Spanish Online Resources Guide.

Acceptable online resource: Wordreference.com or a dictionary (but it is 2016)

Unacceptable: Google translate, Spanishdict, Wordlingo, Freetranslation, Babylon . . list could increase ad infinitum.

Unacceptable: Your roommate that speaks Spanish better than you do.

- The Spanish sentence revolves around the VERB! You can’t have a Spanish sentence without a conjugated verb. You can have a 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 try to help you INCORRECTLY conjugate them. They can’t figure that out yet!

- Only look up verbs that end in AR, ER, IR, (arse, erse, irse)¹
  - 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!² (We will know. We always know. It will be considered cheating)

- Once you look up the word one word reference make sure that you are using it correctly.
  - In Spanish we don’t say:
    - I take a bath = tomo un baño**³
    - we ate breakfast = nosotros comemos desayuno**
    - I’m pull your leg = estoy halando tu pierna**
    - it’s time to go = ello es tiempo de ir**
    - it’s raining cats and dogs = está lloviendo gatos y perros**
  - Instead we say
    - me baño = I bathe myself,
    - nos desayunamos = We breakfasted ourselves
    - Estoy tomando el pelo = I’m taking the hair
    - Es la hora para salir = It is the hour to go out
    - Lueve a cántaros = It rains pitchers.

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¹ These would be the reflexive verbs (desayunarse, ponerse la ropa, vesirse)
² The online translators don’t work for phrases and they are not great for single words either. Use wordreference.com. Look at the word tomar on wordreference.com for example and compare it to translate.google.com.
³ ** Denotes an ungrammatical utterance.
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.

FYI - There is a new trend in the US to use the European Language Level nomenclature of A1-C2. So when looking for resources the level specific resources may me as follows:

A= Beginner    A.1.1-A.1.5 – SPN 101    A.2.1-A.2.5 – SPN 102/120,
B= Intermediate B.1.1-B.1.5 – SPN 201    B.1.3-B.2.5 – SPN202
C= Advanced    C.1.1-C.1.5 – SPN 300+    C.2.1-C.1.5 – Native speaker/ M. A. / Ph.D.

An example of a SPN 201 Student level would be B.1.2. Just in case you run across this)