

# POINT



## TIPPING POINT : Momento crítico (que no se puede parar)

the time at which a change or an effect cannot be stopped:

- ◆ The earth has already passed the **tipping point** in terms of global warming.
- ◆ We have reached a **tipping point** where technology is now destroying more jobs than it creates.

## TURNING POINT : Punto de inflexión

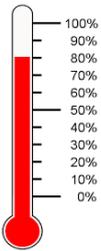
Fig. a time when things may change; a point at which a change of course is possible or desirable. (Originally nautical. Fig. on the image of a ship approaching a point where a change of course has been planned. (\*Typically: be at ~; come to ~; reach ~.))



- ◆ I think we have **come to a turning point** and there ought to be some improvement henceforth.
- ◆ The Civil Rights Act of 1964 was a **turning point** in the battle for equality for all Americans.
- ◆ The **turning point** in her political career came when she was chosen to run for a Senate seat.

## BOILING POINT : Límite de aguante

the point when a situation is about to get out of control and become violent:



- ◆ Tensions over the upcoming independence referendum in Catalonia are reaching **boiling point**.
- ◆ Public anger reached **boiling point** when troops were called in to control protesters.

## JUMPING-OFF POINT : Punto de partida

a point from which to start a journey or activity

an idea, example, or piece of information that is used to begin a process or activity:



- ◆ Using his daughter's case as a **jumping-off point**, he described a justice system that ignores the rights of the victim.
- ◆ Learning the alphabet is a good **jumping off point** for children who wish to learn how to read.

## BREAKING POINT: Punto de ruptura / punto álgido / situación límite

the stage at which your control over yourself or a situation is lost:



- ◆ The situation reached **breaking point** when his son crashed the family car.
- ◆ Her nerves were at **breaking point**.

## STARTING POINT: Punto de partida

a place or position where something begins:



- ◆ The **starting point** for the guided tour of the town is in the market square.
- ◆ The committee emphasized that its report was only meant as a **starting point** for discussion.
- ◆ Sarajevo was the **starting point** of the First World War.

## CUT-OFF POINT : Punto límite / límite

a point or limit when you stop something



- ◆ Is there a **cut-off point** between childhood and adulthood?
- ◆ I'm sorry to say that we've reached our **cut-off point** for accepting applications this year. / The **cut off point** for applications is 1st December.
- ◆ She likes tequila, but two drinks is her **cut-off point** in order to drive home safely.
- ◆ Is 25 the new **cut-off point** for adulthood?