

Preparing to study A Level Spanish at Ecclesbourne



Course overview

We will study the themes and sub-themes below in relation to Spanish-speaking countries. Material will be taken from a range of sources, including material from online media.

Aspects of Hispanic society

Modern and traditional values (Los valores tradicionales y modernos)

- Los cambios en la familia
- Actitudes hacia el matrimonio/el divorcio
- La influencia de la Iglesia Católica

Cyberspace (El ciberespacio)

- La influencia de internet
- Las redes sociales: beneficios y peligros
- Los móviles inteligentes en nuestra sociedad

Equal rights (La igualdad de los sexos)

- La mujer en el mercado laboral
- El machismo y el feminismo
- Los derechos de los gays y las personas transgénero

Artistic culture in the Hispanic world

Modern day idols (La influencia de los ídolos)

- Cantantes y músicos
- Estrellas de televisión y cine
- Modelos

Spanish regional identity (La identidad regional en España)

- Tradiciones y costumbres
- La gastronomía
- Las lenguas

Cultural heritage (El patrimonio cultural)

- Sitios turísticos y civilizaciones prehispánicas: Machu Picchu, la Alhambra
- Arte y arquitectura
- El patrimonio musical y su diversidad

Multiculturalism in Spanish Society

Immigration (La inmigración)

- Los beneficios y los aspectos negativo
- La inmigración en el mundo hispánico
- Los indocumentados – problemas

Racismo (el racismo)

- Las actitudes racistas y xenófobas
- Las medidas contra el racismo
- La legislación anti-racista

Integration (La convivencia)

- La convivencia de culturas
- La educación
- Las religiones

Aspects of political life in the Hispanic World

Today's youth, tomorrow's citizens (Jóvenes de hoy, ciudadanos del mañana)

- Los jóvenes y su actitud hacia la política : activismo o apatía
- El paro entre los jóvenes
- Su sociedad ideal

Monarchies and dictatorships (Monarquías y dictaduras)

- La dictadura de Franco
- La evolución de la monarquía en España
- Dictadores latinoamericanos

Popular movements (Movimientos populares)

- La efectividad de las manifestaciones y las huelgas
- El poder de los sindicatos
- Ejemplos de protestas sociales (eg El 15-M, las Madres de la Plaza de Mayo, ...)

- Literary texts and films

At A Level we will study one film and one literary work.

Film: Ocho Apellidos Vascos, directed by Emilio Martínez-Lázaro (2014).

Literature: La casa de Bernarda Alba, Federico García Lorca



The A Level Exam

Paper 1: Listening, reading and writing

What's assessed

Aspects of Hispanic society
Artistic culture in the Hispanic world
Multiculturalism in Hispanic society
Aspects of political life in Hispanic society
Grammar

How it's assessed

Written exam: 2 hours 30 minutes
100 marks 50% of A Level

Questions

- Listening and responding to spoken passages from a range of contexts and sources covering different registers and adapted as necessary. Material will include complex factual and abstract content and questions will target main points, gist and detail. Studio recordings will be used and students will have individual control of the recording.
 - All questions are in Spanish, to be answered with non-verbal responses or in Spanish (30 marks).
 - Reading and responding to a variety of texts written for different purposes, drawn from a range of authentic sources and adapted as necessary. Material will include complex factual and abstract content and questions will target main points, gist and detail.
 - All questions are in Spanish, to be answered with non-verbal responses or in Spanish (50 marks).
 - Translation into English; a passage of minimum 100 words (10 marks).
 - Translation into Spanish; a passage of minimum 100 words (10 marks).
- No access to a dictionary during the assessment.

Paper 2: Writing

What's assessed

The film, Ocho apellidos vascos
The play, La casa de Bernarda Alba
Grammar

How it's assessed

Written exam: 2 hours
80 marks
20% of AS questions

Questions

- One question in Spanish on a set text from a choice of two questions and one question in Spanish on a set film from a choice of two questions.
 - All questions will require a critical appreciation of the concepts and issues covered in the work and a critical and analytical response to features such as the form and the technique of presentation, as appropriate to the work studied (eg the effect of narrative voice in a prose text or camera work in a film).
- No access to texts or films during the assessment.
No access to a dictionary during the assessment.
Students are advised to write approximately 300 words per essay.

Paper 3: Speaking

What's assessed

What's assessed

- Individual research project
- One of four themes ie Aspects of Hispanic society or Artistic culture in the Hispanic world or Multiculturalism in Hispanic society or Aspects of political life in Hispanic society

How it's assessed

Speaking exam: 21-23 minutes

60 marks

30% of A Level questions

Discussion of a sub-theme with the discussion based on a stimulus card (5-6 minutes) minutes on each). The student studies the card for 5 minutes at the start of the test, (25 marks).

Presentation (2 minutes) and discussion ((-10 minutes) of individual research project (35 minutes)

No access to a dictionary during the assessment or during the preparation time.

Students may take the assessment only once before certification.

Assessments will be conducted by the centre.

The present tense of regular verbs

comprar - to buy	aprender - to learn	recibir - to receive
c	a	r
c	a	r
c	a	r
c	a	r
c	a	r
c	a	r

Irregular verbs in the present tense

Infinitive	1st person singular	Meaning
caber	quepo	I fall
caer		
dar		
estar		
hacer		
poner		
saber		
salir		
traer		
valer		
ver		

Infinitive	1st person singular	Meaning
componer	compongo	I compose
deshacer		
disponer		
distraer		
proponer		
rehacer		
reponer		
suponer		

Infinitive	1st person singular	Meaning
agradecer	agradezco	I thank
aparecer		
complacer		
crecer		
establecer		
merecer		
ofrecer		
padecer		
permanecer		
pertenecer		
reconocer		

The present tense of verbs with stem changes

cerrar - to close	querer - to wish/want
c c c c c c	q q q q q q
contar - to tell	volver - to return
c c c c c c	v v v v v v
preferir - to prefer	dormir - to sleep
p p p p p p	d d d d d d

pedir - to ask for	incluir - to include
p p p p p p	i i i i i i

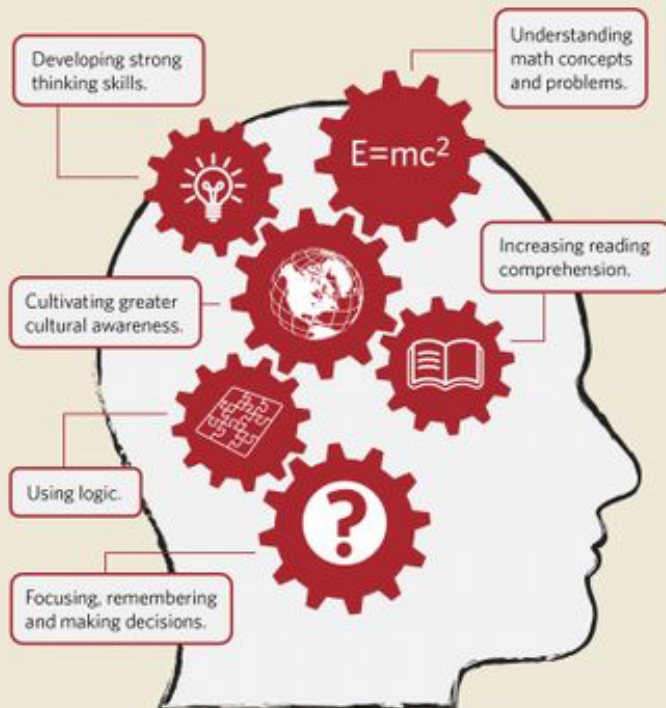
Complete the following table for the following stem changing verbs.

Infinitive	I	we	they
comenzar	comienza	comenzamos	comienzan
despertar			
defender			
pensar			
perder			
acostar			
aprobar			
volar			
doler			
poder			
resolver			
advertir			
referir			
reírse			
seguir			
dormir			
preferir			
atribuir			
contribuir			
distribuir			

Benefits of a Bilingual Brain

Splash language immersion programs provide a unique and powerful opportunity to strengthen children's highest cognitive brain potentials through deliberate literacy development in two languages and authentic exposure to rich language experiences.

Research shows that **bilingual people** have an easier time with these key brain functions:



Mental Health

A multilingual brain is quicker, nimbler and more resistant to Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia.



Academic Performance

Students in dual language programs consistently outperform monolingual peers on state-mandated tests, regardless of demographic.



Preparation for the Future

Bilingual adults have several advantages over monolingual adults, including higher average salaries and greater career opportunities.

Language in the Brain

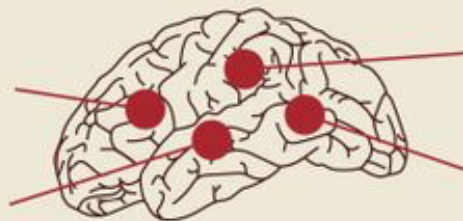
Research also shows that the brains of bilingual people are more developed in areas that organize and process speech.

Wernicke's Area

Language sounds are processed in this area.

Auditory Cortex

Auditory stimuli is received and forwarded to Wernicke's Area.



Motor Cortex

This area controls the lips and mouth in actual speech.

Broca's Area

The brain organizes language for active speech in this area.



For more info on Splash language immersion programs, visit us online at learn.vifprogram.com/languageimmersion

Sources: Zalasko and Antunes, 2000; Kessler and Quinn, 1980; Bialystok and Majumder, as cited in Ayaroka and Kasprzak, 2011; Castro, et al., 2011
For more info, visit www.vifprogram.com

ser

simpático sincero divertido trabajador creativo apasionado generoso aventurero idealista feliz alegre fantasioso optimista inquieto rebelde realista ingenioso

amable carinoso responsable ser inteligente bueno atractivo benevolente despistado detallista tierno romántico tímido honesto extrovertido

estar

satisfecho interesado dispuesto agradecido acostumbrado enamorado contento orgulloso de buen humor emocionado preparado vivo disponible ocupado



Useful websites

News and current affairs

www.20minutos.es

https://www.ted.com/playlists/518/ted_talks_en_español

www.newsinslowspanish.com – beginner, intermediate and advanced sections available

Language learning

www.audiria.com

www.conjuguemos.com

<https://personal.colby.edu/~bknelson/SLC/>

