



Surprisingly for a dim country, there are lots and lots of English words referring to light and brightness. Some of them are very similar, which makes it difficult to tell one from the other. Besides, translation doesn't help much, since the Spanish equivalents sound rather formal compared to the 14 everyday English verbs below. Many of them are frequently used metaphorically to depict someone's eyes, which is another good reason to take an interest in these words. The best thing to do is associate each verb with the quality of light it describes.

☒ ... involves something burning:

- ☛ **GLOW** ... like a cigarette burning in the dark
[*brillar?* *refulgir?* *resplandecer?*]
- ☛ **BLAZE** ... to burn brightly & strongly, like at wartime
[*arder?* *llamear?*]

☒ ...changes fast, on & off:

- ☛ **BLINK** ... a light on a machine [*parpadear?*]
- ☛ **FLICKER** ... the flame of a candle in a draughty room
[*titilar?*]
- ☛ **TWINKLE** ... stars [*titilar?* *centellear?*]
- ☛ **FLASH** ... lightning [*relampaguear?*]

☒ ...reflection on wet surfaces:

- ☛ **SHIMMER** ... water [*rielar?*]
- ☛ **GLISTEN** ... wet pavement [*relucir?*]

☒ ...reflection from smooth surfaces:

- ☛ **GLINT** ... bright flashes of light from metal [*refulgir?*]
- ☛ **GLEAM** ... bright reflections from very smooth surfaces
[*resplandecer?* *rutilar?*]

☒ ...much too bright:

- ☛ **GLARE** ... the sun [*relumbrar?* *resplandecer?*]
- ☛ **DAZZLE** ... too bright lights [*cegar?* *deslumbrar?*]

☒ ...lots of small bright flashes of light:

- ☛ **GLITTER** ... gold [*brillar?* *relucir?*]
- ☛ **SPARKLE** ... diamonds [*brillar?* *destellar?*]