Quechua Borrowings into Peruvian Spanish
History of the Quechua Language

- Official Language of the Incan Empire
- Francisco Pizarro
  - 1528 – first contacts Incan empire
  - 1535 – founds Peruvian capital city Lima
- Banned in late 18th century colonial Peru in response to Tupac Amaru II’s uprising
- Made second official language in 1975
- Still considered low prestige
Research Question

✧ *How are Quechua words borrowed into Standard Peruvian Spanish?*

✧ Loanword – a word from Quechua used by non-bilingual Spanish-speakers

✧ What *register* do these words belong to?
  ✧ Register – formality level

✧ My hypothesis:
  ✧ flora and fauna
  ✧ toponyms (place names)
  ✧ cultural terms
  ✧ *slang*
  ✧ farming vocabulary

✧ Standard register for new vocabulary

✧ Redundant vocabulary will be low-register slang
Cuy, or guinea pig
Coca plant

One of the camelids, possibly an alpaca
Methods & Data

✧ Etymological dictionaries – DRAE, de Chile
   ✧ Gather a list of words to check
✧ Movies, books, *El Comercio*
   ✧ In dialogue?
   ✧ Formal context?
✧ Interview Peruvian spanish-speakers
   ✧ How did native speakers perceive these words?
## Loanwords

**Commonly Used Words**
- chupó (pimple)
- quiñar (to dent)
- calato (naked, hairless)
- yapa (bonus, extra)
- choro (thief)
- ñaña (girl)
- wawa (baby)
- soroche (altitude sickness)

**Replaced Spanish Term**
- **Huincha** – measuring tape (cinta métrica)
- **Caucho** – rubber (yanta)
- **Choclo** – corn (maiz)
- **Carpa** – awning/tarp/tent (toldo/marquesina)
Conclusions

✧ Flora and fauna, toponyms, cultural terms
✧ Otherwise, words were not drawn from specific categories
✧ Most loanwords were not recognized at belonging to Quechua