

Examiners' Report/ Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2010

ELC

ELC Spanish (8928)

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Paper 1 - Entry Level Certificate in Spanish

I would like to begin by thanking centres who have continued to use this qualification for their students and to welcome new centres who coped well with the delivery and administration of the qualification. The course continues to offer candidates plenty of opportunities to succeed in their study of Spanish at Entry Level.

I think it would be useful to outline again the requirements for each of the different levels:

Level 140 assessment tasks + 1 coursework task.

Level 250 assessment tasks (20 to be at level 2 or 3) + 2 coursework tasks.

Level 350 assessment tasks (20 to be at level 3) + 3 coursework tasks.

There should be at least 7 tasks completed in each of the skill areas of Listening, Reading, Speaking and Writing.

This year awards were claimed at all 3 levels, with many candidates successful at level 3.

The use of ICT for coursework production is very encouraging and there were some excellent examples produced and presented for moderation. Some coursework tasks submitted consisted of extended writing tasks, which were of an excellent standard. It was also pleasing to see that some centres were submitting speaking coursework.

Some administrative issues came to light during the moderation period:

Date for submission

Please ensure that the samples of student work reach the moderator by the specified date. Any late submissions affect the moderation process and could lead to a delay in candidates receiving their results.

OPTEMS

Centres should write the number 1, 2 or 3 (according to the level claimed) in the blank space alongside each candidate's name and the appropriate circle, 1, 2 or 3 should also be shaded. Please note that only the yellow copies of the OPTEMS should

be forwarded to the moderator. The top copies should be sent to Edexcel at address given.

Record Sheet

This is a vital document and should be checked carefully prior to submitting centre marks. Some centres are still using an out of date record sheet that does not have a column indicating the level of each task. This is a useful check for centres and the moderator to ensure that a candidate has completed enough tasks in each skill to claim an award at a particular level. It is also important to tick against each task that has been successfully completed.

Task Evidence

It is important that all tasks that appear on the record sheet are actually submitted for moderation and that they have been marked using the current mark scheme. Could centres also please ensure that candidates' responses are all annotated clearly by some method e.g. tick and cross.

Speaking recordings

Some cassette tapes submitted were of very poor recording quality. It is important that the candidate's name and centre number is given at the beginning of the tasks and also that each task is identified (e.g. - B3). Each candidate should provide recorded evidence of having completed three speaking tasks. If sending a composite tape/CD for moderation, please send only the recordings of the candidates requested in the sample. Please note that it is a requirement of the assessment process that recorded evidence is provided for each candidate in the sample. If other media is used for recording speaking evidence, please ensure that all tracks are clearly labelled with candidate and task details.

Coursework

Please remember that to claim level 1, one piece of coursework must be submitted, 2 pieces for level 2 and 3 pieces for level 3. A correctly completed cover sheet must accompany the coursework. It is now a QCA requirement that candidates sign to authenticate their work. Please can centres ensure that the current documents are used in future submissions.

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