confidence. The breach in the stone wall. A breach of relations*

**breach [v]**: romper (regla, contrato) | *The company sued George for breaching the contract.*

**broach [v]**: traer a colación, sacar, mencionar, abordar (tema) | *It is not a good idea to bring up / broach politics with my family.*

**broker [v]**: negociar | *The film studio brokered a deal with the agent for a major Hollywood star. (intermediario, agente)*

**bubble over [v]**: rebsar felicidad; desbordarse, derramarse, salirse | *She was bubbling over with excitement/enthusiasm.*

**bubbly [adj]**: jovial, lleno de vida; burbujeante, espumoso (bebida) | *Her bubbly personality's just perfect for a salesperson.*

**bucket [s]**: cubo (líquido) | *Using buckets to make sand castles at the beach is fun.*

**bucket down [v]**: llover a cántaros | *Don't forget your umbrella - it's bucketing down out there.*

**bumper [adj]**: inmenso, gigante | *A bumper crop of tomatoes.*

**burning [adj]**: ardiente, en llamas; ardiente, apasionado (fig) | *He could barely control his burning desire. Fire fighters raced to the burning building.*

**burst in [v]**: irrumpir (inf)

**burst into song [phrase/idiom]**: ponerse a cantar, arrancar a cantar | *My father is so musical, he bursts into song in the middle of a conversation.*

**bustling [adj]**: desbordante, a reventar, lleno | *In Lorchester's bustling centre you can enjoy high-quality urban living.*

**but for [adv]**: si no hubiera sido por, de no ser por | *We would never have won but for your help.*

**by heart [adv]**: de memoria | *I learnt the sonnet by heart.*

**call a halt [v]**: poner fin | *The machine broke, so the foreman called a halt to the work.*

**call in the receivers [v]**: ir a la bancarrota, pedir el concurso | *We should call in the receivers. (=go bankrupt)*

**can't help [v]**: no poder evitar | *I can't help wonderING if she really knows what she's doing.*

**carelessness [s]**: descuido, desatención; despreocupación, irresponsabilidad | *It's because of your carelessness that we have to re-do the project!*

**carve out a niche for oneself [v]**: hacerse un lugar, encontrar un hueco (fig) | *Strata's*  
*product range has carved out a niche for itself in this market.*

**cattle [s]**: ganado | *The farm next door has cattle, but they don't grow any crops.*

**censorship [s]**: censura | *He's no longer prepared to tolerate such censorship of his art. They imposed censorship.*

**chain [v]**: encadenar | *When you park your bike, remember to chain it to a bike rack or tree.*

**chair [v]**: presidir | *The superintendent chaired the meeting.*

**chat up [v]**: seducir, camelar | *When he goes to restaurants, he always tries to chat up the waitresses.*

**chatty [adj]**: hablador, locuaz (habla mucho con soltura y facilidad) | *She's so chatty. e asked in a chatty tone.*

**cheer [v]**: vitorear, aclamar | *The fans cheered enthusiastically.The fans cheered their team.*

**chime [v]**: repicar, dar la hora | *You can hear the church bells chime anywhere in town.*

**chunk [s]**: trozo, pedazo | *Father gets to eat the biggest chunk of meat in the stew.*

**cinnamon [s]**: canela | *High-quality cinnamon is delicious and strong.*

**clove [s]**: diente (ajo) | *The chef's specialty is chicken cooked with forty cloves of garlic.*

**coin a phrase [v]**: acuñar una frase, inventar una frase | *Winston Churchill coined the phrase: "History is written by the victors".*

**come down (hard/heavily) on [v]**: castigar a, meter una buena a (inf) | *The police come down heavily on the football player.*

**congratulate [v]**: felicitar | *Everyone congratulated us ON our stroke of luck.*

**cramped [adj]**: apretado, estrecho | *Six students live in one cramped room.*

**cross [adj]**: enojado | *She wasn't expecting her ex-boyfriend to be so cross with her.*

**cut through [v]**: ir al grano, acabar con. | *Ok, let cut through the crap and see what we do agree on! Let's cut through the red tape.*

**dash [s]**: pizca (comida) | *Add a dash of soy sauce.*

**dazzling [adj]**: cegador, deslumbrante (tmn fig) | *He shaded her eyes from the dazzling light. The actor has had a dazzling career.*

**deafen [v]**: ensordecer (tmn fig) | *Must you deafen us with that awful music of yours?*

**deafening [adj]**: ensordecedor | *The construction sounds were deafening.*

**default on [v]**: no pagar, fallar en el pago de | *The family's house was repossessed when they defaulted on the mortgage.*

**derelict [adj]**: abandonado, en ruinas | *The derelict building has had no tenants for over a decade.*

**dimly [adv]**: tenuemente, vagamente | *The room was dimly lit with candles. Harry became dimly aware that he was not alone.*

**din [s]**: estrépito, escándalo | *We couldn't even hear one another because of the din upstairs.*

**dingy [adj]**: deslucido; sucio | *How can you wear something so dingy to an interview?*

**dip into [v]**: echar mano a, recurrir a (ahorros) | *I'm so short of money at the moment that I keep having to dip into my precious savings.*

**dire [adj]**: urgente, extremo | *These people are in dire need of help. The news showed the dire situation in the war zone.*

**disbar [v]**: inhabilitar, prohibir ejercer (trabajo) | *The attorney was disbarred for unethical conduct.*

**discourteous [adj]**: descortés | *These days, young people seem selfish and discourteous.*

**dispel [v]**: disipar, dispersar (tmn fig) | *The sunlight soon dispelled the dense fog. A phone call from her would dispel all my fears.*

**disregard [s]**: indiferencia, desconsideración | *Claire shows a blatant disregard for the feelings of others.*

**ditch [v]**: abandonar | *My boyfriend ditched me before moving abroad.*

**dodge [v]**: esquivar

**dogged [adj]**: tenaz, persistente | *The detective's dogged pursuit of the suspect finally paid off.*

**dollop [s]**: cucharada | *The baker put a dollop of whipped cream on top of the piece of cake.*

**donkey work [s]**: trabajo pesado

**downfall [s]**: perdición, ruina; caída | *Addiction to press attention proved to be her downfall.The dictator's downfall.*

**downgrade [s]**: pérdida/bajada de categoría, degradación | *The downgrade in my credit rating meant that I couldn't purchase a house.*

**downplay [v]**: quitarle importancia a | *I think it's important not to downplay the significance of the event.*

**downright [adv]**: sumamente, extremadamente, realmente | *The roads are getting downright dangerous with the heavy snow.*

**downside [s]**: lado negativo, desventaja | *What's the downside of pursuing this course of action?*

**downsize [v]**: recortar (personal) | *The company has been forced to downsize a lot of positions. The company has to downsize.*

**downtown [s]**: recesión, decrecimiento, desaceleración económica | *We are now recovering from last year's downturn in sales.*

**dream come true [phrase/idiom]**: sueño hecho realidad | *Getting promoted was a dream come true for her.*

**drift off [v]**: quedarse frito, caer dormido (inf) | *The calm music and low lights caused me to drift off during the movie.*

**dump [v]**: tirar (basura de forma irresponsable) | *Angela dumped her old fridge when she got a new one.*

**dwelling [s]**: morada, vivienda | *The old man lived in a small dwelling near the river.*

**each other / one another [phrase/idiom]**: entre ellos, mutuamente | *Max and Lyn kissed each other(2). Those 4 doctors refer patients to one another (+2).*

**eagerness [s]**: entusiasmo, ímpetu, ganas | *Their eagerness faded when they learned what their pay rate was.*

**either / any one of [phrase/idiom]**: cualquiera | *You can use any of (+2) these programs with either (2) system.*

**endless [adj]**: interminable, sin fin (tmn fig) | *Julia drove her car along an endless highway. Endless maths class.*

**enlist [v]**: contratar, emplear (servicio, ayuda); alistarse, enrolarse (militar) | *We enlisted the services of a plumber to clean up the mess. My father enlisted when he was 18.*

**enrich [v]**: enriquecer (fig) | *Rice is typically enriched with B vitamins.*

**errand [s]**: recado | *My boss is always sending me on errands.They can even run(hacer) errands. Errand boy.*

**etch [v]**: grabar, marcar | *The jeweller etched the couple's initials on the rings.*

**expertise [s]**: experiencia | *The company used the hacker's expertise to help them protect their servers.*

**expose [v]**: exponer(se) | *You should wear a mask if you are going to expose yourself to harsh chemicals.*

**face (up to) the facts [phrase/idiom]**: afrontar/aceptar la realidad | *It is time you face the facts*

**faintly [adv]**: debilmente; impertecptiblemente | *The old woman settled into her chair and sighed faintly. A handwritten message was faintly visible.*

**fairytale [adj]**: de cuento | *After three marriages, she's still dreaming of a fairytale romance.*

**falter [v]**: titubear, vacilar (voz en discurso); flaquear | *She faltered when she saw the angry look on his face.*

**fast-track [s]**: primera línea, posición idónea; vía rápida | *He is on the fast track to success. They've introduced a fast-track system.*

**fast-track [v]**: acelerar, apurar | *His father put pressure on them to fast-track his application.*

**field [v]**: tratar con, responder | *The candidate fielded a number of questions from the reporters.*

**field for [v]**: presentar documentos para | *Cara has filed for divorce. File for custody, adoption*

**finger the point [v]**: señalar con el dedo | *We should always point the finger at the real culprits.*

**flag [v]**: comunicar; hacer señas a | *Ships use coloured bunting to flag messages to one another.*

**flak [s]**: críticas | *It's my money, so don't give me flak for how I spend it.*

**flap [v]**: ondear | *The flag flapped in the wind.*

**flicker [s]**: parpadeo (luz); destello (fig) | *Erin felt a flicker of doubt. Paul saw a flicker of light in the dark.*

**flout [v]**: desobedecer, incumplir (ley) (formal) | *In her anger, Maryanne decided to flout the rules and stay out past curfew(=break the rules)*

**flurry [s]**: frenesí , ajetreo | *There was a flurry of activity in the office when the boss arrived.*

**foam (at the mouth) [v]**: echar espuma por la boca | *I think this horse is ill; its mouth is foaming. The dog started to foam at the mouth*

**foam [s]**: espuma | *Kate worked the foam from the shampoo into her hair.*

**foam [v]**: hacer espuma | *The milk started to foam in the pot.*

**foot the bill [v]**: pagar la cuenta, hacerse cargo de la cuenta | *The Insurance company refused my claim, so I had to foot the bill for repairs myself.*

**foregone [v]**: inevitable, que está cantado | *It was a foregone conclusion that Celta would win. It's foregone that the semester will end in May.*

**frame [v]**: formular, plantear (fig); enmarcar; bordear rodear | *Can you frame that concept in a more positive light? I would like to frame the orchard with rows.*

**freak out [v]**: ponerse como loco, perder los papeles | *When I tell my parents I'm quitting school, they are going to freak out.*

**from sun up to sun down [phrase/idiom]**: desde el amanecer hasta el anochecer. | *I'm so busy all day; I'm on the go from sun up to sun down.*

**fuel [v]**: alimentar (fig) | *They are fueling speculation.*

**full marks [s]**: calificación máxima (UK) | *She got full marks in French.*

**gamut [s]**: escala, gama , espectro (rango) | *The film ran the gamut of genres, from romance, to adventure, to suspense.*

**gang up [v]**: juntarse en banda, aliarse (inf) | *You can't win an argument with those two: they gang up every time.*

**gang up on [v]**: atacar en grupo a | *Every time the teacher makes a mistake, the students gang up on her to point it out.*

**garner [v]**: conseguir (elogios, apoyo...) | *She garnered praise from all her colleagues for working so hard.*

**get a life [phrase/idiom]**: ¡Búscate una vida!

**get by [v]**: arreglárselas | *They had learnt to get by on their small retirement income. I can get by in the kitchen.*

**get hitched [v]**: dar el sí | *I never thought you'd get hitched.*

**get on one’s nerves [v]**: poner de los nervios | *You’re getting on my nerves.*

**get one's priorities right [v]**: establecer prioridades | *Although you are in a seemingly hopeless situation, keep thinking and get your priorities right.*

**get the sack (UK) [v]**: dar puerta, ser despedido | *Harry got the sack after he was found guilty of theft.*

**gifted [adj]**: talentoso | *Ben was a gifted speaker.*

**give an account of [v]**: dar cuenta de | *Everyone will give an account of how he or she has fulfilled each duty.*

**give it a second thought [v]**: pensarlo dos veces | *He dropped what he was doing and went to her without giving it a second thought.*

**give the cold shoulder [v]**: dar la espalda | *After the incident, they all gave her the cold shoulder.*

**glare [s]**: foco (fig); resplandor, brillo, mirada asesina | *All politicians must learn to accept the glare of public scrutiny.Kyle shot a glare at his mother.*

**glimmer [s]**: atisbo (fig) | *He tried to explain the concept until a glimmer of understanding appeared in the students' eyes.*

**go hand in hand (with) [v]**: ir de la mano | *For many people, smoking and drinking go hand in hand.*

**go into raptures [v]**: volverse loco (de entusiasmo) | *The crowd went into raptures when the new car was unveiled.*

**go wild (with) [v]**: ponerse como loco | *When he returned to the stage to perform an encore, the audience went wild.*

**gorge [v]**: atiborrarse de (comida) | *He gorged on meat and cheese.*

**grief, sorrow [s]**: pena, extrema tristeza, aflicción | *After the fire the whole town was gripped by grief and sorrow.*

**grievance [s]**: queja (formal) | *The prosecution presented the accuser's grievances. All of the networks will air the grievance.*

**grilling [v]**: interrogatorio exhaustivo | *After hours of grilling, the suspect finally told the detectives the truth. Face a grilling*

**grind [v]**: rechinar; moler, pulverizar | *Shifting carelessly always made the gears grind in the old car.*

**grinding halt [s]**: punto muerto | *An overturned truck brought traffic to a grinding halt.*

**grounds for complaint [s]**: razones para quejarse | *The grounds for complaint should be broad, so that all failures to apply the law may be remedied.*

**groundwork [s]**: trabajo preliminar | *We laid the groundwork for the new sales plan today.*

**growl [v]**: gruñir | *The dog growled as the stranger approached.*

**gruelling (UK), grueling (USA) [adj]**: agotador, extenuante | *After a grueling climb to the top of the mountain, the hikers rested.*

**gruff [adj]**: ronco (voz); brusco, seco (personalidad) | *A gruff, unfamiliar voice answered the phone. Phil appears to be gruff.*

**hail (a taxi) [v]**: parar, llamar | *I hailed a taxi to get home because I drank too much.*

**halt [v]**: parar, detener (production, management...) | *Management halted the project when the money ran out.*

**hand in (inf), dubmit (formal) [v]**: entregar | *The students handed in their assignments to the teacher.*

**hand in the resignation [v]**: presentar la dimisión | *The directors must hand in their resignation to the Board of Administration and regularise*

**harm [s]**: daño | *Never intend to do any harm to others!*

**harsh [adj]**: duro, severo; duro, riguroso | *They have harsh winters in Norway.*

**harshly [adv]**: severamente, con dureza | *He disciplined the children harshly and sent them to bed.*

**hasten [v]**: apresurar | *Rachel was so eager that she went to bed at 8 to hasten the arrival of her day. Hasten the death.*

**have a change of heart [v]**: cambiar de parecer | *She's had a change of heart and is inviting her sister after all.*

**have an eye for [v]**: tener buen ojo para | *The painter has an eye for detail.*

**have it in for [v]**: tenerlas juradas, tener cruzado (a alguien) | *That teacher has had it in for me ever since I spilled my water in class.*

**have/take priority [v]**: tener prioridad | *His job seems to take priority over everything else.*

**havoc [s]**: caos, confusión | *The tornado wreaked chaos/havoc and destruction on the town; nothing was left.*

**hazy [adj]**: difuso (memoria, visión) | *The policeman said that his memory of the event was hazy. His vision was getting hazy.*

**heap praise on [v]**: encomiar, alabar con empeño | *Teachers heap praises upon students that always do their work.*

**heart-to-heart (chat) [adj]**: franco, sincera | *A heart-to-heart chat will help to heal the rift.*

**heed [v]**: prestar atención a, hacer caso a | *Don't ignore our advice and heed our warnings.*

**herd [s]**: rebaño (granja); manada (animales salvajes) | *The farmer tended his herd of sheep. The herd of bison stampeded across the plains.*

**high-pitched [adj]**: agudo (sonido) | *He startled her, and she let out a high-pitched squeal.*

**hilly [adj]**: montañoso | *The roads are hilly, so please go slowly.*

**hinder [v]**: dificultar, entorpecer

**hint [v]**: dar a entender | *Your gift will be blue, he hinted.*

**hit the road [v]**: ponerse en camino | *We rose early and hit the road before 7.00 am.*

**hit the rocks [v]**: terminar, estrellarse (fig) | *Their relationship hit the rocks.*

**hold a position [v]**: ocupar un cargo | *Candidates do not have to hold a position currently.*

**hold in contempt [v]**: despreciar | *They seem to hold us in contempt. (=despise)*

**hone [v]**: pulir, perfeccionar (fig) | *Jane worked as an intern to continue to hone her skills before she applied for graduate school.*

**hoot [v]**: tocar el claxon | *The bicyclist hooted at Sean with his horn (claxon).*

**hopelessly [adv]**: irremediablemente, sin esperanzas | *The crew was hopelessly lost at sea.*

**hotspots [s]**: punto wifi, zona wifi | *All of the coffee shops in this cities are hotspots.*

**humble [adj]**: humilde, modesto | *Tyler is a humble man. The politician had humble beginnings.*

**humble [v]**: humilde | *Tyler is a humble man, and always happy to help. I once more extend my humble apologies.*

**hunk [s]**: trozo, pedazo (comida) | *Jim cut a hunk off the turkey/bread and put it on his plate.*

**hurdle [v]**: valla (atletismo); obstáculo, traba | *Fred had to go over/overcome a lot of hurdles to buy his house.*

**hush [s]**: silencio, quietud | *There was a sudden hush when the news of the war broke.*

**hush [v]**: callar, guardar silencio | *The teacher said, "Hush everyone, I'm trying to explain." The crowd hushed as the speaker came out.*

**hushed [adj]**: silencioso; baja (voz); profundo (silencio) | *In a hushed voice, the librarian told the kids to be quiet.*

**husky [adj]**: ronco (voz) | *The mysterious woman greeted him in a husky voice.*

**in poor taste [adj]**: de mal gusto; inofensivo | *I do think they've decorated their bedroom in poor taste. John's joke was in poor taste.*

**in-depth [adj]**: en profundidad, detallado | *He wrote an in-depth report on the housing shortage.*

**insight [s]**: percepción | *His insight into the human mind was fascinating.*

**irate [adj]**: encolerizado, furioso | *An irate letter to the magazine editor said the previous issue was offensive to women.*

**job-share [s]**: empleo compartido | *We operate a job-share scheme.*

**juicy [adj]**: jugoso (tmn fig.) | *Nancy liked to trade juicy gossip with her neighbors.Karen was assigned to a juicy contract.*

**jump/leap to conculsions (that/about) [phrase/idiom]**: sacar conclusiones apresuradas | *Stop leaping to conclusions about their relationship when you hardly even know them.*

**keep your ear to the ground [v]**: estar atento a lo que ocurre a su alrededor. | *You don't need to be paranoid, but keep your ear to the ground.*

**knob [s]**: pequeña porción (mermelada) | *Dana smeared a knob of butter on her bread.*

**knock-on effects [s]**: efectos colaterales | *Inflation can be a knock-on effect of increased government spending.*

**land a job [v]**: conseguir un trabajo | *There was*  
*no chance for me to land a job, having no college education to speak of. (=get a job)*

**lasting [adj]**: duradero, perdurable | *The manager wanted to build a lasting relationship with his employees.*

**laughable [adj]**: ridículo, absurdo | *The man wearing a suit on the beach was laughable.*

**lesser [adj]**: inferior, menor | *Tom decided to prioritize and leave the lesser problems for later.*

**level out [v]**: nivelar

**levy [v]**: imponer, dictaminar (impuestos) | *The government levied taxes at the beginning of each year.*

**lifelong [adj]**: para toda la vida | *Marriage should be regarded as a lifelong commitment. Lifelong ambition.*

**likelihood [s]**: probabilidad | *There is every likelihood that this Parliament will shortly reject the proposed.*

**livelihood [s]**: sustento | *Because of the recession Larry lost his job and his livelihood.*

**loaf [s]**: barra de pan | *The baker shaped the loaf of bread out of the dough.*

**loaf [v]**: vaguear | *Amy loafed around all day.*

**locust [s]**: saltamontes, langosta | *The field was devastated by a swarm of locusts.*

**loot [v]**: saquear | *The army looted the city.*

**looting [s]**: saqueo | *The teenagers acquired all their electronics by looting.*

**lull to sleep [v]**: arrullar, hasta que se duerma, dormir a | *The mother's song lulled the baby to sleep.*

**make a living [v]**: ganarse la vida | *He made a living by trading in stocks and shares.*

**make business sense [v]**: ser bueno para un negocio | *Investment in healthcare often makes good business sense. Flexible workforce makes business sense.*

**make the most of [v]**: sacar el máximo provecho de | *We made the most of our vacation by leaving our phones and computers turned off.*

**maternity leave [s]**: baja por maternidad | *Temps often provide cover while a full-time employee is on maternity leave.*

**menial [v]**: no especializado, de baja categoria (trabajo, tarea) | *Immigrants often take menial jobs that no-one else wants.*

**misconduct [s]**: mala conductal, mala praxis | *The lawyer was reprimanded and disbarred for misconduct.*

**miss the point [v]**: no entender | *You're missing the point: this isn't about pay - it's about conditions.*

**mounting [adj]**: creciente | *There is mounting evidence that lack of sleep causes serious medical problems. Mounting concern.*

**move up the ranks/ladder [v]**: ser promocionado (trabajo) | *Qualifications can help you move up the career ladder.*

**muddy [adj]**: embarrado; lodoso | *Sarah's expensive shoes were muddy after she walked in the rainstorm. The river was muddy that day.*

**muffled [adj]**: amortiguado (sonido) | *There were muffled footsteps in the hall.*

**nag [v]**: fastidiar, incordiar | *Shaun's wife nagged all day.*

**nagging [adj]**: perturbador, inquietante | *Peter had some nagging doubts about his life choices.*

**nail down [v]**: precisar, determinar (fig) | *We need to nail down exactly how much money was embezzeled by our accountant.*

**nasty [adj]**: desagradable | *Mary was the nasty person who started the rumors. They spread nasty rumors about her.*

**neat [adj]**: pulcro, aseado | *Seth always kept his room neat.*

**niggle [s]**: preocupación innecesaria, molestia | *Don't you feel even a slight niggle about the morality of your experiments?*

**niggle [v]**: preocupar | *All my work duties are niggling at me.*

**none of them/it [phrase/idiom]**: ninguno | *None of the kittens are lonely. if=them->are*

**none of your business [phrase/idiom]**: no es asunto tuyo | *What I do with my time off is none of your business.*

**offset [v]**: compensar | *The gains offset the losses.Costs have been partially offset against savings.*

**offshore [adj]**: de litoral; de paraíso fiscal | *Carl works on an offshore oil rig.*

**on edge [adj]**: tenso, inquieto | *She was on edge, waiting for her exam results.*

**on the contrary [adv]**: al contrario | *You think people can't change? On the contrary, they can!*

**on the go [adv]**: sin parar, ocupado | *They're always on the go. I'm so busy all day; I'm on the go from sun up to sun down.*

**onshore [adj]**: costero, de costa | *Onshore rigs are different from offshore rigs.*

**opening gambit [s]**: comentario incial, entrada | *The politician's opening gambit was a joke about taxes, but nobody laughed.*

**orchard [s]**: huerto de árboles frutales | *Beyond the vegetable garden is an orchard with a variety of fruit trees.*

**outburst [s]**: estallido, explosión (emocional, sonido) | *Tom's outburst was completely unexpected; one minute he was calm, the next he was shouting.*

**outpouring [s]**: flujo (fig) | *After her father died, Jessica received an outpouring of sympathy from her friends.*

**outright [adj]**: rotunda | *Someone may declare outright opposition/hostility to this plan.*

**overjoyed [adj]**: encantado, deleitado | *Rachael was overjoyed at the birth of her son.*

**overnight [adj]**: de la noche a la mañana, inmediato | *He enjoyed overnight success last year.*

**overnight [adv]**: de la noche a la mañana | *Everything seemed to change overnight.*

**overpowering [adj]**: sofocante (calor), penetrante (olor), ensordecedor (ruido) | *The smell of curry is overpowering.*

**overrule [v]**: prevalecer ante; desautorizar, rechazar | *I believe that God overrules the universe. The judge overruled the objection.*

**overstate [v]**: exagerar | *This deal is crucial to the firm; I cannot overstate its importance.*

**overthrow [v]**: derrocar, derribar (poder) | *The king was overthrown in a military coup.*

**pander [v]**: consentir | *She accused the other candidate of pandering to radical environmental groups.*

**paramount [adj]**: primordial | *The children's safety is our paramount concern.*

**pass judgement [v]**: criticar, juzgar | *We shouldn't pass judgement on him; he's doing the best that he can.*

**pencil in [v]**: programar | *Let's pencil a meeting in for next Thursday at 11.*

**pent-up [adj]**: recluido, confinado (físicamente o emocionalmente) | *Pent-up emotions can be harmful to mental health. The children are pent up in the house.*

**pleasentry [s]**: cumplido | *They are exchanging pleasentries.*

**plummet [v]**: caer en picado | *Temperatures plummeted rapidly throughout the day.*

**plunge [s]**: zambullida (buceo); caída (rápida) | *The car's plunge from the cliff lasted only a few seconds.*

**pod/group/school [s]**: grupo (delfines, ballenas) | *On the harbor cruise we saw a pod of dolphins playing around our boat.*

**pose [v]**: plantear, presentar | *Emily posed the question of why everyone had to obey Paul. Nuclear weapons pose a threat.*

**pride [s]**: manada (leones) | *The documentary showed a pride of lions relaxing together. (=a heard of)*

**pronounced dead [adj]**: declarado muerto | *The infant was later pronounced dead as a result of internal bleeding and bruises.*

**proven [adj]**: probado, demostrado | *This is a proven method to make your tomatoes ripen; you will see them turning red within days.*

**publicly [adv]**: públicamente, en público | *Carrying on their argument publicly was in poor taste.*

**put a stop [v]**: ponerle fin | *The students are cheating; we'll put a stop to that right away.*

**put in an appearance [v]**: pasar(se) a saludar | *The boss usually puts in an appearance at the annual employee picnic.*

**put the past behind [phrase/idiom]**: dejar el pasado atras | *It is time to put the past behind you and start focusing on the future*

**quell [v]**: sofocar, apaciguar | *What can I say to quell your anxiety about this evening? His early appearance quelled our worries.*

**racket [s]**: barullo (inf); raqueta | *You could tell the teacher wasn't in the room because of the racket the kids were making.*

**reap [v]**: cosechar; recoger, ver (fig, resultados) | *She is reaping the rewards. You'll soon reap the benefit of all your hard work.*

**recklessly [adv]**: temerariamente; descuidadamente | *The teenager recklessly drove his car into a tree. I recklessly dropped a stack of papers.*

**red tape [s]**: papeleo, trámites burocráticos | *Prepare yourself for a lot of red tape when buying a house in Italy.*

**reject out of hand [v]**: rechazar sin ni siquiera considerar | *Fred is so contrary that they rejected him out of hand when his name came up for a position.*

**rekindle [v]**: reavivar, encender memorias (fig) | *The holiday was a last chance to rekindle their love.*

**relish [v]**: deleitarse con, disfrutar | *Rob relishes the challenge of a new project.*

**reluctant [adj]**: reacio | *Paul was reluctant to take on new responsibilities at work.*

**render [v]**: dejar, volver | *The shock rendered him speechless. (render sth adj)*

**reprimand [v]**: reprender | *The teacher reprimanded the children for breaking the rules.*

**resounding [adj]**: rotundo (fig); retumbante, estridente | *The project was a resounding success.After the performance, a resounding cheer filled the room.*

**rift [s]**: distanciamiento (entre personas, sentimental) | *The argument has caused a rift between these two neighbours. Let's heal the rift.*

**rig [s]**: plataforma petrolífera | *Onshore rigs are different from offshore rigs.*

**rip apart [v]**: hacer pedazos (a alguien) (inf) | *The critics ripped the author apart.*

**risk [v]**: arriesgar(se a) | *You risk being accused of plagiarism.*

**risk life and limb [v]**: arriesgar la vida | *People often risk life and limb in campaigning on behalf of human rights issues.*

**room for improvement [s]**: posibilidad de mejora, espacio para mejorar | *Of course, there is still room for improvement next year.*

**rubber [s]**: goma, caucho; borrador | *Tyres are made of rubber.Betty used a rubber to erase her mistake.*

**run up [v]**: generar, dar lugar a (factura); izar, levantar | *Shawna ran up a huge phone bill last month.*

**scathing [adj]**: feroz, severamente crítico | *The papers today are full of scathing reviews of my book.*

**scorching [adj]**: abrasador | *Even though it's still May, it's scorching outside.*

**seal [v]**: sellar | *We sealed the leak so the tube could hold air again.*

**seal off [v]**: acordonar | *The scene of the road traffic accident has been sealed off by the police.*

**searing [adj]**: ardiente | *The tourists were suffering in the searing heat of the midday sun.*

**second to none [adj]**: insuperable, lo máximo | *He's a brilliant footballer: his passing ability is second to none.*

**secrecy [s]**: discreción | *Secrecy is of the utmost importance to our success.*

**see off [v]**: espantar, echar; despedir a | *He saw off the intruders who wanted to break into the house. He came to the airport to see me off.*

**seethe [v]**: echar humo (fig); bullir, hervir | *Ron seethed with anger when his boss accused him of stealing.Jenny was seething.*

**selfish [adj]**: egoísta | *She won't do that for you because she is very selfish.*

**selfishness [s]**: egoísmo, interés personal | *His selfishness prevents him from noticing others' suffering.*

**send-off [s]**: despedida | *I got an affectionate send-off from my colleagues.*

**setback [s]**: revés, contratiempo | *The project suffered a setback when one of the key workers had to take two months off work.*

**shade [v]**: tapar, proteger (contra el sol) | *The parasol shaded the patio from the sun.*

**shatter [v]**: destrozar (tmn fig) | *The plate hit the floor and shattered. The reviews shattered the author's confidence.*

**sheer [adj]**: puro, auténtico | *That idea is sheer genius!*

**shirk [v]**: eludir, rehuir, esquivar | *Manny is shirking his work duties again.*

**shiver down one spine [s]**: escalofrio | *She felt a shiver down her spine as she heard the orchestra tuning up.*

**shoal [s]**: banco (peces) | *A shoal of fish was visible in the clear water.*

**shoulder the blame [phrase/idiom]**: Responsabilizarse por algo malo | *Sue decided to shoulder the blame.*

**showcase [s]**: vitrina, escaparate | *They take the jewellery out of the showcases at night.*

**shriek [v]**: chillar, aullar | *Molly shrieked when her brother poured cold water down her back.*

**shy away from [v]**: mantenerse alejado, evitar | *The horse shied away from the elephant.*

**sickly [adj]**: enfermizo; pálido | *Leah was a sickly child.*

**sideswipe [s]**: crítica indirecta (USA) | *She took a further sideswipe at Vocabulia.*

**slap, smack [v]**: abofetear | *The mother slapped (or: smacked) her daughter. (cara vs resto del cuerpo)*

**sleep rough [v]**: dormir a la interperie | *They sleep rough, beg for food and grab lifts by clinging to the outside of moving freight trains.*

**sleepless [adj]**: con insomio; en blanco (noche) | *Billy is still sleepless because of his new baby. Sleepless night.*

**slightest [adj]**: menos posible | *I'd add just the slightest amount of salt. The slightest chance of winning.*

**slim [adj]**: escaso, pequeño (posibilidad); esbelto, delgado | *There's a slim possibility of Robert losing his job. Slim majority.*

**slog [s]**: esfuerzo (inf) | *It's going to be a long slog to the top of the mountain.*

**slur [v]**: mascullar, hablar sin que se entienda | *Brian had had a lot to drink and was slurring his words.*

**smear [v]**: untar; embadurnar | *Don't touch the wet paint or you'll smear it. She smeared the cake with whipped cream.*

**sneak in [v]**: colarse en; colar en, pasar a hurtadillas (algo) | *The teenagers sneaked into the bar. He hid the file to sneak it into the prisoner's cell.*

**snippet [s]**: fragmento, trozo (extracto de algo publicado); recorte (de periódico) | *He sat at the table and read me snippets from the paper.*

**soar [v]**: elevarse | *Share prices soared after the company published its profits. Temperatyres soar above the average.*

**sour [s]**: amargo, agrio (tmn fig) | *The dream of a new life soon turned sour.*

**sparsely [adv]**: escasamente | *The town, once a booming center of commerce, is now sparsely populated.*

**spate [s]**: avalancha, aluvión (fig; de cosas en cercana sucesion) | *Officials can't explain the recent spate of murders in the area.*

**spell the end [v]**: significar el fin | *These cuts will spell the end for many producers both in Europe and in the developing countries*

**spice [s]**: especia | *Dave likes making curries, so he makes sure he always has a range of spices in his kitchen.*

**spotlessly [adv]**: impecablemente | *The kitchen was spotlessly clean, and everything was in its proper place.*

**sprinkling [s]**: poquito (hierba, especia) | *The cookie had a sprinkling of cinnamon on top.*

**squeak [v]**: chirriar | *That door needs some oil on its hinges; it squeaks whenever you open it.*

**squealed [v]**: chillar | *Wendy squealed with delight when she saw Dan.*

**stakeholders [s]**: accionista | *A meeting was organized for stakeholders in the proposed merger.*

**stale [adj]**: rancio, anticuado | *After two hours in the sun, the beer was stale. Stale smell. My uncle's jokes are stale.*

**stampede [v]**: salir en estampida | *Buffalo used to stampede across these plains.*

**stand a chance [phrase/idiom]**: tener la oportunidad | *I tried everything I could but never really stood a chance.*

**stand the test of time [phrase/idiom]**: resistir el paso del tiempo | *Our methods have stood the test of time.*

**star-studded [adj]**: de primera categoria, estelar | *The movie boasts a star-studded cast.*

**startle [v]**: sobresaltar, asustar | *You really startled us, bursting in like that.*

**state of the art [adj]**: de última generación, de vanguardia | *Our new TV uses state-of-the-art technology to provide the best picture and sound.*

**state your business [v]**: exponer las intenciones | *Each visitor stated their business before protesting.*

**state your case [v]**: decir lo que uno piensa | *The new rules allow you to state your case for the person you're voting for.*

**stay the course [v]**: no aflojar hasta conseguirlo | *That has been a powerful incentive for countries to stay the course and continue reforms.*

**steam [v]**: echar chispas (fig); cocinar al vapor | *As the drunk man continued to make bigoted comments, Lucy could see Bill starting to steam.*

**steer [v]**: dirigir, guiar | *Beth's parents steered her towards a career in finance.*

**stem [s]**: tallo

**stem [v]**: contener, cortar de raíz | *He put pressure on the cut to try and stem the flow of blood.*

**stony [adj]**: frío, duro (rostro, voz); pedregoso | *Timothy gave the noisy children a stony glance.*

**stopover [s]**: escala, breve visita, parada | *We took a short stopover in New York, but unfortunately we didn't have much time for sightseeing.*

**strangle [v]**: estrangular; suprimir, estrangular (fig) | *The killer prefers to strangle his victims. These controls on the media will strangle free speech.*

**streak [s]**: rasgo, cualidad (personalidad); nabcga, mecha (pelo) | *Don't get on the wrong side of Neil; he's got a nasty streak.*

**stretch to [v]**: alcanzar para, llegar para | *My language skills don't stretch to Japanese.*

**strikingly [adv]**: impresionantemente | *The whole family are strikingly handsome.*

**stroke [s]**: golpe (brillante de ) | *a Stroke of luck/genious/work.*

**stroke of luck [s]**: golpe de suerte | *By a stroke of luck, I found a parking space on the crowded street.*

**stumble over/on [v]**: atascarse con, trabarse con (fig) | *I always stumble on the words to the national anthem when I try to sing it.*

**subtle [adj]**: sutil, imperceptible | *Wendy started making subtle signs that they should leave.*

**surge [s]**: arrebato, ataque | *There is always a surge in consumer spending before Christmas. Surge of anger/adrenaline*

**swarm [s]**: enjambre | *There was a swarm of flies on the wall.*

**swear/curse/four-letter word [s]**: palabrota | *The children snitched because Luis said a swear word.*

**sweated labour [s]**: trabajo explotado | *Let's eliminate child and sweated labour in the retail industry.*

**sweaty [adj]**: dudoroso | *I'm all sweaty from my bike ride.*

**sweeping [adj]**: de gran envergadura, de gran alcance (fig) | *The new government implemented sweeping reforms.*

**swig [s]**: trago grande | *Eddie took a swig of root beer and wiped his forehead.*

**tail back [v]**: hacer cola, extenderse (tráfico) | *The traffic tailed back to the bridge. Traffic is currently tailing back over 10 km.*

**take credit [v]**: atribuirse el mérito | *He takes credit for my work.*

**take exception to [v]**: oponerse a | *I take exception to that comment.*

**take it easy [v]**: tomar las cosas con calma, despreocuparse | *Retirement is the time to take it easy.*

**take sb on [v]**: contratar

**take the field [v]**: saltar al campo | *After a long delay, the teams finally took the field.*

**take up references [v]**: verificar referencias (trabajo) | *Take up at least two references one from the candidate's current or most recent employer.*

**take up the post [v]**: incorporarse al puesto de trabajo | *The successful candidate will be expected to take up the post by 1 July 2005.*

**tantum [s]**: berrinche, rabieta | *It's important not to give in if your child has a tantrum.*

**tear apart [v]**: machacar, hacer pedazos | *The art critic just tore apart the painting.*

**tempting [adj]**: tentador | *Julian was very happy with his job, but then a rival firm made him a tempting offer.*

**the back of beyond [s]**: lugar remoto | *They live in some village in the back of beyond.*

**the foggiest idea [phrase/idiom]**: la menor idea | *I have (not a clue/not the foggiest idea/ no idea) what you mean.*

**thoroughly [adv]**: totalmente, plenamente, absolutamente | *Robert was thoroughly fed up. He feels thoroughly ashamed.*

**thriving [adj]**: próspero | *In just a few years, this entrepreneur has built a thriving business.*

**throw a sickie [v]**: fingir estar enfermo | *I just didn't feel like work so I threw a sickie.*

**thud [s]**: ruido sordo, golpe seco, batacazo | *Tina dropped the book and it hit the table with a thud.*

**tide [v]**: marea; corriente, tendencia (fig) | *The tide of public emotion was changing as more details of the story emerged.*

**tie the knot [v]**: dar el sí, casarse | *When is your sister going to tie the knot?*

**tinkle [v]**: tintinear, campanillear | *The bells on the woman's costume tinkled as she moved.*

**tip off [v]**: avisar, poner sobre aviso | *Do not tip off the subject of an investigation.*

**tip-off [s]**: aviso, soplo

**to and fro [phrase/idiom]**: de un lado a otro | *The lion paced to and fro in his cage.*

**topple [v]**: derribar; derrocar (gobierno) | *Revolutionaries toppled the government in 2011. Don't topple that stack of dishes.*

**torn [adj]**: desgarrado, rasgado, roto | *The young man was wearing torn jeans.*  
*Sometimes, surgery to repair a torn ligament is needed.*

**touch [s]**: un poco, un toque | *He has a touch of fever. A touch of sadness/humour/irony/class (sophistication)*

**toy with [v]**: jugar con, darle vueltas a | *Steve toyed with the idea of giving up his job and travelling around the world.*

**trap [s]**: trampa

**traverse [v]**: atravesar, recorrer, cruzar | *The winter grew colder as the troops traversed the eastern front.*

**trekking [s]**: excursionismo | *Ryan decided to spend six months trekking in the Himalayas.*

**tribe [s]**: manada (monos) | *A tribe od baboons.*

**truce [s]**: tregua, pausa; armisticio | *The two sides called a truce. The political parties agreed to a truce.*

**trustworthy [adj]**: confiable, que se puede confiar | *The business owner was lucky to have trustworthy employees.*

**tune up [v]**: afinar | *Dave was tuning his guitar up.*

**turn a blind eye on/to [v]**: hacer la vista gorda ante | *The inspector agreed to turn a blind eye to the safety violations. We used to turn a blind eye to.*

**turn in a profit [v]**: generar beneficio | *Those areas will more quickly turn in a profit. (=make a profit)*

**turnover [s]**: movimiento (de empleados); volumen, ventas, facturación (comercio) | *The company had a high turnover of staff. The turnover on this product is very impressive.*

**twinge [s]**: punzada (dolor) | *Ursula felt a sudden twinge in her back when she tried to do the yoga pose.*

**uncaring [adj]**: indiferente, insensible | *Daphne's uncaring husband showed no sympathy when her beloved cat died.*

**undercut [v]**: vender a precios más bajos que | *Large supermarkets can undercut small family-run shops.*

**underrated [adj]**: subestimado | *Smith is an underrated actor who deserves more recognition.*

**undertake [v]**: comprometerse | *The proofreader has undertaken to make the corrections.*

**unequalled [adj]**: inigualable, sin rival | *This finish is unequalled by any other product on the market; accept no imitations.*

**unmistakable [adj]**: inconfundible; certero, inequívoco | *These animals are unmistakable because of their long, black and white tails.*

**unruly [adj]**: revoltoso, rebelde | *The teacher does not tolerate unruly behaviour in this class.*

**upbringing [s]**: crianza, educación | *Her upbringing made her very suspicious of strangers.*

**uphill [adj]**: ascendiente; arduo, difícil | *The uphill road leads to a small church. Life has been an uphill journey for Susan.*

**uproot [v]**: desplazar (de un lugar en el que se estaba asentado) | *The civil war uprooted thousands of people from their homes.*

**upsetting [adj]**: molesto, triste (fig) | *It's upsetting to see homeless people begging in the streets.*

**upturn [s]**: incremento, mejora (economía) | *The economy experienced an upturn when the civil war ended.*

**viewing time [s]**: tiempo de emisión (tv) | *The pictures they took appeared on Dutch television at peak viewing time.*

**vulture [s]**: buitre | *The vultures are circling.*

**walk out [v]**: desistir; salir andadndo | *When she lost her job, he walked out of the marriage.She walked out of the apartment.*

**wander off [v]**: alejarse | *you nmeed to wander off to the café.*

**warn [v]**: advertir | *He warned me that the train might be late.*

**weepy [adj]**: lloroso | *The graduation ceremony was a weepy occasion. Weepy eyes.*

**whim [s]**: antojo, capricho | *Oh for a husband who would indulge my every whim! We booked the trip on a whim.*

**whine [v]**: lloriquear, quejarse | *The dog whined outside the door.*

**whipped cream [s]**: crema batida, nata montada | *Whipped cream should be light.*

**whirlwind [adj]**: breve, relámpago | *Dan made a whirlwind visit to Paris. It was a whirlwind romance*

**whizkid [s]**: niño prodigio (inf)

**wit [s]**: ingenio | *People like this comic because of his wit.*

**with all due respect (to) [phrase/idiom]**: con el debido respeto

**withstand [v]**: resistir, aguantar (presión, impacto: fisicamente) | *The police officer's vest can withstand the impact of a bullet.*

**work around the clock [v]**: trabajar sin descanso | *We work around the clock to make sure we continue to provide affordable power to our customers.*

**work up an appetite [v]**: abrir el apetito, dar hambre | *It made me hungry; it certainly helped to work up an appetite.*

**working knowledge [s]**: conocimiento práctico | *His first language is French and he has a good working knowledge of English.*

**working order [s]**: estado de funcionamiento | *Test all equipment before the workshop to be sure it is in good working order.*

**wreak [v]**: ingligir, causar | *The hurricane wreaked destruction on several coastal towns.*

**wrestle with [v]**: pelearse con (fig) | *Paul wrestled with his conscience after he stole the car.*

**yawning [adj]**: ancho, abierto (fig, gap) | *There is yawning gap between the rich and the poor in some countries.*