

The World of Words

Who has visited another country?

**What similarities/ differences did
you notice?**

**Who can speak another language
or knows a few words or phrases?**

What similarities/ differences are there?

Languages change and evolve all the time. Like many other countries, England has a long history of invasion and settlement which has added to the richness of the language.

Many words we use are called 'loanwords'- words we have literally pinched from other languages!

The Celts, the Romans, the Anglo-Saxons, the Jutes, the Vikings and the Normans (French) all invaded England and many settled here, bringing new words to the language.

The Renaissance in the 16th century saw a renewal of interest in the classics- Greek and Latin- and an interest in maths and science. These things influenced spoken and written English.

At this time and beyond, there was more 'exploration' of the world, leading to British invasion of other countries. People who settled in countries like India used some of the local words and these have also found their way into English.

English is still constantly changing as new words are invented to name new technologies and inventions. As people from other parts of the world settle here, they enrich English as words become integrated into daily use.

Internet Bitcoin

We also lose words as people stop using them!

quakebuttock beef-witted

hornswoggle gadzooks

**All this history also helps us to
understand some of the oddities of
English spelling!**

same as a nervous breakdown. ① If a driver has a breakdown, their car stops working. ④ A breakdown of something complex is a summary of its important points • He demanded a breakdown of the costs.

breaker, breakers **NOUN** Breakers are big sea waves.

breakfast, breakfasts **NOUN** the first meal of the day.

break-in, break-ins **NOUN** the illegal entering of a building, especially by a burglar.

breakneck **ADJECTIVE** (informal) Someone or something that is travelling at breakneck speed is travelling dangerously fast.

breakthrough, breakthroughs **NOUN** a sudden important development • a medical breakthrough

breakwater, breakwaters **NOUN** a wall extending into the sea which protects a coast from the force of the waves.

bream, breams **NOUN** an edible fish.

breast, breasts **NOUN** ① A woman's breasts are the two soft, fleshy parts on her chest, which secrete milk after she has had a baby. ② (literary or old-fashioned) The human breast is the upper front part of the body, sometimes regarded as the place where emotions are felt • His breast was red with blood.

breaststroke **NOUN** [E] Breaststroke is a swimming stroke in which you lie on your front, moving your arms horizontally through the water and kicking both legs at the same time.

breath, breaths **NOUN** ① Your breath is the air you take into your lungs and let out again when you breathe. ② PHRASE (U.S.)

you are breathing with difficulty after doing something embarrassing. ① If you say something under your breath, you say it in a very low voice.

SPELLING TIP

Do not confuse the spelling of the noun *breath* and the verb *breathe*. I took a *breath* and then started to *explain*; *Breathe* deeply and count *ten*.

breathe, breathes, breathing, breathed **VERB** When you breathe you take air into your lungs and let it out again.

breathless **ADJECTIVE** If you are breathless, you are breathing with difficulty. **breathlessly** **ADVERB** **breathlessness** **NOUN**

brehtaking **ADJECTIVE** If you say that something is breathtaking you mean that it is very beautiful and exciting.

bred the past tense and past participle of **breed**

breeches [Said *brit-chiz*] **NOUN** Breeches are trousers reaching to just below the knee, nowadays especially for riding.

breed, breeds, breeding, bred **VERB** ① A breed of a species of domestic animal is a particular type of it. ② PHRASE (U.S.) Someone who breeds animals or plants keeps them in order to produce more animals or plants with particular qualities. ③ When animals breed, they mate and produce offspring. **SIMILAR WORDS:** ① multiply, procreate, reproduce

breeze, breezes **NOUN** a gentle wind

brew, brews, brewing, brewed **VERB**

① If you brew tea or coffee, you make it in a pot by pouring hot water over it. ② To brew beer means to make it by boiling and fermenting malt. ③ If an unpleasant situation is brewing, it is about to happen • Another scandal is brewing. **brewer** **NOUN**

brewery, breweries **NOUN** a place where beer is made, or a company that makes it.

briar, briars **NOUN** a wild rose that grows on a dense prickly bush.

bribe, bribes, bribing, bribed **NOUN** ① a gift or money given to an official to persuade them to make a favourable decision. ② PHRASE (U.S.) To bribe someone means to give them a bribe. **bribery** **NOUN**

bric-a-brac **NOUN** Bric-a-brac consists of small ornaments or pieces of furniture of no great value. **WORD HISTORY:** from an obsolete French phrase *à bric et à brac* meaning 'at random'

brick, bricks **NOUN** Bricks are rectangular blocks of baked clay used in building.

bricklayer, bricklayers **NOUN** a person whose job is to build with bricks.

bride, brides **NOUN** a woman who is getting married or who has just got married. **bridal** **ADJECTIVE**

bridegroom, bridegrooms **NOUN** a man who is getting married or who has just got married.

bridesmaid, bridesmaids **NOUN** a woman who helps and accompanies a bride on her wedding day.

bridge, bridges **NOUN** ① a structure built over a river, road, or railway so that vehicles and people can cross. ② the platform from which a ship

hard ridge at the top of your nose. ③ Bridge is a card game for four players based on whist.

bridle, bridles **NOUN** a set of straps round a horse's head and mouth, which the rider uses to control the horse.

brief, briefer, briefest, briefs, briefing, briefed **ADJECTIVE** ① Something that is brief lasts only a short time. ② PHRASE (U.S.) When you brief someone on a task, you give them all the necessary instructions and information about it. **briefly** **ADVERB**

SIMILAR WORDS: ① fleeting, momentary, quick, short

briefcase, briefcases **NOUN** a small flat case for carrying papers.

briefing, briefings **NOUN** a meeting at which information and instructions are given.

brier another spelling of **briar**.

brigade, brigades **NOUN** an army unit consisting of three battalions.

brigadier, brigadiers [Said *brig-ee-er*] **NOUN** an army officer of the rank immediately above colonel.

brigalow, brigalows **NOUN** a type of Australian acacia tree that grows in the bush.

bright, brighter, brightest **ADJECTIVE** ① strong and startling • a bright light. ② clever • my brightest student. ③ cheerful • a bright smile. **brightly** **ADVERB** **brightness** **NOUN**

SIMILAR WORDS: ① brilliant, dazzling, shining, vivid

brighten, brightens, brightening, brightened **VERB** ① If something brightens, it becomes brighter • The weather had brightened. ② If someone brightens, they suddenly look happier. **brighten up** **VERB** To brighten

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| coffee | souvenir |
| balloon | lager |
| jungle | |
| dachshund | shampoo |
| coleslaw | snorkel |
| scone | cafe |
| umbrella | plunder |
| easel | terracotta |
| cotton | yoga |
| delicatessen | cruise |
| ghetto | algebra |

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|--------------|----------|------------|----------|
| decoy | carnival | dinghy | sabotage |
| | | hamburger | |
| judge | | parliament | |
| | | | |
| CARGO | solo | mangle | thug |
| | | | |
| | snack | dungarees | music |
| bangle | | espresso | |

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|--------------|--------------|
| zero | quiche |
| cartoon | poodle |
| boutique | denim |
| landscape | spanner |
| cot | sugar |
| yacht | hamster |
| villa | loot |
| magazine | sketch |
| kindergarten | volcano |
| snack | PATIO |
| restaurant | bungalow |



ntly lying.

angry.

▷ **patiently** *adverb*

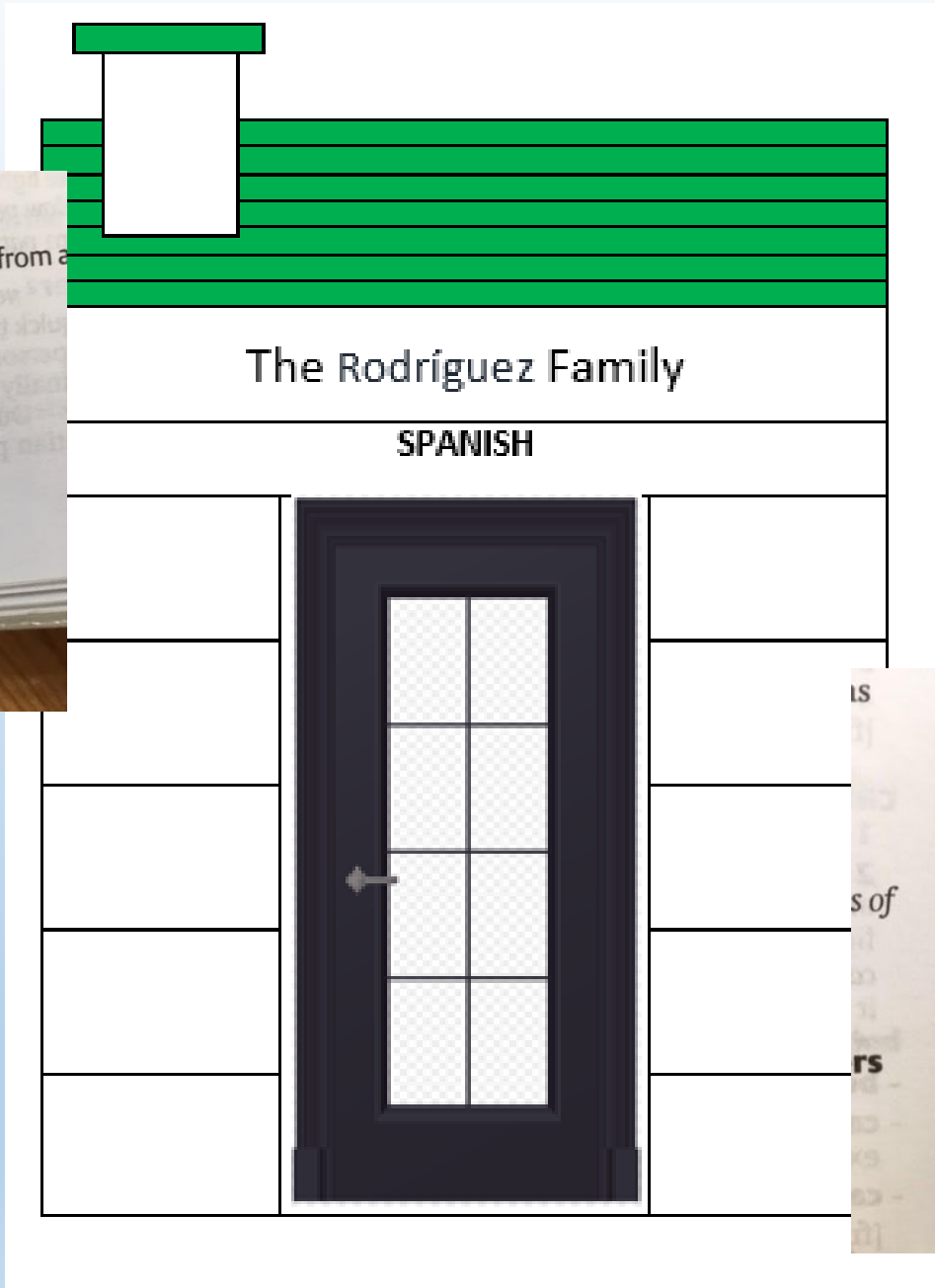
patient *NOUN* **patients**

a person who is receiving treatment from a doctor or dentist.
[from Latin *patiens* = suffering]

patio *NOUN* **patios**

a paved area beside a house.
[Spanish, = courtyard]

providing for possibility.



The Rodríguez Family

SPANISH

caret *NOUN* **carets**

a mark (^) showing where something is to be inserted in writing or printing.
[Latin, = it is lacking]

caretaker *NOUN* **caretakers**

a person employed to look after a school, block of flats, etc.

cargo *NOUN* **cargoes**

goods carried in a ship or aircraft.
[from Spanish]

Caribbean *ADJECTIVE*

to do with or from the Caribbean Sea, a part of the Atlantic Ocean east of Central America.

caribou (say ka-rib-oo) *NOUN* **caribou**

a North American reindeer.