

## GLOSSARY IN ENGLISH



**It's difficult?  
Valentín helps you!**

### Cultural Comments



#### **Christmas Eve** (*Nochebuena*) – página 7:

The evening of 24 December is very special in Spain. It is a religious celebration to celebrate Jesus Christ's birth, and it is also an important time for the family to get together.

#### **Argentiniens** – página 10:

Spanish, spoken in 21 countries, is a language with many varieties. Each country has its own pronunciation and vocabulary, but everyone understands each other.



#### **Cross fingers** (*Cruzo de dedos*) – página 15:

To cross fingers is a gesture that is supposed to bring luck to somebody.

#### **New Year's Eve** (*Nochevieja*) – página 19 :



New Year's Eve is the last day of the year. Families and friends gather together in order to say goodbye to the old year and to start the new one. In Spain it is traditional to eat 12 grapes while counting down to midnight.

#### **Puerta del Sol** – página 20:

Puerta el Sol is located in the centre of Madrid. On New Year's Eve, thousands of people gather together to begin the new year and to eat 12 grapes while listening the strokes of the bell.



#### **Día de los Inocentes** – página 23:

The "Day of the Innocents" is celebrated on the 28th of December. People play jokes on friends and colleagues. In Great Britain the day is celebrated on the 1st of April and is known as the "April Fools' Day".





**Red underwear** (*Calzoncillos rojos*) – página 26:

In some countries it is a custom to wear red underwear to begin the new year. In Spain many people have been doing the same thing for a couple of years.



**Turrón y polvorones** – página 33:

Turrón and polvorones are typical Christmas sweets made from almonds. There are many varieties and flavours.



**Two kisses** (*Dos besos*) – página 40:

In Spain women greet each other with two kisses, whether they know each other or if they are meeting for the first time. A boy and a girl do the same thing to greet each other. However, two boys greet each other by shaking hands.



**Roscón de Reyes** – página 50:

On Epiphany the Christmas cake is a typical sweet. It contains a surprise, which normally is a small figurine.



**Christmas tree and the crib** (*Árbol de Navidad y belén*) – página 56:

The Christmas tree and the crib are two common ornaments to decorate your home at Christmas. The crib depicts the birth of Jesus Christ.



## VOCABULARY: Notes

- 1 el crío/la cría = kid
- 2 un montón (coloquial) = a lot, many
- 3 la edad del pavo = puberty, adolescence
- 4 contagioso/-a = contagious
- 5 pinchar = to sting
- 6 superchulo; chulo = cool
- 7 hortera = hideous, tasteless
- 8 molar (coloquial) = to like; to be cool
- 9 trucos de magia = magic tricks
- 10 familia política = in-laws
- 11 lágrimas de cocodrilo = crocodile tears
- 12 estar genial (coloquial) = to be great
- 13 previsible = foreseeable
- 14 llevarse mal con alguien = not to get along with somebody
- 15 estar como un palo = to be stick thin
- 16 ahorrar = to save
- 17 el privilegio = the advantage
- 18 ahogado = choked
- 19 ignorar = to ignore
- 20 discreto = discreet
- 21 insoportable = unbearable
- 22 estar acostumbrado = to be used to
- 23 no enterarse de nada = not to get what's going on
- 24 alucinar = to be stupefied, to be surprised
- 25 fortuna = fortune
- 26 creído/-a = conceited
- 27 desilusionado/-a = disappointed
- 28 sonreír de oreja a oreja = to smile from ear to ear
- 29 trimestre = trimester (three months)
- 30 engordar = to gain weight
- 31 celos = envy or jealous
- 32 amenaza = threat
- 33 buen propósito = good intention
- 34 preocuparse por = to worry about
- 35 en pleno = (right) in the middle of
- 36 triunfar = to triumph, to be successful
- 37 posibilidad = possibility
- 38 abandonar = to give up, to resign
- 39 averiguar = to find out, to discover
- 40 desgastar = to wear out
- 41 evidente = obvious
- 42 majo (coloquial) = likeable, nice
- 43 mejilla = cheek