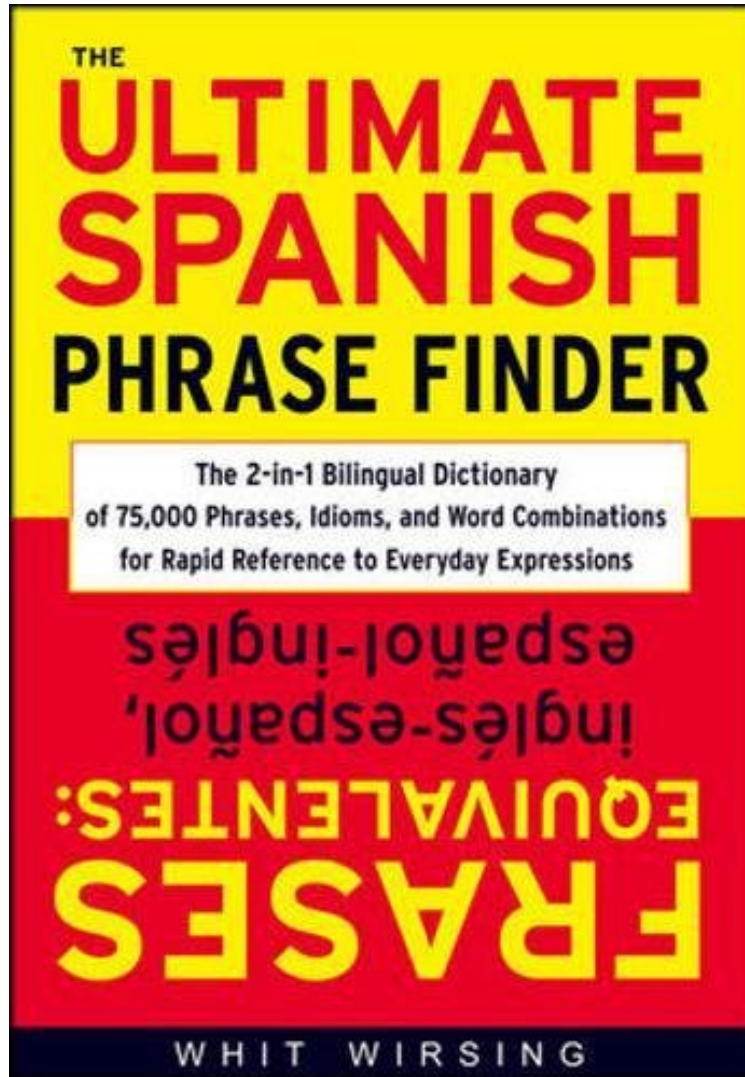


[Download] The Ultimate Spanish Phrase Finder

## The Ultimate Spanish Phrase Finder

*Whit Wirsing*

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**Whit Wirsing : The Ultimate Spanish Phrase Finder** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Ultimate Spanish Phrase Finder:

26 of 26 people found the following review helpful. This is a serious and unique reference book. Nothing like a tourist phrase book! By Customer I can't believe I almost didn't buy this book! It's great! I thought it was a tourist phrase book but it's really a dictionary of set phrases. I will give a few examples: To give someone time off for... - concederle tiempo libre para... Every Tom, Dick and Harry - cualquier hijo de vecino Hablar maravillas de algo - to praise something to the skies Hace la tira que no te veo - I haven't seen you in ages Many years ago I owned "2001 Spanish

Idioms," which is mostly full of folksy expressions that I would seldom use like "dar gato por liebre." "Ultimate Spanish Phrase Finder" probably has the same things but also many other things, things I might never have looked up in the dictionary, like subway entrance = boca de metro. It's actually entertaining to browse through this book and pick out phrases that I would want to memorize as if they were new words. My level in Spanish is low advanced and I think that many times when I have to make a circumlocution the source of the difficulty is one of these phrases rather than a word. 6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. A Super Book for Readers and Writers By Charles W. Strong

First of all, it should be made clear that this isn't a book for those who want to find a phrase when travelling. It is not arranged by topics, and its size makes it a something to have on your desk or on the table next to your armchair. It is exactly what it says it is, a bilingual dictionary of set phrases arranged alphabetically by the first word of the phrase, and it is a splendid tool for readers, writers, and translators. When I received my copy I was reading a novel in Spanish and came across the phrase "El puso sus ojos en blanco." From the context and the literal sense of the phrase I thought that it must mean "he rolled his eyes," and would usually have just assumed that was so and read on--it would have been next to impossible to check it out in an ordinary dictionary. But here was a chance to try out my new book! I looked up "poner los ojos en blanco," and there it was. (I could also have just looked up "roll one's eyes" in the English/Spanish half of the book.) Shortly after this, I came across "meterme en camisa de once varas," and I didn't have an inkling of its meaning. The entry under "meterse en camisa de once varas" told me that this means "to be out of one's depth." "Vara" is apparently a measure of length of about 33 inches, which is all that my desk dictionary could tell me. To use it, you have to think about how the first word of the phrase would be listed in a dictionary, "meterse" instead of "meterme," "poner" instead of "puso," etc., but that isn't a problem if one actually knows enough Spanish to profit from the book. It is astonishingly comprehensive (no such book could include every phrase), and as you might expect, it includes many of the obscene phrases that are important for readers, writers, and translators. Needless to say, my brief experience with it has made me an instant fan.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Difficult to search for topic By smithwb

This book was well rated, but I found it difficult to find any phrase that I was searching for due to the method of organization--You must know the exact wording of the complete phrase to find it, omitting insignificant leading words like el/la/ser or to/to be. I rarely found any matches to phrases I was searching for in this book. (Here is an example: "lingering doubt" is listed under "L", but you won't find anything like it under "D"; or "like trying to find a needle in a haystack", also under "L" but the word "Haystack" is not even listed under "H". My old Spanish/English dictionary is much more productive as I can search a key word/concept and then find multiple ways of expressing or interpreting it depending on context. Otherwise, the hardback book is extensive in its supply of phrases.

Get instant access to thousands of common Spanish phrases As you know it is next to impossible to deduce the Spanish equivalents of common English phrases such as "take a break" or "have an idea" using only a bilingual dictionary. That's where The Ultimate Spanish Phrase Finder comes in. Containing 37,000 common phrases and idiomatic expressions in each language, The Ultimate Spanish Phrase Finder gives you invaluable guidance on phrase construction, along with a range of synonyms to choose from. Examples--including common proverbs and book and movie titles--provide you with vivid illustrations of how specific word combinations are used in everyday contexts in Spain and Latin America.

About the Author Whit Wirsing is a teacher and journalist with a master's degree in English-Spanish contrastive analysis.