

Year 11 GCSE Spanish (AQA) – Overview

→ Assessments

GCSE Spanish has a Foundation Tier (grades 1–5) and a Higher Tier (grades 4–9). Students must take all four question papers at the same tier. All question papers must be taken in the same series.

Paper	component	What is assessed	How is assessed	Questions
1	Listening 25% of GCSE	Understanding and responding to different types of spoken language.	Foundation: 35 minutes (40 marks) Higher: 45 minutes (50 marks)	A – questions and answers in English B – questions and answers in Spanish Examples: True and false / multiple choice / single word answers / short answers / Positive, negative or both
2	Speaking 25% of GCSE	Communicating and interacting effectively in speech for a variety of purposes.	Foundation: 7-9 minutes (60 marks) Higher: 10-12 minutes (60 marks) Plus 12 minutes of preparation time	Role-play – 15 marks (2 minutes) Photo card – 15 marks (2 min. F / 2 min. H) General conversation – 30 marks (3-5 minutes Foundation / 5-7 minutes Higher)
3	Reading 25% of GCSE	Understanding and responding to different types of written language	Foundation: 45 minutes (60 marks) Higher: 60 minutes (60 marks)	A – questions and answers in English B – questions and answers in Spanish C – translation from Spanish into English Examples: True and false / multiple choice / single word answers / short answers / Positive, negative or both / Past, Now or Future
4	Writing 25% of GCSE	Communicating effectively in writing for a variety of purposes	Foundation: 60 minutes (50 marks) Higher: 75 minutes (60 marks)	Foundation F - write 4 sentences to describe a picture F - translating 5 sentences from English into F - 40 words writing task F & H - 90 words writing task H – 150 words writing task H – translating a full paragraph from English into Spanish

→ Themes

The specification covers three distinct themes. These themes apply to all four question papers. Students are expected to understand and provide information and opinions about these themes relating to their own experiences and those of other people, including people in countries/ communities where Spanish is spoken.

Theme	Topic 1	Topic 2	Topic 3	Topic 4
1: Identity and culture	Me, my family and friends • Relationships with family and friends • Marriage/partnership	Technology in everyday life • Social media • Mobile technology	Free-time activities • Music • Cinema and TV • Food and eating out • Sport	Customs and festivals in Spanish-speaking countries/communities
2: Local, national, international and global areas of interest	Home, town, neighbourhood and region	Social issues • Charity/voluntary work • Healthy/unhealthy living	Global issues • The environment • Poverty/homelessness	N/a
3: Current and future study and employment	My studies	Life at school/college	Education post-16	Jobs, career choices and ambitions

What can you do to prepare for each component?

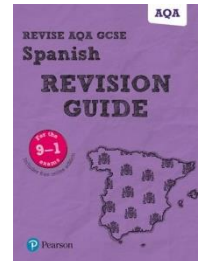
Listening

<https://www.newsinslowspanish.com> - Use the free non-subscription material to read and listen to short news bulletins. You can vary the speed of the text that you are listening to. You can even download the app on your phone!

https://conjuguemos.com/tube/table_of_contents - Use the free non-subscription material and watch and listen to real young Spaniards talking about a variety of topics that you cover in GCSE. Afterwards do the comprehension tasks or take a Quiz.

Viva Spanish end of module assessments including listening material – Our class *TEAM* in *Files*. Make good use of the transcripts for each question (found in the teacher guide) to develop your listening.

Complete the listening activities in the AQA revision guide (purchased for you by school)



Reading

Memrise – Log into our class GCSE group to develop your vocabulary for each unit (students have received an email to support them to join the group)

Key vocabulary in the knowledge organiser booklet (photocopied for you) Also in our class *Team*.

Viva Spanish end of module assessments - Our class *TEAM* in *Files*. Complete the reading activities for the different topic areas (modules 1-8) and mark your answers using the teacher guide.

Complete the reading activities in the AQA revision guide (purchased for you by school)

Speaking

AQA GCSE Spanish Role play and Photocard (Sample 1 and 2)

Practise and learn off by heart answers to all speaking questions from NES speaking booklet that we have prepared so far.

Ensure that you know the question stems off by heart (interrogatives) and that you can form questions accurately.

Complete activities in the Success at Speaking - GCSE Spanish booklet

All of these resources are in our class *TEAM* in *Files*

Writing

Ensure that knowledge and application of the past, present, future and conditional are secure using verb sheets from Viva Grammar book (photocopied for you) and past papers.

<https://conjuguemos.com/activities/spanish/verb/1> - play a variety of games where you can consolidate your knowledge on verb endings and, if you need, use the online flashcards or take the verb lessons on the website.

