

• Spanish Terms

Spanish Terms Used on Rowland Cards

Abadesa	= Abbess.
Abajeños	= Inhabitants of Southern California.
Acequia	= Ditch, canal.
A'Dois	= Good bye (God be with you).
Adobe	= Black adhesive soil.
Adobes	= Sundried bricks of adobe.
Agua	= Water.
Aguardiente	= Brandy.
Alameda	= Walk under trees.
Alabado	= Hymn in praise of the sacrament.
Alcalde	= Mayor or Magistrate of a district.
Aliso	= Alder tree.
Alta	= Upper, above.
Amo	= Master, owner.
Arroyo	= A small stream.
Ayuntamiento	= Municipal council.
Bahia	= Bay.
Bando	= Edict.
Baja	= Below, lower.
Bidarka	= Skin boat.
Bienes	= Property.
Blanco	= White.
Boca	= Mouth.
Bonita	= Pretty.
Brazo de mar	= Arm of the sea.
Brea	= Pitch [tar]
Bronco	= Unbroken horse.
Bueno	= Good.
Buenos dias	= Good Morning.
Caballo	= Horse.
Cabo	= Cape.
Cajon	= Box, chest.
Calle	= Street.
Camino	= Way.
Campana	= Bell.
Campanilla	= Small bell.
Campo	= Field.
Cañada	= Glen or dale between mountains.
Campo santo	= Graveyard.
Canado	= Live stock, cattle.
Cañon	= A tube, deep ravine.

Capilla	= Chapel.
Carréta	= Cart.
Carta	= Letter, chart.
Casa Grande	= Large house.
Castillo	= Castle, fort.
Catalina	= Catherine.
Cienega	= A marsh.
Cigarritos	= Cigaretts.
Ciudad	= City.
Comandante	= Commander.
Compadre	= Friend, comrade, godfather.
Comisario	= Commisary, a treasury official.
Concepcion	= Conception.
Coyote	= A small California wolf.
Corbata	= Cravat.
Corral	= A pen for live stock, or for poultry.
Cuero	= Hide of cattle or horses.
Dehesas	= Pasture lands.
Dias	= Days.
Diablo	= Devil.
Dinero	= Money.
Diego	= James.
Diputacion	= Deputy, committee.
Dolores	= Sorrows.
Don	= Mr.
Doña	= Mistress.
Embarcadero	= Place of embarkation.
Enchiladas	= Cornmeal cakes in chile sauce.
Enfermo	= Sick.
Encino	= Oak.
Engano	= Deceit, mistake, fraud.
Ensenada	= Creek, small bay.
Español	= Spanish.
Entrada	= Entrance, invasion, incursion.
Escocia	= Scotland
Escoltas	= Mission guard.
Escondido	= Hidden.
Escrito	= Writing or written.
Estado	= State.
Fandango	= Dance.
Fierro	= Branding iron.
Fiesta	= Feast Day.
Frey	= Father of a religious order.
Frijoles	= Beans.
Fuego	= Fire.
Fumos	= Smoky.

Galeria	= Galley.
Gefepolitico	= Political chief.
Gente de Razon	= Spaniards and Mexicans—distinguished from Indians.
Gobenador	= Governor.
Gracias	= Favors, thanks, graces.
Hacienda	= Country home.
Hambre	= Hunger.
Hermano	= Brother.
Hermoso	= Handsome.
Herrar	= To brand.
Hidalgo	= One of gentle birth.
Hija	= Daughter.
Hijos del pais	= Native sons. Sons of the country.
Hombre	= Man
Isla	= Isle.
Juez del campo	= Judge of the plains.
Jugador	= Gambler.
Junta	= Assembly.
Juramento	= Oath.
Laguna	= Small lake.
Legua	= League.
Libros	= Books.
Llano	= Plain.
Llavero	= Keeper of the keys. In the missions, the storekeeper.
Lomerias	= Ridges of hills, or mountains.
Madre	= Mother.
Maestro	= Master.
Mal	= Evil, complaint.
Mañana	= Morning, tomorrow.
Manteca	= Tallow.
Mantilla	= Head cover for women.
Mariposa	= Butterfly.
Maromeros	= Rope dancers.
Matanza	= Slaughter-yard.
Major-domo	= Steward, overseer.
Mecate	= Mexican for rope.
Medio real	= Half a real, or 6-1/4 cents.
Memorias	= Memoranda.
Metate	= A curved grinding stone.
Mejicano	= Mexican.
Mezcal	= A liquor made from the maguey plant.
Molino	= Mill.
Morro	= Steep cliff.
Mesa	= Table land.
Milpas	= Indian corn-fields.
Muchacho	= Boy.

Negro	= Black.
Neofita	= A converted Indian.
Noche	= Night.
Nuestra Señor	= Our Lord.
Nuestra Señora	= Our Lady.
Nuestra Señora de Los Angeles	= Our Lady of the Angels.
Nuevo	= New.
Ojo	= Eye.
Oleo	= The sacred oil.
Olla	= A round earthen pot.
Orden	= Order, command.
Ordenanza	= Ordinances.
Orejano	= Wild. <i>Res orejano de fierro</i> = Cattle marked on ears.
Oso	= Bear.
Oro	= Gold.
Padre	= Father.
Pais	= Country.
Palacio	= Palace.
Parvulo	= a child, very small
Pasajes	= Valleys.
Patio	= Court.
Peon	= A game at dice.
Pinole	= Drink of cornmeal, water and sugar.
Pinos	= Pine
Playa	= Sea beach.
Plaza	= Square, market place.
Pobladores	= Settlers, founders of a town.
Poco	= Little.
Pozole	= Beans boiled with corn or wheat.
Potrero	= Pasture.
Pozo	= Spring.
Presidio	= Garrison.
Primo	= First.
Pronunciamento	= Proclamation.
Propriedad	= Proprietorship, etc.
Pueblo	= City.
Publica	= Public.
Puerto	= Port, harbor.
Ramada	= A bush house, or shed.
Rancheria	= An Indian village.
Ranchita	= Small ranch.
Rancho	= Farm, range.
Realistas	= Royalists.
Real	= Spanish coin worth 12-1/2 cents.
Reata	= A rope of rawhide for lassoing cattle.
Rebosa	= Shawl. Worn over the head.

Reglamento	= Regulation.
Realengo	= Royal, kingly.
Regidor	= Alderman, director.
Revolucionario	= Revolutionist.
Roble	= Oak tree.
Rio	= River.
Rodeo	= Rounding up of cattle.
Salinas	= Salt marshes.
Seco	= Dry.
Seguridad	= Safety, securely.
Sierra Nevada	= Ridge of mountains covered with snow.
Silla	= Chair, or saddle.
Silla vaquera	= Saddle used by vaquero.
Sitio	= Small stock range.
Soberano	= Sovereign, supreme.
Sobrante	= Residue, left over.
Soldado	= Soldier.
Soltero	= Bachelor.
Sombrero	= Hat.
Suertes	= Fields.
Sureños	= Southerners.
Tamale	= Indian meal dumpling stuffed w/minced meat, chicken.
Tasajo	= Jerked beef.
Tecolero	= Master of ceremonies at a ball.
Tecolote	= Species of owl.
Temblor	= Shake.
Temblor de tierra	= Earthquake.
Terreno	= Ground.
Testigo	= Witness.
Tonto	= Stupid, foolish.
Tortillas	= Little cakes, pancakes.
Trabajadores	= Laborers.
Tule	= Reed, native grown.
Tuna	= Cactus plant.
Vaquero	= Cow herder.
Vara	= Rod, staff, yard measure [33.33 inches]
Vecino [Ed.]	= [citizen settler -Ed.]
Venta	= Sale mark of cattle.
Violincito	= A small fiddle.
Viñero	= One who cares for vines.
Viuda	= Widow
Vocal	= Voting member of a corporation.
Visitador	= Visitor, surveyor.
Yerba	= Herb.
Zanja	= Irrigating ditch.
Zanjero	= One in charge of a zanja.