



HS6

Pre A levels

A-Level Spanish



Welcome to A-level Spanish

A-level Spanish is a challenging but fascinating subject to study. Being able to speak Spanish not only enables you to communicate with the 400 million other speakers worldwide, but it will bring other academic benefits as well. By studying Spanish it will give you the opportunity to connect with a language that has been developing since the end of the Roman Empire 1500 years ago, but also provide the opportunity to enhance your knowledge to the wonderful variety and unique of hispanic cultures.

A-level Spanish is a motivating course of study that will enable you to develop an advanced level of knowledge and understanding of the Spanish language, of the culture of Spain and other hispanic countries, as well as giving you practical and valuable language skills and furthermore transferable study skills. This course will help you to prepare for higher education and enhance your employability profile. You will also find that career prospects are enhanced by the possession of one or more foreign languages. But more than that, Spanish provides an array of new life opportunities and experiences.



Course information:

Exam board: AQA

Examinations: Linear; 3 papers at end of Year 13

Paper 1: Listening, Reading & Writing (50% of A-Level)

Paper 2: Writing (Film/Novel) (20% of A-Level)

Paper 3: Speaking (30% of A-Level)

Textbook: Hodder Education

Course Specification: <http://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/spanish/specifications/AQA-7692-SP-2016.PDF>

The resources in this pack include:

Exam specification and requirements

Course themes and topics

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Exam specification and requirements

The AQA Level 3 Advanced GCE in Spanish (listening, reading, speaking and writing) consists of three externally-examined papers that assess the four language skills.

PAPER 1	PAPER 2	PAPER 3
Listening, Reading and writing	Writing (film/novel)	Speaking
Understanding spoken and written passages from a range of contexts and sources, based on the themes and sub-themes covered in the specification. 2 questions will include to summarise in Spanish what the student has understood from different passages. Translation of 2 texts (around 100 words each). Spanish to English, and English to Spanish.	Students will answer an essay question in Spanish for each of the two works they have studied (this can be a book and a film, or two books). Students will have a choice of question on each book/film. All questions will be in Spanish and will require a critical and analytical response.	The test will be in two parts. Part 1 will be the discussion of one sub-theme studied during the course, lasting 5–6 minutes, and Part 2 will be the presentation and discussion of the student's individual research project.
<u>Written examination:</u> 2 hours 30 minutes 100 marks 50% of the qualification	<u>Written examination:</u> 2 hours 80 marks 20% of qualification	<u>Spoken examination:</u> 21-23 minutes* 60 marks 30% of qualification <i>*includes 5 minutes preparation time for a stimulus card based on the themes and sub-themes covered in the course</i>

Course themes and topics

All the papers will be based on content from the following four themes. The four themes address a range of content related to society past and present, as well as aspects of the political, artistic and intellectual culture of Spain. They are set and link to Spain and the Hispanic world.

Theme 1) Aspects of Hispanic society

Theme 2) Multiculturalism in Hispanic society

Theme 3) Artistic culture in the Hispanic world

Theme 4) Aspects of political life in the Hispanic world

Activity – Read through the list of themes and sub-themes, and translate them into English.

Aspects of Hispanic society (in relation to any Spanish speaking country or countries)	
Spanish	English meaning
<i>Los valores tradicionales y modernos</i>	<i>Modern and traditional values</i>
• <i>Los cambios en la familia</i>	
• <i>Actitudes hacia el matrimonio/el divorcio</i>	
• <i>La influencia de la Iglesia Católica</i>	
<i>El ciberespacio</i>	<i>Cyberspace</i>
• <i>La influencia de internet</i>	
• <i>Las redes sociales: beneficios y peligros</i>	
• <i>Los móviles inteligentes en nuestra sociedad</i>	
<i>La igualdad de los sexos</i>	<i>Equal rights</i>
• <i>La mujer en el mercado laboral</i>	
• <i>El machismo y el feminismo</i>	
• <i>Los derechos de los gays y las personas transgénero</i>	

Artistic culture in the Hispanic world

(in relation to any Spanish speaking country or countries)

Spanish	English meaning
<i>La influencia de los ídolos</i>	<i>Modern day idols</i>
• Cantantes y músicos	
• Estrellas de televisión y cine	
• Modelos	
<i>La identidad regional en España</i>	<i>Spanish regional identity</i>
• Tradiciones y costumbres	
• La gastronomía	
• Las lenguas	
<i>El patrimonio cultural</i>	<i>Cultural heritage</i>
• Sitios turísticos y civilizaciones prehispánicas: Machu Picchu, la Alhambra, etc.	
• Arte y arquitectura	
• El patrimonio musical y su diversidad	

Multiculturalism in Hispanic society

(in relation to any Spanish speaking country or countries)

Spanish	English meaning
<i>La inmigración</i>	<i>Immigration</i>
• Los beneficios y los aspectos negativos	
• La inmigración en el mundo hispánico	
• Los indocumentados – problemas	
<i>El racismo</i>	<i>Racism</i>
• Las actitudes racistas y xenófobas	
• Las medidas contra el racismo	
• La legislación anti-racista	
<i>La convivencia</i>	<i>Integration</i>
• La convivencia de culturas	
• La educación	
• Las religiones	

Aspects of political life in the Hispanic world

(in relation to any Spanish speaking country or countries)

Spanish	English meaning
<i>Jóvenes de hoy, ciudadanos del mañana</i>	<i>Today's youth, tomorrow's citizens</i>
• <i>Los jóvenes y su actitud hacia la política: activismo o apatía</i>	
• <i>El paro entre los jóvenes</i>	
• <i>Su sociedad ideal</i>	
<i>Monarquías y dictaduras</i>	<i>Monarchies and dictatorships</i>
• <i>La dictadura de Franco</i>	
• <i>La evolución de la monarquía en España</i>	
• <i>Dictadores latinoamericanos</i>	
<i>Movimientos populares</i>	<i>Popular movements</i>
• <i>La efectividad de las manifestaciones y las huelgas</i>	
• <i>El poder de los sindicatos</i>	
• <i>Ejemplos de protestas sociales (e.g. El 15-M, las Madres de la Plaza de Mayo, etc.)</i>	

Immersion

Choose at least three of the following activities to get used to being immersed in the language.

Películas:

Watch a Spanish film (suggestions below)

- Volver (Pedro Almodóvar)
- Todo sobre mi madre (Pedro Almodóvar)
- ¡Ay Carmela! (Carlos Saura)
- Mar adentro (Alejandro Amenábar)
- The Motorcycle Diaries (Walter Salles)
- Ocho Apellidos Vascos (Emilio Martínez-Lázaro)
- El Laberinto del Fauno (Guillermo del Toro)
- María llena eres de gracia (Joshua Marston)
- Abel (Diego Luna)
- Las 13 Rosas (Emilio Martínez-Lázaro)

You could maybe write a review or a “ficha informativa” of the films

Netflix:

Watch a Spanish-language series (suggestions below – some contain bad language, adult scenes!)

- Las Chicas del Cable
- Gran Hotel
- Siempre Bruja
- La Casa de Papel
- Elite (!)
- Velvet
- La Catedral del Mar
- La víctima número ocho
- Mar de plástico

Useful websites

Familiarise yourself with some useful Spanish websites. I recommend to visit them frequently so that you can keep up to date with current affairs.

www.rtve.es

www.ver-taal.com

<https://mfl.jimdo.com/resources/spanish/>

<http://www.spanishdict.com/>

<http://languagesresources.co.uk/SpanishA2Topics.html>

<https://www.languagesonline.org.uk/Hotpotatoes/spanishindex.html#Grammar>

<https://www.languagesonline.org.uk/Hotpotatoes/spanishindex.html#Vocabulary>

<https://www.languagesonline.org.uk/Hotpotatoes/spanishindex.html#AS>

<http://www.espanish.org.uk/>

<https://www.bbc.com/mundo>

<https://www.20minutos.es/>

<https://elpais.com/>

www.dailymotion.com/es

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAL4AMMMXKxHDu3FqZV6CbQ?fbclid=IwAR1p4cRRZo9uW9CwBdfjaF3jWF-zuJNRYSO4w6K8AP8WlfA6AINSKpHVVHwQ>

<https://radiolingua.com/coffeebreakspanish/>

https://gb.ivoox.com/en/podcast-podcast-aprender-espanol-learn-spanish-podcast_sq_f1383122_1.html

http://recursosdidacticos.es/textos/listado_audiolecturas.php

<https://www.profedelee.es/categoria/actividad/podcast/>

<https://lang-8.com/>

<http://www.trentu.ca/academic/modernlanguages/spanish/masarriba/>

<https://eledeeli.wordpress.com/2015/07/26/paginas-webs-para-practicar-espanol/>

<https://www.hoyhablamos.com/category/podcasts-aprender-espanol/>

<https://superespanol.com/podcasts-para-aprender-espanol/>

<https://www.spanishpodcast.net/listado-episodios/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VMDU8QaSKdk>

<https://www.lengalia.com/es/aprender-espanol-gratis/podcasts.html>

<https://www.hellotalk.com/>

<https://www.memrise.com/>

Sign up to 'X'

Sign up to Twitter for authentic text that you can quickly flick through. They will help you pick up the language even when lazily browsing twitter. Some ideas are:

@Spain - The official Twitter for tourism in Spain

@LaFraseDelDia_ - Más que palabras. A Spanish site which tweets inspirational sayings for each day.

@spanishlanguage – Official Twitter account for Transparent Language Spanish. Learn the language with free resources, social media, and research-based software that works. Tweets expressions, phrases, words and articles in Spanish.

@spanishaddicts – El español de la calle (typical spoken spanish). Esto no son simples traducciones literales, es mucho más que eso. Spanish phrases, vocab, articles and more.

@spanishxxx2 – Free Spanish Sentences Vocabulary Pronunciation Grammar Tests. Tweets vocab, articles, and quizzes.

@muyinteresante – Revista de ciencia, historia, tecnología, salud, psicología, innovación y curiosidades. A Spanish news organisation that tweets in Spanish only. Great for practicing your reading skills.

Follow *Pictoline* on social media

Join *MFL Clips with Subtitles* on Facebook

Join Quizlet and practice GCSE vocab

Música:

Listen to the radio in Spanish – listen online.

<http://www.los40.com/> is the website for the Spanish top 40.

<http://www.rtve.es/radio/radio3/>

<http://www.cadenadigital.com/>

<http://www.discomusicradio.com/>

Libros:

Try reading a (short) book in Spanish. You might want to start with something you've read in English before (Harry Potter etc) or try a bilingual book with parallel texts in both languages. Magazines are also good; choose things that are interesting to you. Take a look on www.Amazon.es or

https://www.amazon.co.uk/s?k=parallel+text+spanish&ref=nb_sb_noss_1

TOP TIP: Don't look up every word you are not sure of when reading an article/ book

Yep... you read that right. When you are reading articles etc, try not to look up every word as it will take you forever. Skim and scan the text to get the gist. Remember to use the context or the article, cognates and common sense to figure out what the article is saying. Pick out a couple of words that you like the look of, that you feel may be real hurdles to getting the idea of the text, look them up carefully and add them to your vocab booklet. The aim at this stage is to get the gist of the article, not be able to translate it completely. Translation is a whole different ball game and you will learn it soon enough.

You will be surprised how much more enjoyable reading will be if you really pay attention to this tip.

A-Level example translation

Complete the translation to the best of your ability. Try to do this without help.

How family life in Spain has changed

Read this text for background information:

Spain has been a progressive country in terms of legalising same sex marriage. New laws have allowed gay couples to have the same rights as heterosexual married couples. Same sex marriage is now an integral part of Spanish society and the fact that Spain is now more secular than ever means more and more people are choosing to have civil weddings rather than get married in a church. Young people go to church less than before and its role and importance in society is diminishing. Nonetheless, in all regions of Spain, lots of people still declare themselves as Catholic and still prefer to get married with a religious ceremony in a church. Just because the political situation is secular doesn't mean that all citizens have changed their religious beliefs. Spain still remains, above all, a country that respects the Catholic faith.

Translate this text into English:

La triste realidad en España es que las parejas se separan cada vez más. La tradición de los dichos "matrimonios para toda la vida" es del pasado. Cuando una pareja no funciona y hay una ruptura, la convivencia se hace imposible y lo más conveniente es divorciarse y hacerlo de la mejor y de la forma más rápida posible. La Ley del Divorcio se aprobó en España en 1981. Hasta el año 2005, el modelo de divorcio se consideraba como un último recurso para esas parejas que se hubieran separado y llevado un largo período de tiempo separados. Antes, se exigían al menos 2 años de separación antes de poder comenzar el proceso legal del divorcio. A partir del año 2005, con una reforma importante, la Ley del Divorcio pretende reflejar el valor de la libertad en el matrimonio y el Divorcio Express permite que los cónyuges no tengan que exponer ningún motivo para la ruptura, como antes, ya que es suficiente decir que quieren separarse. Con el Divorcio Express, dentro de tres meses se puede presentar todos los documentos, terminar los trámites y conseguir la anulación del matrimonio.

Investigation

Choose a personal area of interest related to Spain or a Spanish-speaking country and prepare a short presentation (3-5 mins) of what you have found. This can include photos, an ICT presentation etc. Examples might be a festival, person (current or historical), landmark etc.

Examples:

- El flamenco
- La gastronomía española
- El reggaetón
- El botellón
- El turismo en España
- Frida Kahlo
- Che Guevara
- Fidel Castro
- La inmigración en las Islas Canarias
- El narcotráfico en Colombia
- Los gitanos de Andalucía
- Pueblos indígenas (Bolivia y Guatemala)
- Barcelona (Cataluña)

Knowing your grammar

Complete this self-assessment of grammatical terms in Spanish.

	DON'T KNOW	NEED TO LEARN	QUITE CONFIDENT	FULLY CONFIDENT
Nouns: gender, singular and plural forms				
Articles: definite (el, la...), indefinite (un, una)				
Adjectives: agreements (fem, pl...)				
Position/word order				
comparative and superlative (más, menos, el más.)				
comparative and superlative irregular (mejor...)				
indefinite (<i>cada, algunos, algunas</i>)				
possessive (mi ti...)				
interrogative (<i>¿qué?, ¿cuál?, ¿cuáles?...</i>)				
Adverbs: comparative and superlative				
interrogative (<i>¿cómo? ¿cuándo?</i>)				
Quantifiers/intensifiers (<i>muy, bastante...</i>)				
Pronouns: Subject (yo, tú...)				
object: direct and indirect (lo, las, les...)				
position and order (te veo)				
reflexive (me, te...)				
relative (<i>que,</i>)				
relative: <i>lo que, la que</i> (R)				
object: direct and indirect				
indefinite (alguien)				
possessive (<i>el mío, la mía...</i>) (R)				
interrogative (<i>¿Quién? ¿quiénes?</i>)				
interrogative (<i>¿qué?</i>) (R)				

Verbs: modes of address (<i>tú, vosotros, usted</i>)				
verbs + infinitive				
verbs + infinitive + preposition				
Verbs + - me gusta/me interesa etc				
Verbs + de (acabo de)				
negatives (no, nunca, jamás...)				
Present (regular)				
Present (irregular)				
Perfect				
Perfect with reflexives				
Imperfect				
Near Future (voy a + infinitive)				
Future				
Conditional				
Future perfect (habrá hecho...) (R)				
Conditional perfect (habría salido...) (R)				
Pluperfect (había llegado..)				
Present participle (comiendo...)				
Subjunctive mood (how to form it)				
Subjunctive mood (which expressions trigger it?)				

I hope this guide helps you to keep up with your Spanish. It is very important that you do 20 to 30 minutes every day so you don't forget your Spanish. Vocabulary and grammar are key to success at A-level. Make sure you are confident with GCSE grammar and vocabulary.