



# A Translation Ace Radio – Show Notes

**Episode No.: 10**

**Title:** *Culture in Spanish Language Translations*

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Hello and welcome to the Atranslationace.com Radio Blog, Episode 10 – ***Culture in Spanish Language Translations.***

I'm Professor Winn – a certified English instructor, and certified translator from Spanish, Portuguese, and French to English for more than 10 years.

Get your competitive advantage with my translations.

Send me details of your translation project and upload your digital or scanned files at:

**[Atranslationace.com/contact](http://atranslationace.com/contact)**

I will respond with a free quote upon evaluation of your files.

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Download the Show Notes at: [atranslationace.com/ep009a](http://atranslationace.com/ep009a).

*"Culture is widening of the mind and of the spirit."* Jawaharlal Nehru

Translation is the conversion of the meaning of one language to an equivalent second language text steeped in culture.

A good translator should simultaneously be aware of the cultural factors, views, and tradition in order to consciously act as a bridge to make culture universal.

Thus, a translator promotes understanding among different countries and cultures.

## ***Cultural Implications for Spanish Language Translation***

As a Spanish (and Portuguese!) to English translator, I confront an interesting chestnut: the diverse Spanish-speaking world (*el mundo hispanohablante*).

Spanish is [official language](#) in 22 countries and covers 3 continents.

Spain, the mother, and protector of el castellano (Castilian Spanish), reigns supreme but isolated on the Iberian Peninsula alongside Portugal in Europe.

However, in the Americas, *el español* is diverse geographically and culturally.

The United States as an emerging source of Spanish, Mexico, the Caribbean, Andean South America, and the cone of South America (Chile, Uruguay, and Argentina) make up the largest chunks of Spanish-speaking culture and territory.

From the different uses of *coger* between Spain (to get) and Argentina and Colombia (to have sex) to *paja* in Spain and Argentina (straw) vs. most of Latin America (to masturbate), [Spanish terms vary depending on the country](#).

As you can see, the same word has significant – [sometimes potentially embarrassing – differences in meaning](#).

However, for the trained Spanish language translator, especially one who has lived in Spain, Argentina, and Colombia like me, it is much easier to make sense of these nuances.

For that reason alone, a translator never makes word-for-word conversions of text from Spanish into a second language.

## ***Conclusion***

In sum, translation is restating the meaning of a text in one language in another tongue.

This transcoding process should be focused not merely on language transfer but also - and most importantly - on precise cultural approximation.

This transposition of both language and culture occurs at the same time while producing a new text reflecting the same meaning of the original text.

Thus, translators must be both bilingual and bicultural if not multicultural, a fact truer in Spanish language translations.

Make sure your Spanish documents translated into English are culturally-appropriate.

Hire Professor Winn to translate your documents today.

[Send your document\(s\) and details](#) of your translation project for a free quote now.

### ***Your Turn***

Professor Winn is available to translate (and customize?) your CV and cover letter in English.

He is a certified translator of more than 8 years.

If you have a CV and/or cover letter in Spanish, Portuguese, or French, contact him at [Atranslationace.com/contact](http://Atranslationace.com/contact) to take the first step to a better career!

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Check out the show notes for this episode at: [atranslationace.com/ep010a](http://atranslationace.com/ep010a).

Again, thank you for listening to [Episode 10](#) of Atranslationace.com Radio Blog – *Culture in Spanish Language Translations*.

I'm Professor Winn – your translation ace.

*Professor Winn*

*p.s. Visit and Like my Facebook page at: [facebook.com/Atranslationace](https://facebook.com/Atranslationace). I really appreciate it!*