Cognates and False Cognates

In the acquisition of a second language process we as learners found different ways in order to achieve our goals better. English have many words that can work in our native language that can be understandable without any interruption. A cognate is when a word sounds and have a similar meaning in two or more language. Recognize cognates in order to increase our linguistic repertoire is a fantastic alternative to learn the second language in a friendly way.

Cognates:

As mentioned before, cognates are words that sounds or spell closely similar as in English as in Spanish (or other language).

Word in English	Spanish translation
Doctor	Doctor
Person	Persona

False cognates:

False cognates are those words that sounds or spell similar in English and Spanish, but they have a completely different meaning.

Word in English	Spanish translation	False cognate
Achieve	Lograr	Archivar
Actually	En realidad	Actualmente
Argument	Discusión	Argumento

Let's practice.

1. Write the direct translation in English or Spanish in front of the following words.

English	Spanish Translation.	Spanish	English Translation.
Favorite		Diferente	
Programs		Inglés	
Study		Turismo	
University		Internacional	

2. In the following list of words you will find false cognates. You need to use the dictionary in order to provide an accurate Spanish translation.

English Word	Spanish Translation
Once	
Brave	
Carpet	
Exit	
Cave	
To deliver	
To prove	

3. Put "C" if the word is Cognate or "FC" if the word is false cognate.

Pretend	
Salvage	
Million	C
Opinion	
Mayor	
Pan	FC