Spanish Online Resources Guide.

Acceptable online resource: (Please verify with each instructor and with each assignment as it may vary)

✓ Wordreference.com
✓ a good ‘ole dictionary (but it’s almost 2020)

Unacceptable:
× Google translate, Spanishdict, Wordlingo, Freetranslation, Babylon (or anything else you may find online)
× Your roommate that speaks Spanish better than you do. (Really?)

Some things you need to know first,
✓ **Spanish to English:** you will not always find the word as it is written if it is a verb. You will only be able to find the “infinitive” of the verb. So only look up verb form that end in AR, ER, IR. (In the higher levels the reflexives will add an “SE” to the end of certain infinitives like lavarse vs lavar)
✓ **English to Spanish:** verb in the infinitive and if you need to look it up that may be fine, depending upon the assignment, but you should conjugate it on your own.

The Spanish sentence revolves around the VERB!
• You can’t have a Spanish sentence without a conjugated verb.
• You can have a one word Spanish sentence with only a conjugated verb though.
  ✓ Example: Hablo. You know Who, What and When. *I speak in the present.* So the verb is very important in Spanish.
• Make sure that you are not letting your online translators do the work for you. They will do if for you and often incorrectly and dishonestly. Please make sure that you are not committing academic dishonestly.
• They often get things very wrongs. (translators are not inherently bad, but their academic value in lower division Spanish is of limited merit)
• Once you have looked up the verb then conjugate the verb according to the subject of the sentence. If the words verb and subject don’t ring a bell…You may use google now.
• Never look up phrases! (We will know. We always know. It will be considered cheating)
• Once you look up the expression in word reference make sure that you are using it correctly. For example, think about the word “**get**” in English. How would you explain to someone the meaning of the word get?
  ✓ Get there quickly.
  ✓ Get well soon.
  ✓ I’ll get you for what you did.
  ✓ That movie always gets me.

The only way to do this is to rely on your ability to translate in your native language.
✓ Get there quickly  →  Arrive quickly.
✓ Get well soon  →  recuperate soon
✓ I’ll get you for what you did.  →  I will revenge that.
✓ That movie always gets me.  →  That movie always moves me.

One simple “equation” may help:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>≠</th>
<th>Spanish</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>take a bath</td>
<td>≠</td>
<td>Tomar un baño</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eat breakfast</td>
<td>≠</td>
<td>Comer desayuno</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To pull one’s leg</td>
<td>≠</td>
<td>Halar la pierna*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It’s time to go</td>
<td>≠</td>
<td>Lo es tiempo de ir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It’s raining cats and dogs</td>
<td>≠</td>
<td>Esta lloviendo gatos y perros*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

And “vice versa”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spanish</th>
<th>≠</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bañarse</td>
<td>≠</td>
<td>to bathe oneself</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>desayunarse</td>
<td>≠</td>
<td>to breakfasted with yourself</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tomarse el pelo</td>
<td>≠</td>
<td>To take one’s hair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Es la hora para salir</td>
<td>≠</td>
<td>It’s the hour for going out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Llueve a cántaros</td>
<td>≠</td>
<td>It rains pitchers.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Let me make this note. English and Spanish are not the only two languages that share these differences. As a matter of fact, these two languages have a lot in common due to a lot of factors that I will not discuss. All languages are composed of what are known as idioms. Those are the phrases that have asterisk next to them. With idioms some of them will not convey logical meaning when translated like:

- “estirar la pata”  “to stretch the leg”  “kick the bucket”
- “palmarla”          “to hand it off”    “kick the bucket”
- “estar tomando el pelo” “To take the hair” “joking around”

Others are more sensible when it comes to being able to infer the meaning from the translation like:

- “perder el tren”   “to miss the train” “miss the opportunity”
- “bicho raro”       “strange insect”    “weirdo”
Spanish Online Resources Guide continued

How do you know what’s right and what’s not?

1. Use structures that you have learned in class.

2. Active participation in class if you are in a face to face class.

3. Complete all of your homework and ask questions about confusing assignments.

4. Listen to music, movies, television and anything else you can in Spanish. Also there is:
   - mango languages (from any campus computer)
   - Livemocha.com online
   - NewsinslowSpanish.com

Your graded assignments are not the time to experiment. That’s what in class participation or online discussion boards are for.