

## Vocabulary for Works by Antonio Buero-Vallejo (1916 – 2000) Including *Historia de una Escalera* and *En la Ardiente Oscuridad*

This vocabulary was developed by TC Rindfleisch for the indicated works by Antonio Buero-Vallejo. The vocabulary content was selected for advanced students.

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### ABBREVIATIONS

ALGN	alguien	interj.	interjection
adj.	adjective	m.	masculine
adv.	adverb	part.	participle
cf.	compare, see	pl.	plural
coll.	colloquial	p.p.	past participle
conj.	conjunction	pron.	pronoun
dimin.	diminutive	SB	somebody
f.	feminine	v.	verb
fig.	figurative	v.i.	intransitive verb
ger.	gerund	v.refl.	reflexive verb
inf.	infinitive	v.t.	transitive verb

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [Ñ](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)

### VOCABULARY

#### — A [[^top](#)]

**abanzarse**, *v.refl.*, to rush forward, to rush at  
**abochornar**, *v.t.*, to shame; to make flushed  
**abonarse**, *v.refl.*, to subscribe to, to sign up for  
**abrumado**, *adj.* (*pp.* of **abrumar**, to overwhelm), overwhelmed  
**abrumar**, *v.t.*, to overwhelm  
**abstraído**, *adj.* (*pp.* of **abstraer**, to become lost in thought), absorbed, engrossed, distracted  
**¡abur!**, *interj.*, so long!, see you!

**acabar**, *v.t. & v.i.*, to finish, to end; to use up;  
 — **por**, to end up  
**acallar**, *v.t.*, to silence, to hush  
**acechar**, *v.i.*, to lurk, to lie ahead  
**achulado**, *adj.*, cocky, crude  
**acierto**, *m.*, skill, ability;  
 — **tener el — de**, to know exactly how to  
**acoger**, *v.t.*, to receive, to greet  
**acongojado**, *adj.* (*pp.* of **acongojar**, to distress, to make suffer), troubled, pained  
**acritud**, *f.*, bitterness  
**acusar**, *v.t.*, to acknowledge, to indicate awareness of

**adecuado**, *adj.*, appropriate, suitable  
**adelgazar**, *v.t. & v.i.*, to lose weight  
**adepto**, *m.*, follower, supporter  
**afectarse**, *v.refl.*, to be affected, to be moved  
**afectuoso**, *adj.*, affectionate  
**agachar**, *v.t.*, to bow; to cower; to duck down  
**agazaparse**, *v.refl.*, to hide, to lurk, to cower  
**agolparse**, *v.refl.*, to crowd together  
**agotado**, *adj.* (*pp.* of **agotar**, to exhaust, to wear out), worn out, exhausted  
**agradecimiento**, *m.*, gratitude  
**agredir**, *v.t.*, to attack, to come after  
**aguantar**, *v.t.*, to endure, to put up with  
**ahogadamente**, *adv.*, secretively, in a muffled manner  
**ahogo**, *m.*, anguish, distress  
**alféizar**, *m.*, windowsill  
**alisarse**, *v.refl.*, to smooth  
**alocado**, *adj.*, wild, thoughtless, rash  
**alterado**, *adj.* (*pp.* of **alterar**, to change; to upset; to unnerve), upset, shaken  
**altercado**, *m.*, quarrel  
**amargar**, *v.i.*, to taste bitter;  
— *v.t.*, to make bitter; to embitter  
**amargura**, *f.*, bitterness  
**amartelado**, *adj.*, lovey-dovey, mushy  
**amenaza**, *f.*, threat;  
— **s que no se cumplen**, empty threats  
**amenazador**, *adj.*, threateningly  
**amenazar**, *v.t. & v.i.*, to threaten  
**amigote**, *m.*, pal, chum  
**aminorar**, *v.t. & v.i.*, to lessen, to decrease  
**amoscado**, *adj.*, suspicious, wary; irritated  
**angustiado**, *adj.* (*pp.* of **angustiar**, to upset, to make anxious), distressed, upset  
**anhelo**, *m.*, longing, yearning  
**apaleado**, *adj.* (*pp.* of **apalear**, to beat; to winnow), beaten, whipped  
**aparejador**, *m.*, master draughtsman  
**apartar**, *v.t.*, to move away; to separate; to put aside  
**apañar**, *v.t.*, to cook up, to fix (meal)  
**apenar**, *v.t.*, to sadden, to be grieved

**apertura**, *f.*, opening (session), opening, start  
**aplacador**, *adj.*, appeasing  
**aporrear**, *v.t.*, to beat, to thrash  
**apoyarse**, *v.refl.*, to lean; to hold on  
**aprehensión**, *f.*, perception, understanding  
**apremio**, *m.*, insistence  
**apresurado, a**, *adj.* (*pp.* of **apresurar**, to hurry), hurriedly  
**apretar**, *v.t.*, to squeeze; to tighten  
**aprovechar**, *v.t. & v.i.*, to make the most of; to benefit from;  
**que aproveche**, enjoy your meal  
**apurarse**, *v.refl.*, to be worried; to rush  
**aquejar**, *v.t.*, to afflict, to suffer from  
**arder**, *v.i.*, to burn, to glow;  
— **el rostro**, to burn/get red in the face  
**ardiente**, *adj.*, burning, hot; passionate  
**argucia**, *f.*, deceptive argument, insidious argument  
**arrancar**, *v.t.*, to uproot; to snatch; to start, to take off  
**arranque**, *m.*, start; outburst; determination;  
**no tenéis** —, you do not have any drive  
**arrastrar**, *v.t.*, to drag  
**arrebato**, *m.*, fit, outburst  
**arreciar**, *v.i.*, to get stronger, to get worse  
**arrellanarse**, *v.refl.*, to sit back, to settle down, to stretch out  
**arrobado**, *adj.*, entranced  
**arullo**, *m.*, billing and cooing, seductive talk  
**asco**, *m.*, disgust;  
**dar** —, to disgust;  
**¡qué — de vida!**, what a dog's life!  
**asentar**, *v.t.*, to establish, to settle; to note down; to set  
**asomarse**, *v.refl.*, to peek/peer out  
**asombro**, *m.*, astonishment, surprise  
**asustado**, *adj.* (*pp.* of **asustar**, to frighten), scared, taken aback  
**atajar**, *v.t.*, to interrupt;  
— *v.i.*, to take a short cut  
**atendiendo**, *part.*, listening  
**atildado**, *adj.*, smart, neat  
**¡atiza!**, *interj.*, what a bust!, what a jerk!

**atolondrado**, *adj.* (*pp.* of **atolondrar**, to stun, to bewilder), silly; bewildered  
**auxiliar**, *m.*, helper, assistant  
**avenirse**, *v.refl.*, to get on well; to be in agreement  
**aviar**, *v.t.*, to tidy up; to get ready; to supply  
**aviso**, *m.*, warning, notice  
**azotes**, *m. (pl.)*, whipping

## — B [\[^top\]](#)

**bajar**, *v.t. & v.i.*, to descend; to lower  
**balbuceante**, *adj.*, stuttering  
**balde**, *m.*, bucket, pail;  
**de —**, *adj.*, free, dirt cheap;  
**en —**, *adv.* in vain  
**bálsamo**, *m.*, balm; comfort  
**barandilla**, *f.*, banister  
**¡basta!**, *interj.*, enough!  
**bastarse**, *v.refl.*, to suffice, to be enough  
**benévolo**, *adj.*, kind, understanding  
**bigote**, *m.*, mustache;  
**—s lacios**, drooping mustache  
**bombilla**, *f.*, light bulb  
**bronca**, *f.*, uproar

## — C [\[^top\]](#)

**cabalmente**, *adv.*, exactly  
**cacharra**, *f.*, milk pitcher  
**cacharro**, *m.*, rough vessel/vase  
**cajetilla**, *f.*, pack (of cigarettes)  
**calmoso**, *adj.*, quietly, slowly  
**canalla**, *f.*, scum, riffraff  
**cantinelá**, *f.*, refrain, tired story  
**capacho**, *m.*, basket  
**cargar**, *v.t.*, to load; to charge; to burden with;  
**— con pepe**, to be stuck with pepe  
**carraspear**, *v.i.*, to clear one's throat  
**carrocería**, *f.*, body (of a car)  
**casilla**, *f.*, hut; pigeonhole; square;  
**sacar a ALGN de sus —s**, to drive SB mad, to egg SB on

**casualidad**, *f.*, coincidence  
**cátedra**, *f.*, university professor, faculty member  
**caviloso**, *adj.*, in thought, brooding  
**ceguera**, *f.*, blindness  
**cenicero**, *m.*, ashtray  
**cerilla**, *f.*, match (for lighting cigarettes, etc.)  
**cerrar**, *v.t.*, to close;  
**a punto de —**, just about to close  
**chaflán**, *m.*, chamfer, bevel, long narrow face made by plane cutting across dihedral angle  
**chistar**, *v.i.*, to speak  
**chivato**, *m.*, rascal  
**chulo**, *m.*, pimp  
**clavellina**, *f.*, pink (flower), carnation  
**cobrador**, *m.*, collector (bills)  
**coger**, *v.t.*, to catch; to take  
**cojo**, *adj.*, crippled, lame  
**colmo**, *m.*, peak, height, limit  
**combinación**, *f.*, combination; slip (garment); scheme;  
**le salió mal la —**, your scheme failed  
**compadecido**, *adj.* (*pp.* of **compadecer**, to feel sorry for), feeling pity, compassionately  
**compaginar**, *v.t.*, to be compatible, to go with  
**complaciente**, *adj.*, obliging, helpful; amiable  
**complicación**, *f.*, complication, difficulty;  
**buscar le a ALGN —es**, to make life difficult for SB  
**compostura**, *f.*, composure  
**comprometido**, *adj.* (*pp.* of **comprometer**, to get engaged; to compromise), engaged, in a relationship  
**compungido**, *adj.* (*pp.* of **compungir**, to sadden), sorrowful  
**concedido**, *adj.* (*pp.* of **conceder**, to concede; to to attach), agreed  
**concretarse**, *v.refl.*, to state explicitly; to sum up  
**condenada**, *f.*, vixen  
**condescendencia**, *f.*, graciousness, pleasantness; condescension;  
**por —**, to be nice, to accommodate  
**condolido**, *adj.*, sympathizing, feeling sorry

**congeniar**, *v.i.*, to get on, to get along with  
**congoja**, *f.*, anguish, distress  
**conmiserativo**, *adj.*, with sympathy/compassion  
**conmover**, *v.t.*, to move, to touch; to shake  
**conmovido**, *adj.* (*pp.* of **conmover**, to move/touch; to shake), moved; shaken  
**conquista**, *f.*, conquest, person won over (by argument)  
**conseguir**, *v.t.*, to get; to succeed in  
**consentido**, *adj.* (*pp.* of **consentir**, to spoil; to allow; to withstand), spoiled rotten  
**consentidor**, *adj.*, indulgent  
**consentir**, *v.t.*, to allow, to permit;  
 — *v.i.*, to take, to withstand  
**conservarse**, *v.refl.*, to survive; to keep well;  
**se conserva la mocita**, the girly/babe still looks pretty good  
**consumido**, *a, adj.* (*pp.* of **consumir**, to consume; to destroy; to waste away), emaciated  
**contador**, *m.*, meter  
**contagio**, *m.*, contagion, infection  
**contrariedad**, *f.*, annoyance; setback;  
**de** —, annoyed  
**contristado**, *adj.* (*pp.* of **contristar**, to make sad), saddened  
**conveniencia**, *f.*, advantage, benefit  
**copudo**, *adj.*, bushy, thick  
**coquetería**, *f.*, flirting; affectation  
**correspondencia**, *f.*, response  
**cortar**, *v.t.*, to cut; to interrupt; to block;  
 — **por lo sano**, to make a fresh start;  
 — **a ALGN un traje**, to criticize someone who is away  
**cosquilleo**, *m.*, tickling  
**costar**, *v.i.*, to cost; to be difficult; to take;  
**¡qué poco te cuesta humillar a los demás!**, how easily you humiliate others!  
**cotilleo**, *m.*, gossip, tattling  
**cotizar**, *v.t.*, to quote; to sell; to be in demand;  
 — **se caro**, to be conceited  
**cresta**, *f.*, cockscomb  
**crío**, *m.*, kid, child

**crispar**, *v.t.*, to irritate, to piss off; to tense, to tighten  
**crystal**, *m.*, glass; window  
**crystalera**, *f.*, window panel  
**cuajado**, *adj.* (*pp.* of **cuajar**, to fill with; to coagulate; to fit in), filled, brimming  
**cualquiera**, *pron.*, any; anybody;  
**una** —, a slut, a hussy  
**cuartilla**, *f.*, sheet of paper  
**cuarto**, *m.*, money, fortune (colloq);  
**los** —s de su padre, her father's money

## — D [\[^top\]](#)

**dar**, *v.t.*, to give; to strike; to apply; to tell;  
 — **tierra**, to bury;  
 — **se cuenta**, *v.refl.*, to be aware, to realize  
**debajo**, *adv.*, below, underneath;  
**estar por** —, to be below/put down  
**dejar**, *v.t.*, to leave;  
**un hombre se deje los huesos**, a person wears himself out  
**delantal**, *m.*, apron  
**delatar**, *v.t.*, to reveal, to betray  
**delgado**, *adj.*, skinny, scrawny  
**delineante**, *m.*, draughtsman  
**¡demontre!**, *interj.*, damn it!  
**demudado**, *adj.*, pale, changed  
**denotar**, *v.t.*, to indicate  
**dependiente**, *m.*, clerk, salesperson  
**desabrido**, *adj.*, ill-tempered  
**desagradar**, *v.i.*, to displease, to not like  
**desagrado**, *m.*, displeasure  
**desahogarse**, *v.refl.*, to vent, to pour out; to get (something) off one's chest  
**desaliento**, *m.*, discouragement, depressed state  
**desaliño**, *m.*, untidiness, scruffiness  
**desasirse**, *v.refl.*, to break away; to free oneself  
**desautorizar**, *v.t.*, to discredit  
**desazón**, *m.*, upset, worry  
**descaradamente**, *adv.*, shamelessly, brazenly  
**descaro**, *m.*, brazenness

**desconcertado**, *adj.* (*pp.* of **desconcertar**, to disconcert, to confuse), confused, upset  
**desconcertante**, *adj.*, disconcerting, upsetting  
**descorrido**, *adj.* (*pp.* of **descorrer**, to draw/open; to retrace), open (curtain, drape)  
**¡descuide!**, *interj.*, don't worry  
**descuido**, *m.*, negligence; mistake; oversight;  
**como al —**, as if by accident  
**desembocar**, *v.i.*, to arrive  
**desembuchar**, *v.t. & v.i.*, to come out with it, to come clean about; disgorge  
**desencantado**, *adj.* (*pp.* of **desencantar**, to disenchant; to disillusion), disillusioned, disappointed  
**desgana**, *f.*, lack of enthusiasm, reluctance  
**desgraciado**, *adj.*, unfortunate, wretched;  
wretch (*m*)  
**desgranar**, *v.t.*, to send out, to transmit, to broadcast  
**deslomar**, *v.t.*, to break back; to wear out  
**desorbitado**, *adj.*, wide-eyed  
**despechugarse**, *v.refl.*, to bare one's chest  
**despectivo**, *adj.*, contemptuous, disparaging;  
pejorative, derogatory  
**despegado**, *adj.* (*pp.* of **despegar**, to detach; to lose affection), indifferent, distant  
**despojar**, *v.t.*, to remove, clear  
**despreciar**, *v.t.*, to despise  
**despreciativo**, *adj.*, scornful  
**desprecio**, *m.*, contempt, scorn  
**desprenderse**, *v.refl.*, to break away  
**desternillarse**, *v.refl.*, to split one's sides  
laughing, to be in stitches  
**desunir**, *v.t.*, to divide; to cause discord  
**desvanecido**, *adj.* (*pp.* of **desvanecer**, to dispel; to vanish; to faint), unconscious, out cold  
**desvivirse**, *v.refl.*, to do one's utmost; to be devoted  
**desánimo**, *m.*, dejection, discouragement  
**dichoso**, *adj.*, happy; fortunate  
**diente**, *m.*, tooth;  
**entre —s**, muttering

**disparate**, *m.*, foolish act, blunder;  
**qué —**, how ridiculous  
**¡dispensa!**, *interj.*, forgive me!, pardon me!  
**distinguir**, *v.t.*, to distinguish; to mark  
**doler**, *v.i.*, to hurt; to be sorry; to distress;  
**no me duelen prendas**, I'm not afraid of words  
**dolido**, *adj.* (*pp.* of **doler**, to ache; to be sad; to be sorry), hurt, pained  
**dubitativo**, *adj.*, doubtful  
**duelo**, *m.*, mourning, grief;  
**presidir el — de tu padre**, to preside over your father's funeral  
**duro, durillo**, *m.*, money (5 pesetas);  
**unos —s**, a few dollars

## — E [\[<sup>^</sup>top\]](#)

**echarse**, *v.refl.*, to begin to; to put on; to get; to throw oneself;  
**— novia**, to get a girl friend  
**embocar**, *v.t. & v.i.*, to guzzle; to make believe; to make one's way to  
**embustero**, *m.*, liar, fraud  
**empalidecer**, *v.i.*, to get/look pale  
**emparejados**, *adj.*, side by side  
**empeñarse**, *v.refl.*, to insist  
**emplazar**, *v.t.*, to call together; to locate;  
**te emplazo**, let's make a bet  
**empreendedor**, *adj.*, enterprising; resourceful;  
go-getter  
**empujar**, *v.t.*, to push  
**enajenado**, *adj.*, carried away  
**encandecerse**, *v.refl.*, to get white hot, to light up  
**encanecer**, *v.i.*, to get gray (hair)  
**encarrilar**, *v.t.*, to guide; to put on the right track  
**encoger**, *v.t. & v.i.*, to shrink, to contract;  
**— se de hombros**, to shrug one's shoulders  
**encontradizo**, *m.*, meeting;  
**hacer el —**, to arrange a meeting  
**enderezarse**, *v.refl.*, to straighten up  
**endurecer**, *v.t.*, to harden; to toughen

**enfadado**, *adj.* (*pp.* of **enfadar**, to make angry; to annoy), annoyed  
**enfadarse**, *v.refl.*, to get angry; to get annoyed  
**enfado**, *m.*, anger; irritation  
**enfurruñarse**, *v.refl.*, to sulk; to get in a huff  
**engarfiar**, **garfear**, *v.t.*, to clench, to make like a claw  
**engañar**, *v.t.*, to deceive  
**englobar**, *v.t.*, to bring together, to include  
**enlace**, *m.*, bond, link, connection  
**enlazar**, *v.t.* & *v.i.*, to link; to embrace; to get married  
**enredador**, *m.*, meddler  
**enrejado**, *adj.* (*pp.* of **enrejar**, to put a mesh on; to put railings around), encased in mesh  
**ensayar**, *v.t.* & *v.i.*, to practice, to rehearse  
**enterarse**, *v.refl.*, to find out; to realize;  
**¡y que no se entere tu madre de esto!**, don't let your mother know about this!  
**entierro**, *m.*, burial;  
 — **de primera**, first-class burial  
**entrante**, *m.*, alcove, entrance  
**entrecortadamente**, *adv.*, short of breath  
**entristecido**, *adj.* (*pp.* of **entristecer**, to sadden), saddened  
**entrometido**, *m.*, intruder, meddler, busybody; nosy (*adj.*)  
**envalentonado**, *adj.*, brazenly  
**escalpelo**, *m.*, scalpel  
**escalón**, *m.*, step  
**escuálido**, *adj.*, slovenly  
**esfuerzo**, *m.*, effort  
**espadín**, *m.*, rapier, narrow sword  
**espinilla**, *f.*, shin  
**espolón**, *m.*, spur  
**esquivar**, *v.t.*, to avoid; to elude  
**esterilla**, *f.*, mat  
**estilográfica**, *f.*, fountain pen  
**estorbo**, *m.*, obstacle, hindrance  
**estrecheces**, *m. (pl.)*, austerity, straits  
**estupefacto**, *adj.*, dumbfounded, taken by surprise, speechless, stupified

**exaltado**, *adj.* (*pp.* of **exaltar**, to exalt; to get worked up), worked up, impassioned

## — F [\[<sup>^</sup>top\]](#)

**faltar**, *v.i.*, to lack; to be missing; to be needed; to be rude;  
**no faltaba más**, that's the least we can do, that's all I need;  
**si antes te falté**, if I lacked respect for you before;  
**y no falte**, watch your language  
**faz**, *f.*, face  
**flaqueza**, *f.*, weakness, fault  
**fondo**, *m.*, bottom; background;  
 a —, *adv.*, in depth, thoroughly  
**forcejear**, *v.i.*, to struggle; to push  
**forcejeo**, *m.*, struggle; push  
**formidable**, *adj.*, great, wonderful  
**foro**, *m.*, back of stage  
**forrar**, *v.t.*, to line; to upholster; to make money;  
**se esta forrando el riñón**, he is making money hand over fist  
**fumadero**, *m.*, smoking room/area

## — G [\[<sup>^</sup>top\]](#)

**galería**, *f.*, balcony, varanda  
**galvanización**, *f.*, galvanizing; reactivation  
**gana**, *f.*, wish; appetite;  
 de buena —, willingly  
**gandul**, *m.*, lazy good-for-nothing  
**gandulazo**, *m.*, good-for-nothing  
**gentuza**, *f.*, rabble  
**golfa**, *f.*, whore  
**gorra**, *f.*, cap  
**gracioso**, *adj.*, funny, witty, charming  
**granuja**, *adj.*, no-good, scoundrel, sly one  
**gruñón**, *adj.*, crabby  
**guardar**, *v.t.*, to keep; to harbor;  
**no me guardes rencor**, don't bear me a grudge  
**guerra**, *f.*, war;  
**tenerle — (declarada) a ALGN**, to have it in for SB

**guiñapo**, *m.*, rag  
**guisado**, *m.*, stew

— **H** [[^top](#)]

**¡hala!**, *interj.*, get moving!; get out!; come on!  
**halagar**, *v.t.*, to flatter; to please  
**harto**, *adj.*, fed up; satiated  
**hermético**, *adj.*, impenetrable, secretive  
**holgado**, *a, adj.*, idle; roomy, comfortable; well off  
**hortera**, *f.*, an insignificant cog in a wheel  
**hosco**, *a, adj.*, sullen  
**hueco**, *m.*, stairwell  
**huelga**, *f.*, strike  
**huir**, *v.i.*, to flee; to avoid

— **I** [[^top](#)]

**iluso**, *m.*, dreamer, naive person  
**imán**, *m.*, magnet; imam  
**importar**, *v.i.*, to matter; to amount to  
**importuno**, *adj.*, inopportune, troublesome  
**improcedente**, *adj.*, inappropriate, unacceptable; inadmissible  
**incidencia**, *f.*, impact, consequence; thing related to/consequent to  
**incurrir**, *v.i.*, to fall into  
**indumento (indumentaria)**, *m. (f.)*, clothes, dress  
**inefable**, *adj.*, indescribable, hard to put in words  
**inmutarse**, *v.refl.*, to appear surprised, to manifest surprise  
**inoportunidad**, *f.*, inconvenience  
**insinuante**, *adj.*, suggestive, insinuating  
**insinuarse**, *v.refl.*, to hint, to suggest  
**intemporalmente**, *adv.*, untimely, inappropriately  
**interpelar**, *v.t.*, to question, to interrogate  
**invidente**, *m.*, one who cannot see, blind person  
**iracundo**, *adj.*, raging

**irreductible**, *adj.*, irreducible, unavoidable  
**irremediable**, *adj.*, not fixable, not curable  
**irreparable**, *adj.*, incurable, hopeless

— **J** [[^top](#)]

**jadeante**, *adj.*, breathing heavily, panting  
**juntarse**, *v.refl.*, to get together (with); to go out (with); to move in (with);  
**se juntó con pepe**, she went to live with pepe

— **L** [[^top](#)]

**lacrimoso**, *adj.*, tearful  
**ladino**, *adj.*, astute, sly, knowing  
**lagartona**, *adj.*, foxy  
**lágrima**, *f.*, tear  
**lanzar**, *v.t.*, to throw; to launch;  
**después de lanzarlas**, after launching them (as prostitutes);  
**lanzarse**, *v.refl.*, to enter into the fray, to get going  
**largarse**, *v.refl.*, to go, to leave;  
**puedes largarte**, get the hell out of here  
**¡largo!**, *interj.*, get lost!  
**lascivio**, *adj.*, lascivious, lewd  
**lateral**, *m.*, side; lateral;  
 — **derecho**, right wall  
**leal**, *adj.*, fair; loyal; trustworthy  
**lealmente**, *adv.*, honestly, in good faith  
**lechera**, *f.*, milk pitcher  
**levantar**, *v.t.*, to raise; to lift; to remove;  
**no levantó cabeza**, he lost all interest  
**licenciado**, *m.*, graduate  
**ligereza**, *f.*, carelessness, frivolousness  
**limpiarse**, *v.refl.*, to clean; to wipe; to pinch;  
**¡ja — de mi nieta!**, stay clear from my granddaughter!  
**llavín**, *m.*, latchkey  
**llegar**, *v.i.*, to arrive; to get (to); to become;  
**llega muy lejos**, he will go far  
**locuelo**, *adj.*, loony

**lograr**, *v.t.*, to succeed;  
**nunca lograremos mejorar la vida**, we shall never succeed in improving our lives  
**lozanía**, *f.*, healthiness, lustiness  
**lío**, *m.*, predicament; argument

### — M [\[<sup>^</sup>top\]](#)

**madera**, *f.*, wood; spine;  
**no tienes tú — para esa vida**, you were not cut out for that life  
**mahón**, *m.*, fine cotton fabric;  
**azul —**, faded blue  
**malear**, *v.t.*, to make conceited  
**maligno**, *adj.*, evil, malicious  
**malogrado**, *adj.* (*pp.* of **malograr**, to waste; to ruin), short of developing full potential  
**mamporro**, *m.*, punch, thump  
**manco**, *adj.*, missing an arm  
**manga**, *f.*, sleeve  
**mano**, *f.*, hand;  
**—s enlazadas**, hand in hand  
**manotazo**, *m.*, slap; swipe  
**masedumbre**, *f.*, tameness, docility;  
**con —**, meekly  
**marchando**, *part.*, getting along  
**marrano**, *m.*, pig; dirty person; *f.*, slut  
**matarse**, *v.refl.*, to die, to be killed  
**menos**, *adv.*, less;  
**— mal**, thank God, all the better  
**mentar**, *v.t.*, to mention  
**menuda ladronera**, “highway robbery”  
**meterse**, *v.refl.*, to get into; to get involved with;  
**que no se meta conmigo**, he should not meddle with me;  
**¿me meto?**, do I butt in?  
**mezquino**, *m.*, miser (m); stingy, lowly *adj.*,  
**mimo**, *m.*, caress; pampering, overprotection  
**mocoso**, *m.*, snotty-nosed kid  
**molestarse**, *v.refl.*, to bother; to take offense;  
**no te molestes en fingir**, don't try to pretend  
**monada**, *f.*, beauty, darling  
**monsergas**, *f. (pl.)*, gibberish

**montón**, *m.*, heap, mound;  
**— de años**, for a long time  
**moral**, *m.*, morale, spirits  
**moro**, *m.*, Moor;  
**lanzada a — muerto**, fighting an imaginary foe  
**moteado**, *adj.* (*pp.* of **motear**, to sprinkle with specks/flecks), dotted, speckled  
**moza**, *f.*, girl, babe  
**muralla**, *f.*, city wall;  
**—s interiores**, inner walls/inhibitions  
**musaraña**, *f.*, shrew; cloud before eyes; facial expression;  
**pensar en las —s**, to daydream  
**mustio**, *adj.*, downcast, sad

### — N [\[<sup>^</sup>top\]](#)

**nada**, *adv.*, nothing;  
**— más**, only; as soon as  
**nená**, *f.*, baby; dear  
**niño**, *m.*, baby; child;  
**— de pecho**, a nursing baby  
**noviazgo**, *m.*, engagement  
**nudillo**, *m.*, knuckle

### — Ñ [\[<sup>^</sup>top\]](#)

### — O [\[<sup>^</sup>top\]](#)

**obstinarse**, *v.refl.*, to persist, to insist  
**ojeada**, *f.*, glance, quick look;  
**lanza expresivas —s**, she glances expectantly/expressively

### — P [\[<sup>^</sup>top\]](#)

**palabrería**, *f.*, hot air, idle talk  
**palmotear**, *v.t.*, to pat on the back  
**pantalla**, *f.*, screen; shade;  
**hacer se — con las manos**, to shade one's eyes with one's hands to see better



**pañó**, *m.*, cloth, hankie;  
**hacer a ALGN — de lágrimas**, to make SB  
 a shoulder to cry on

**papanatas**, *m.*, simpleton, sucker

**par**, *adj.*, equal; even; *m.*, pair;  
**de — en —**, wide open

**paraninfo**, *m.*, assembly hall (university)

**parar**, *v.i.*, to stop; to stay;  
**dónde han ido a —?**, what has happened  
 to (them)?

**parecer**, *m.*, opinion, mind, thinking;  
**cambiar de —**, to change one's mind

**pared**, *f.*, wall;  
**una — que rompe en ángulo**, a diagonal  
 wall

**partir**, *v.t. & v.i.*, to split;  
**que los parta un rayo**, may they be struck  
 down by lightning

**pasamanos**, *m.*, handrail

**pasta**, *f.*, paste; pasta; pastry; money;  
**es de la — de su familia**, she takes after  
 her family

**patada**, *f.*, kick; stamping of feet;  
**da pueriles pataditas**, she childishly  
 stamps her feet

**patín**, *m.*, skate, skateboard

**pecho**, *m.*, chest; breast;  
**le daré el —**, I will nurse him

**¡pécóra!**, *interj.*, evil and vicious woman!

**pega**, *f.*, slap, blow;  
**con —s y con líos**, with slaps and  
 arguments,

**pegajoso**, *m.*, clingy one, cuddler

**peineta**, *f.*, ornamental comb;  
**¡qué buenos, ni que —s!**, nonsense, we  
 are not that good!

**peldaño**, *m.*, step

**pellizcar**, *v.t.*, to pinch, to nip at

**pena**, *f.*, effort; pain;  
**no merece la —**, it is not worth the effort

**peña**, *f.*, buddies, group of friends, gang

**percance**, *m.*, mishap, untoward event

**perder**, *v.t.*, to lose; to waste; to be the ruin of;  
**perderla a ella también?**, ruin her also?

**peripecias**, *f. (pl.)*, give and take, turns,  
 changes of direction

**perjudicar**, *v.t.*, to be bad for;  
**eso te perjudica**, it is to your disadvantage

**perruno**, *adj.*, dog-like

**pesar**, *m.*, regret; sorrow, grief

**peste**, *f.*, pest; plague;  
**¡— de vecinos!**, *interj.*, damned neighbors!

**petaca**, *f.*, tobacco pouch

**pícaro**, *m.*, scamp

**pichón**, *m.*, pidgeon; darling;  
**no te pongas así, —**, don't act like that,  
 darling

**pindonguear**, *v.i.*, to gallivant;  
**ya has pindongueado bastante?**, haven't  
 you gallivanted enough?

**piropo**, *m.*, compliment, flirtatious comment;  
**¡cómo te pones por un —!**, why are you  
 so upset because of a compliment!

**pisó**, *m.*, floor; flat, apartment;  
**pisito**, little apartment

**pisotón**, *m.*, stomp, misstep;  
**pegar un —**, to stumble, stomp on  
 something

**pitillo**, *m.*, (home-made) cigarette

**pizca**, *f.*, (little) bit

**plazo**, *m.*, interval;  
**— más breve**, shortest possible time

**polvorón**, *m.*, short cake;  
**ni con —es**, not even if they beg me

**ponerse**, *v.refl.*, to put; to set; to become; to  
 start;  
**ella se le ha puesto delante**, she chases  
 after him

**portal**, *m.*, entrance

**portalada**, *f.*, windowed facade

**portazo**, *m.*, slamming of door;  
**cierra con un —**, she slams the door

**práctica**, *f.*, practice; skill;  
**en la —**, in practice

**precipitado**, *adj. (pp. of precipitar)*, to rush; to  
 push, to throw), hasty, rash

**precipitar**, *v.t.*, to push, to throw;  
**precipitarse**, *v.refl.*, to fall

**predilecto**, *m.*, favorite, pet

**prenda**, *f.*, talent, capability  
**presentir**, *v.t.*, to have a feeling/presentiment  
**prestancia**, *f.*, good looks  
**presunción**, *f.*, supposition, presumption  
**presuntuoso**, *adj.*, conceited, vain  
**presuroso**, *a*, *adj.*, hurriedly, in a hurry  
**privación**, *f.*, hardship  
**procurar**, *v.t. & v.i.*, to try; to procure;  
**procúralo, por favor**, please try;  
**¿procuras hacerte el enconadizo con ella?**, are you trying to meet her as if by accident?  
**pronto**, *adv.*, early; fast  
**proscenio**, *m.*, proscenium, front of stage  
**puchero**, *m.*, stewpot;  
**poner el — sin tener cuartos?**, put on the stewpot without money?  
**pueril**, *adj.*, childish  
**pugilato**, *m.*, fight; boxing match  
**pulcramente**, *adv.*, neatly  
**punto**, *m.*, point;  
**a —**, at the ready  
**puñadito**, *m.*, a pinch  
**puño**, *m.*, fist; cuff;  
**en un —**, worried, in a tizzy

## — Q [[^top](#)]

**quedar**, *v.i.*, to remain; to end; to be, to be left;  
to agree;  
**en qué quedamos?**, what have we decided?  
**quicio**, *m.*, threshold  
**quitar**, *v.t.*, to remove, to take away

## — R [[^top](#)]

**rancho**, *m.*, ranch; mess;  
**formar — aparte**, to go one's own way  
**rapto**, *m.*, outburst, fit  
**rascarse**, *v.refl.*, to scratch; to scrape;  
**ganas de — el bolsillo**, the will to dig into his pocket  
**raso**, *m.*, satin

**reapropiación**, retaking possession;  
reappropriation  
**rebosar**, *v.t. & v.i.*, to brim, to overflow  
**rebozo**, *m.*, concealment, disguising, pretext;  
**sin —**, openly, frankly  
**reconcentrado**, *adj.* (*pp.* of **reconcentrar**, to concentrate, to bring together; to conceal), absorbed, engrossed  
**recordar**, *v.t. & v.i.*, to remind; to remember  
**recurso**, *m.*, resource  
**redondear**, *v.t. & v.i.*, to round out, to flesh out;  
**— el presupuesto**, to make ends meet  
**refractario**, *adj.*, reluctant, unwilling  
**refunfuñar**, *v.i.*, to fume; to complain  
**regañadientes**, *m. (pl.)*, grinding teeth;  
**a —**, *adv.*, reluctantly, against his will  
**rehuir**, *v.t.*, to avoid, to shun  
**rellano**, *m.*, landing (stair)  
**rendido**, *adj.* (*pp.* of **rendir**, to defeat; to wear out; to produce), exhausted  
**reñir**, *v.t. & v.i.*, to scold; to fight, to quarrel;  
**viene riñendo**, he comes scolding  
**rejo**, *m.*, corner of eye;  
**de —**, out of the corner of his eye  
**reparar**, *v.t. & v.i.*, to hesitate, to delay  
**repiquetear**, *v.i.*, to beat, to tap  
**reportado**, *adj.* (*pp.* of **reportar**, to bring (to); to restrain), dutifully  
**reportarse**, *v.refl.*, to restrain OS, to control OS  
**representar**, *v.t.*, to perform, to act; to imagine, to picture  
**reprimir**, *v.t.*, to repress; to control;  
**reprimiendo su ira**, containing his anger;  
**reprimirse**, *v.refl.*, to control oneself  
**resollar**, *v.i.*, to breathe heavily, to pant, to huff  
**retiro**, *m.*, retirement  
**reto**, *m.*, challenge  
**retorcer**, *v.t.*, to wring, to fidget  
**retoño**, *m.*, sprout, shoot  
**retrato**, *m.*, portrait;  
**¡es mi vivo —!**, he is my spitting image!  
**revés**, *adj.*, reverse;  
**¿no será al —?**, isn't it the other way around?

**rezongar**, *v.i.*, to grumble

**risueño**, *adj.*, smilingly;  
— *m.* smile

**romboidal**, *adj.*, rhomboid-shaped

**rondar**, *v.t. & v.i.*, to do the rounds; to hang out;  
to woo;

**si rondas**, whether you are fooling around  
with

**ropa**, *f.*, clothing;

**ropita de paseo**, Sunday best

**rorro**, *m.*, baby, child

**rozarse**, *v.refl.*, to hobnob with

**roñoso**, *adj.*, stingy; mangy, dirty;  
**¡qué —s!**, what tight-wads!

## —S [\[<sup>^</sup>top\]](#)

**sacaperras**, *m.*, scheme/machine to lure SB to  
spend/waste money

**sacar**, *v.t.*, to take out; to get;

**qué sacáis en limpio de esos líos?**, what  
benefit do you get from this struggle?

**salir**, *v.i.*, to exit; to end up, to turn out;

**no podré — adelante**, I will not be able to  
get ahead;

**¡pues no te saldrás con la tuya!**, you  
won't get your way!

**salmodiar**, *v.i.*, to drone; *v.t.*, to sing psalms

**sanguíneo**, *adj.*, impulsive

**saña**, *f.*, fury

**sartenazo**, *m.*, a blow with a frying pan

**seso**, *m.*, brain, mind; sense;

**sorber le a ALGN el —**, to have SB under  
one's control/spell, to turn SB's head

**sigilo**, *m.*, stealth, secrecy, discretion

**sincerarse**, *v.refl.*, to open one's heart, to come  
clean

**sindicarse**, *v.refl.*, to join/form a union

**sindicato**, *m.*, union

**sobrarse**, *v.refl.*, to be more than  
sufficient/enough

**socarronamente**, *adv.*, slyly (knowingly);  
sarcastically

**solapa**, *f.*, lapel

**solero xxx**, *v.i.*, to be in the habit of xxx, to  
usually xxx

**sonsacar**, *v.t.*, to wheedle; to worm out;

**que harías bien impidiéndole que**

**sonsacase a**, you would do well to prevent  
him from messing with

**soñador**, *adj.*, dreamily, distractedly

**soplar**, *v.t. & v.i.*, to blow; to steal away

**sordo**, *adj.*, deaf;

**¡—!**, *interj.*, I refuse to listen!

**subir**, *v.i.*, to rise; to succeed;

**yo subiré**, I will succeed

**suegro, a**, *m.*, father/mother-in-law

**suficiencia**, *f.*, self-sufficiency

**sufrir**, *v.t. & v.i.*, to suffer; to put up with;

**como no sea — por ellos**, all we do is  
suffer because of them;

**¡no puedo sufrirte!**, I cannot stand you!

**sujetar**, *v.t.*, to control, to subject

**susceptible**, *adj.*, sensitive, touchy

**susplicacia**, *f.*, suspicion, distrust

**susto**, *m.*, fright

## —T [\[<sup>^</sup>top\]](#)

**tahalí**, *m.*, baldric, belt across shoulder to waist  
to hold sword sheath

**tajante**, *adj.*, cutting short, emphatic

**tal**, *adj.*, such;

**otra que —**, two birds of a feather

**tallo**, *m.*, stem, pedestal

**tantear**, *v.t. & v.i.*, to feel (one's way)

**tanto**, *pron.*, as much, so much, as long;

**en — que**, while;

**que no es para —**, why get so upset;

**un — para ALGN**, a little something for SB

**tarambana**, *f.*, harum-scarum

**telón**, *m.*, curtain;

**nada más levantarse el —**, as soon as the  
curtain rises

**tender**, *v.t.*, to hand over

**tener**, *v.t.*, to have;

**y a — ánimo**, don't give up

**tenorio**, *m.*, woman-chaser

**terminante**, *adj.*, categorical, with finality

**término**, *m.*, end; boundary; term;  
**el primer — izquierdo**, downstage left  
**testarudez**, *f.*, stubbornness  
**tierno**, *adj.*, tender  
**tímido**, *adj.*, shy; half-hearted  
**tinte**, *m.*, tint, color; appearance;  
**un — vulgar**, a vulgar appearance  
**tinto**, *adj.*, dyed, stained; red (wine);  
**¡que lo compres —!**, buy only red wine!  
**tirar**, *v.t.*, to tug at, to pull  
**titubear**, *v.i.*, to hesitate  
**tobogán**, *m.*, slide, chute  
**tontearar**, *v.i.*, to fool around  
**torcer**, *v.t. & v.i.*, to turn the corner  
**torpe**, *adj.*, clumsy; awkward  
**torreta**, *f.*, turret, small tower  
**tramo**, *m.*, flight of stairs  
**trampa**, *f.*, trick, ruse;  
**hacer —s en el contador**, to short-circuit  
 (bypass) the electric meter  
**transición**, *f.*, change in tone/expression  
**traspasar**, *v.t.*, to pierce, to cut to the quick  
**trastear**, *v.t.*, to hoodwink  
**tratar**, *v.t.*, to deal with, to speak to;  
**pues os tratáis**, you speak to one another  
**triquiñuela**, *f.*, all the tricks of the trade  
**trivial**, *adj.*, petty, trivial  
**tumbarse**, *v.refl.*, to lie in bed  
**turbado, a**, *adj.* (*pp.* of **turbar**, to unsettle; to  
 worry; to baffle), embarrassed; disturbed,  
 upset, unsettled  
**tuyo**, *pron.*, yours;  
**¡y tú a lo —!**, mind your own business!

### —U [\[<sup>^</sup>top\]](#)

**urraca**, *f.*, magpie

### —V [\[<sup>^</sup>top\]](#)

**vacilante**, *adj.*, hesitating  
**vago**, *m.*, loafer;  
 —, *adj.*, vague  
**vecindad**, *f.*, poor tenement house

**velador**, *m.*, pedestal table,  
**veladorcito**, *m.*, small pedestal table  
**veleidad**, *f.*, dalliance, inconstancy  
**veleta**, *f.*, fickle/changeable person; weather  
 vane  
**vencido**, *adj.* (*pp.* of **vencer**, to defeat; to  
 surpass; to overcome), defeated  
**vergüenza**, *f.*, shame;  
**¡qué falta de —!**, how shameless!  
**vibrando**, *part.*, being moved, being overcome  
 with emotion  
**vibrante**, *adj.*, energetic, enthusiastic  
**vidente**, *m.*, sighted person; clairvoyant

### —Y [\[<sup>^</sup>top\]](#)

### —Z [\[<sup>^</sup>top\]](#)

**zafarse**, *v.refl.*, to break away, to take off  
**zalamero**, *m.*, charmer  
 — *adj.* charming  
**zángano**, *m.*, leech  
**zarandaja**, *f.*, triviality, trifle  
**zarandear**, *v.t.*, to shake (vigorously)  
**zumba**, *f.*, teasing