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Meteor and other stories

John Wyndham

Retold by Patrick Nobes

Glossary

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

English	Description in English	Spanish
airlock	a small room with an airtight door at each end	**cámara estanca, compartimento estanco**
ant	a very small insect that lives in an organized society	**hormiga**
anti-slavery laws	laws to stop people buying, selling, and owning other people as slaves	**leyes contra la esclavitud**
bark (v)	to give the sharp, hard cry that a dog makes	**ladrar**
battery	a container (of varying sizes) for storing and supplying electricity (e.g. a torch battery)	**batería, pila**
bully (n and v)	a person who hurts or frightens a weaker person	**(n) matón, peleón, amedrentador / (v) intimidar**
buzzing (n)	a steady humming sound, as made by some insects	**zumbido**
chess	a game for two people, played on a board with sixteen "chessmen" for each player	**ajedrez**
compartment	one of several separate enclosed places, into which a larger area has been divided	**compartimento**
course	the direction or route followed by a ship or an aeroplane	**ruta**
crew	all the people working in a ship, an aeroplane, etc.	**tripulación**
dome	a roof or building that is shaped like a half circle	**cúpula**
earth (What on earth...?)	used for emphasis, to show puzzlement, surprise, anger, etc.	**¿Qué diablos...?**
electricity	the supply of electric power used for lighting, heating, driving machines, etc.	**electricidad**

English	Description in English	Spanish
evil	wicked, very bad	**malo, malvado**
exclaim	to cry out suddenly in anger, surprise, pain, etc.	**exclamar**
explosive (n)	a substance (e.g. that used in bombs) that is able to explode	**explosivo**
fantasy	a belief in something that is unreal, invented by the imagination	**fantasía**
fire-tube	a weapon used by the Globe people, which has the power to kill	**(en esta historia) tubo de fuego**
fuel	anything (wood, coal, oil, etc.) burned to produce heat or power	**combustible**
globe	a round object with the shape of a ball	**globo, esfera**
gravity	the force that pulls everything towards the centre of the Earth or any other large object	**gravedad**
head-over-heels	rolling or spinning in a complete circle	**de cabeza**
hissing (n)	a sound like a long "s", as made by steam escaping through a small hole	**sisear, silbar**
interest rate	the percentage (e.g. 10%, 15%) at which money is paid regularly to somebody who has put their money in a bank, company, etc.	**tipo de interés**
lens	a piece of glass with curved surfaces	**lente**
magnetic	with the power of electrical attraction, as when two metals are pulled towards each other	**magnético**
meteor	a lump of metal or rock that flies through the sky from outer space	**meteoro**
monster	an unnatural creature of huge size	**monstruo**
movement	(as in Women's Freedom Movement) a group of people working together for the same purpose	**movimiento (p.e. Movimiento para la liberación de la mujer)**
naked	not wearing any clothes	**desnudo**
orbit	the path followed by a planet, star, moon, etc. round another body, e.g. the Earth's orbit round the sun	**órbita**
outhouse	a small building for tools, etc. outside the main building	**cobertizo**
plain (n)	a large area of flat land, without hills or valleys	**llano**
planet	a body (e.g. Earth, Mars, Jupiter) in space that moves around a star (e.g. the sun)	**planeta**
public address system	a system of microphones and loudspeakers used to make announcements to a lot of people (e.g. on a plane or ship)	**sistema de megafonía, altavoces**

English	Description in English	Spanish
race (n)	a large group of people who share the same physical characteristics, e.g. skin colour, shape of eyes and nose	**raza**
revolver	a small, hand-held gun from which several bullets can be fired very quickly	**revólver**
salany	a word invented by John Wyndham, meaning a very long period of time	**(palabra inventada) largo periodo de tiempo**
sergeant	a police officer below an inspector	**sargento**
space (also outer space)	the area beyond the Earth's atmosphere in which all other planets and stars exist	**espacio / espacio exterior**
sting (v)	to hurt somebody with a sharp, poisonous point, as an insect does	**aguijonear, picar**
universe	all existing things, including the Earth and its creatures, and all stars, planets, etc. in space	**universo**
victory	success in a war, battle, competition, etc.	**victoria**

Words to learn

- Write down any other new words you discover in your Oxford Graded Reader.
- Translate them into your language.
- Now try to learn them!

English	Your language
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