

Examiners' Report/ Principal Examiner Feedback

June 2011

ELC Spanish (8928) Paper 1

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Alternatively, you can contact our Languages Advisor directly by sending an email to Alistair Drewery on
LanguagesSubjectAdvisor@EdexcelExperts.co.uk.

You can also telephone 0844 576 0035 to speak to a member of our subject advisor team.

(If you are calling from outside the UK please dial + 44 1204 770 696 and state that you would like to speak to the Languages subject specialist).

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Publications Code UG027460

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Paper 1 - Entry Level Certificate in Spanish

I would like to welcome new centres who coped very 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 1** 40 assessment tasks + 1 coursework task.
- Level 2** 50 assessment tasks (20 to be at level 2 or 3) + 2 coursework tasks.
- Level 3** 50 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 majority of centres are presenting very well organised portfolios of work which assists the moderation process enormously.

Some administrative issues came to light during the moderation period, which I think are worth mentioning here.

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 the address given.

Record Sheet – This is a vital document and should be checked carefully prior to submitting centre marks. 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 requirement that candidates sign to authenticate their work. Please can centres ensure that the current documents are used in future submissions.

Grade Boundaries

The modern foreign languages specifications share a common design, but the assessments in different languages are not identical. Grade boundaries at unit level reflect these differences in assessments, ensuring that candidate outcomes across these specifications are comparable at specification level.

Grade boundaries for this, and all other papers, can be found on the website on this link: <http://www.edexcel.com/iwantto/Pages/grade-boundaries.aspx>

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