



ASSESSMENT and
QUALIFICATIONS
ALLIANCE

Mark scheme

June 2003

GCSE

Spanish B (Modular)

3692

Module 4: Writing tests

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WRITING TESTS – FOUNDATION AND HIGHER TIERS

PART ONE

1. Principles of marking

- All marking is to be done in accordance with the published Criteria for Assessment.
- The stress is on effective communication. Credit should be given for language successfully conveying the target message without ambiguity.
- There is no need to count the words used to answer each question. The sole criterion is completion of the tasks set.

2. Mechanics of Marking

- All part marks awarded as indicated in the marking schemes must be clearly shown on the candidate scripts. Carefully check marks which may need multiplying and / or dividing to arrive at any weighted totals.

3. MARK ALLOCATION

Foundation	Communication	Quality of Language	Total
Question 1a	2		2
Questions 1b & 1c	4		4
Question 2	8	12	20
Total	14	12	26

Higher	Communication	Quality of Language	Total
Question 1	8	18	
Question 2	8	Awarded globally across both questions.	
Total	16	18	34

3. Foundation Tier Question One

This question will be assessed for Communication only. The marks are allocated in the following way:

Question 1a (List Question):

Marks	Degree of Communication
1	1 - 2 words correct, without ambiguity.
2	3 - 4 words correct, without ambiguity.

Maximum mark - 2

Questions 1b and 1c:

Each task has a total of 2 marks. The Part 2 Mark Scheme each year will outline in detail how those communication marks should be divided and awarded.

4. Question Two

This question is marked out of 8 for Communication and 12 for Quality of Language.

- The assessment of Communication depends upon recognising an attempt to write something about the task.
- You should not take into account the quality of the language used, unless it interferes so much that communication would not take place.

Marks	Degree of Communication	Explanation
0	Nothing of merit: fails to communicate OR occasional words are recognisable within sentences but no complete messages are communicated.	
1-2	Communicates a little basic information (eg simple facts).	Some brief, simple facts are communicated in relation to one or two of the tasks set.
3-4	Some basic information is conveyed; occasional additional details conveyed (eg description, simple opinion).	Some longer descriptions or simple facts conveyed in relation to several of the tasks set.
5-6	Communicates clearly quite a lot of relevant information, including personal opinions; regularly goes beyond a basic response to give more detailed information relating to descriptions and accounts.	Some extended description in more than one of the tasks set. Simple facts conveyed in relation to all of the tasks set.
7-8	Communicates a lot of relevant information; candidate can narrate events, give full descriptions and can express and justify ideas and points of view.	Full descriptions in relation to all of tasks set.

5. Quality of Language

- Marks will be awarded out of 12 for each of Range/Complexity and Accuracy. The resulting total mark out of 24 is divided by 2 to give a total mark out of 12 for Quality of Language.
- If a mark is awarded for Communication this will inevitably lead to the award of a mark for Range/Complexity and for Accuracy.

Marks for Quality of Language are awarded according to the criteria below.

Quality of Language		
Mark	Range & Complexity	Accuracy
0	Very little effective vocabulary. There are occasional recognisable words but they make little coherent sense.	There is little, if any, evidence of understanding of the most basic linguistic structures.
1-2	The vocabulary and structures used are simple, often repetitive, limited in range and may contain many cognates.	There is only limited understanding of the most basic linguistic structures and most sentences contain major errors.
3-4	Vocabulary is appropriate to the basic needs of the task. Structures are simple, often repetitive and are rarely linked.	Most sentences contain errors, many of a major nature, and verb forms are rarely accurate.
5-6	Vocabulary and structures are appropriate to the task with a little attempt at variety and there is some successful attempt to link structures together.	There are some major errors and frequent minor ones. Attempts at verb forms and tense formations are often unsuccessful.
7-8	There is some variety in the use of vocabulary and some successful attempts at a variety of structures including attempts at longer sentences using appropriate linking words. Some personal opinions are successfully expressed. There are successful attempts at using more than one time frame.	There are a number of minor errors and a few major ones, but the piece is more accurate than inaccurate. Verb forms and tense formations are not always correct, but the intended meaning is clearly recognisable.
9-10	There is a wider range of vocabulary and structure which communicate descriptions and opinions with some precision. Longer sentences, including the use of subordinate clauses are used more regularly and with increasing success.	Inaccuracies are mainly of a minor nature although some major errors may occur when complex structures are attempted. Verb forms and tense formations are usually correct.
11-12	A wide range of vocabulary and structures appropriate to the topic is effectively used. Longer, more complex sentences are handled with confidence producing a fluent piece of coherent language.	There are hardly any major and a few minor errors even in more complex structures. The overall impression is of accuracy and verb forms and tense formations are secure.

In each mark band, the higher of the two marks is awarded if there is strong evidence of the criteria in that band. If the evidence is more limited, the lower mark is awarded.

Maximum Communication Mark	Maximum Range & Complexity Mark	Maximum Accuracy Mark
0	0	0
2	6	6
4	8	8
6	10	10
8	12	12

The prescribed tasks in Question Two at Foundation Tier and Question One at Higher Tier offer an opportunity for the candidate to write in three time frames. Successful use of these opportunities will give the candidate an opportunity to gain access to the higher quality mark bands. Items of communication containing obviously incorrect / ambiguous time frames / tenses will not score for Communication.

- To score 5 marks for Accuracy there must be some attempt to refer to different time frames.
- To score 7 marks the references to different time frames must be clear.
- To score 9 marks verbs and time frames must be generally accurate.

The maximum mark for the Foundation Tier paper is 26.

HIGHER TIER

Both questions are assessed for Communication using the same criteria as at Foundation Tier.

- The assessment of Communication depends upon recognising an attempt to write something about the task.
- You should not take into account the quality of the language used, unless it interferes so much that communication would not take place.
- Further details of how to award the marks for Communication will be given in the Part 2 Mark Scheme.

Marks	Degree of Communication	Explanation
0	Nothing of merit: fails to communicate OR occasional words are recognisable within sentences but no complete messages are communicated.	
1-2	Communicates a little basic information (eg simple facts).	Some brief, simple facts are communicated in relation to one or two of the tasks set.
3-4	Some basic information is conveyed; occasional additional details conveyed (eg description, simple opinion).	Some longer descriptions or simple facts conveyed in relation to several of the tasks set.
5-6	Communicates clearly quite a lot of relevant information, including personal opinions; regularly goes beyond a basic response to give more detailed information relating to descriptions and accounts.	Some extended description in more than one of the tasks set. Simple facts conveyed in relation to all of the tasks set.
7-8	Communicates a lot of relevant information; candidate can narrate events, give full descriptions and can express and justify ideas and points of view.	Full descriptions in relation to all of tasks set.

At Higher Tier the whole script is marked globally for Quality of Language. Each script is marked out of 12 marks for Range and Complexity and 12 marks for Accuracy according to the table below. These two marks are then totalled, multiplied by 3 and divided by 4 to give a Quality of Language mark of 18.

Quality of Language		
Mark	Range & Complexity	Accuracy
0	Very little effective vocabulary. There are occasional recognisable words but they make little coherent sense.	There is little, if any, evidence of understanding of the most basic linguistic structures.
1-2	The vocabulary and structures used are simple, often repetitive, limited in range and may contain many cognates.	There is only limited understanding of the most basic linguistic structures and most sentences contain major errors.
3-4	Vocabulary is appropriate to the basic needs of the task. Structures are simple, often repetitive and are rarely linked.	Most sentences contain errors, many of a major nature, and verb forms are rarely accurate.
5-6	Vocabulary and structures are appropriate to the task with a little attempt at variety and there is some successful attempt to link structures together.	There are some major errors and frequent minor ones. Attempts at verb forms and tense formations are often unsuccessful.
7-8	There is some variety in the use of vocabulary and some successful attempts at a variety of structures including attempts at longer sentences using appropriate linking words. Some personal opinions are successfully expressed. There are successful attempts at using more than one time frame.	There are a number of minor errors and a few major ones, but the piece is more accurate than inaccurate. Verb forms and tense formations are not always correct, but the intended meaning is clearly recognisable.
9-10	There is a wider range of vocabulary and structure which communicate descriptions and opinions with some precision. Longer sentences, including the use of subordinate clauses are used more regularly and with increasing success.	Inaccuracies are mainly of a minor nature although some major errors may occur when complex structures are attempted. Verb forms and tense formations are usually correct.
11-12	A wide range of vocabulary and structures appropriate to the topic is effectively used. Longer, more complex sentences are handled with confidence producing a fluent piece of coherent language.	There are hardly any major and a few minor errors even in more complex structures. The overall impression is of accuracy and verb forms and tense formations are secure.

The following restrictions apply in the award of marks for Range and Complexity and Accuracy:

Maximum Communication Mark	Maximum Range & Complexity Mark	Maximum Accuracy Mark
0	0	0
4	6	6
8	8	8
12	10	10
16	12	12

- To score 5 marks for Accuracy there must be some attempt to refer to different time frames.
- To score 7 marks the references to different time frames must be clear.
- To score 9 marks verbs and time frames must be generally accurate.

The maximum mark for the Higher Tier paper is 34.

Writing – PART TWO

Foundation Tier

Question 1

Part A

(2 marks)

This question is assessed for Communication only.

In 1 (a) accept all **understandable** words for holiday items. Tick each word you accept.

In 1 (b) & (c) tick each task that is successfully communicated.

Marks	Degree of Communication
0	No understandable words
1	1 – 2 understandable words
2	3 – 4 understandable words

(a)	<p>This question is assessed for Communication only. Indicate each accepted item with a tick in the body of the task. Put the total marks award for 1(a) (out of 2) in the right hand margin.</p> <p>Only consider the first four items written by the candidate.</p> <p><u>A list of four things your friend should pack</u></p> <p>Accept:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • anything that would be transportable in a suitcase or in hand luggage, single vocabulary items are acceptable – no need for definite or indefinite articles or quantities. • wrongly spelt words that would be recognisable to a sympathetic non-English speaking native speaker. <p>Eg. Accept vocals:</p> <p><i>camiseta / chaqueta / chaceta / jersey / pantalones / pantelones / plantalones / falda / falada</i></p> <p><i>dinero / euro(s) / pesetas / libras / monedero / monidero</i></p> <p><i>fotas / debujos / cámara</i></p> <p><i>juguete</i></p> <p><i>bolí(grafo)</i></p> <p><i>ropa(s) / zapatos / zapatados / zapatillas / sombrero / sombrero</i></p> <p><i>billete</i></p> <p><i>cremo / sol crema / medicina</i></p> <p><i>toalla</i></p> <p><i>gaffas / gafas (de) (sol) / bolso.</i></p> <p><i>teléfono / discos (compactos)</i></p> <p><i>balón</i></p> <p><i>chocolate / comida(s)</i></p> <p><i>video juegos / un libros / mapa / folleto(s) / diccionario</i></p> <p><i>guitarra / música</i></p> <p><i>cerveza / alcohol / bebidas</i></p> <p><i>objetos hygenicos / cigarellas</i></p>
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Mark Scheme

	<p>Reject:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • anything that would not fit into this category • anything in a language other than Spanish <p>Eg. Reject vocals:</p> <p><i>piscina costuma / deporte de zapatos (if zapatos already used) / jacketa / jaqueta(s) / pantetones</i> <i>bookas</i> <i>televisión / camera / camro</i> <i>coche</i> <i>pelo de brusha</i> <i>billente / entradas / ticketas / tickqute</i> <i>creame</i> <i>cabeza / ojos / sol ojos</i> <i>telephone</i> <i>fútbol</i> <i>comes / sopa</i> <i>beber / bebí / bebimos</i> <i>photos / photographia</i> <i>telephono</i></p> <p>Words containing <i>th</i> for <i>z</i> <i>ch</i> for <i>c</i> <i>ph</i> for <i>f</i></p>	
2	1	0
Three or four words communicated	One or two words communicated	No words communicated

Parts B & C**(4 marks)**

This question is assessed for Communication only.

In Parts B and C tick each task that is successfully communicated.

1(b)	<p>Indicate each accepted item with a tick in the body of the task at the point where you have decided to accept the item. Put the total marks awarded for 1 (b) (out of 2) in the right hand margin.</p> <p><u>The candidate's age and birthday</u></p> <p>Accept:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • numbers in figures + años • wrong possessives • answers which are not in complete sentences, because of the nature of the task set • infinitives qualified by personal / possessive / pronoun / adjective in first person <p>Reject:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • answers where BOTH wrong person AND wrong tense appear • answers where no Spanish at all is written • verbs in wrong person • verbs in wrong time frame 	
2	1	0
Both tasks communicated	One task communicated	Neither task communicated

Spanish examples (a selection for guidance)**1 (b) (i)**

ACCEPT	REJECT
	<i>Cuánto</i> for <i>tengo</i>
	15 (on its own)
Soy diece sies años	Numbers we are certain cannot be correct e.g. doce, veinte
<i>Tongo</i> for <i>tengo</i>	<i>Tiene / Tienes</i> for <i>tengo</i>
<i>Quince / dieciséis</i> (años) 15 años / 16 años	Diethyseis
<i>yo / me / mi tener</i> + age	<i>Yo 16</i>

1 (b) (ii)

ACCEPT	REJECT
Just the month e.g. (es en) noviembre	Impossible numbers e.g. cincuenta
Omission of verb e.g. mi cumpleaños el 15 de agosto	
Me cumpleaños...	
(15 de) octubre	15/10/86
Spellings of months with one letter incorrect.	Months – <i>er</i> for <i>re</i>

Mark Scheme

1 (c)	<p>Indicate each accepted item with a tick in the body of the task at the point where you have decided to accept the item. Put the total marks awarded for 1 (c) (out of 2) in the right hand margin. Then add up the total marks for Question 1 (out of 6) and write this in the oval provided.</p> <p><u>One leisure activity and one thing he/she normally eats</u></p> <p>Accept:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • verbs in the infinitive (for 1(c) only) • wrong object pronouns • answers which are not in complete sentences, because of the nature of the task set <p>Reject:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • verbs in wrong person • verbs in wrong time frame • 	
2	1	0
Both tasks communicated	One task communicated	Neither task communicated

Spanish examples (a selection for guidance)

1 (c) (i)

ACCEPT	REJECT
Ignore and bracket additional material wherever it appears in 1(c)(i) unless it contradicts or invalidates the answer e.g. <i>(El bmx y moto cross y) salir con amigos;</i> <i>(En mi tiempo libre es) me gusta jugar fútbol</i>	Answers in which additional material contradicts or invalidates the answer
	Answers where no activity is suggested e.g. <i>Me gusta con mis amigos</i>
Infinitives in the place of finite verbs	
Finite verbs after <i>me gusta</i>	Me gustaría
<i>Hago</i> or <i>juego</i> instead of <i>me gusta</i>	Hace / juega etc
<i>Jugar</i> / for <i>jugar</i>	
Voy el/al parque	
(Veo le) televisión, fútbol (1 word answers)	
Mi gusto... mi gusta	Te gusta
No tengo tiempo libre	Tiene tiempo libre
(Tocar) la guitarra	guitare
Comprar con amigos	
(Ir al/) el cine	
musicá / (escuchar) música	El eschcha
Piscina, polideportiro etc (accept place without ir for activity)	Ir a la piscine (French)
Yo comprar	Yo + wrong verbs ending e.g. yo compra

1 (c) (ii)

ACCEPT	REJECT
Ignore <u>and bracket</u> additional material wherever it appears in 1(c)(ii) unless it contradicts or invalidates the answer	Answers in which additional material contradicts or invalidates the answer
Normalmente coma... / comes...	
en salada	<i>Salada / salado</i>
	<i>verdes</i>
Yo (etc) + infinitive	Infinitive on its own
Yo / me / mi comer	

Question 2

**(8 marks – Communication)
(12 marks – Quality of Language)**

As per the descriptors in the Part 1 Mark Scheme a mark between 0 and 8 will be awarded for Degree of Communication and a further 12 marks for Quality of Language.

There are 3 tasks. Any relevant information on these tasks will be rewarded.

The point at which the task has been successfully completed will be indicated within the body of the text, by a tick with e.g. A1, A2, A3 in the left hand margin.

Additional notes

- Infinitives (even if preceded by a subject/object/pronoun/possessive) invalidate the communication of an item.
- Any item including non-Spanish words cannot communicate.
- Two elements may be combined in one sentence with one verb
- Me / mi gustó only communicates if the accent is included

Task A	(A1) Describe your school – (A2) facilities & buildings - and (A3) give your opinion of it	
	Accept	Reject
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any complete sentences or parts of complete sentences which fulfil the requirements of the task. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ambiguous statements because of wrong person or tense of verb, even if qualified by correct subject/possessive pronoun or time reference. e.g. <i>Tu instituto / me gustó</i> • Names + location for description

Task B	(B1) Mention last week’s activity; (B2) which you liked best; (B3) say why	
	Accept	Reject
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any complete sentences or parts of complete sentences which fulfil the requirements of the task. • Past time scale may be accomplished by use of preterite, perfect or imperfect tense. (B1 and B2) • Accept present tense for B3 – reason, but must relate to activity already mentioned. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ambiguous statements because of wrong person or tense of verb, even if qualified by correct subject/possessive pronoun or time reference. e.g. <i>juego al fútbol / me encanta / me gusta / la semana pasada voy...</i> Reject present tense for B2 • Activities not liked.

Task C	(C1) Say what you are going to do in September, (C2) expect details; (C3) give reason(s)	
	Accept	Reject
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any complete sentences or parts of complete sentences which fulfil the requirements of the task. Future time scale as either immediate or simple future or conditional. e.g. <i>en septiembre trabajaré en.....</i> <i>septiembre voy a trabajar.....</i> Reasons in the present tense e.g. <i>porque me gusta trabajar al aire libre</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ambiguous statements because of wrong person or tense of verb, even if qualified by correct subject/possessive pronoun or time reference. e.g. <i>En septiembre trabajo.....</i> List of adjectives (count as 1 point).

The following restrictions apply in the award of marks for Range & Complexity and Accuracy.

Communication Mark	Max. Range & Complexity mark	Max. Accuracy mark
0	0	0
1 – 2	6	6
3 – 4	8	8
5 – 6	10	10
7 – 8	12	12

Marks are given out of 12 for Range and Complexity and out of 12 for Accuracy. The resulting mark out of 24 is divided by 2 to give a total mark out of 12 for Quality of Language. (Half marks are rounded up).

Mark Scheme**Higher Tier****Question 1****(8 marks – Communication)**

As per the descriptors in the Part 1 Mark Scheme a mark between 0 and 8 will be awarded for Degree of Communication.

There are 3 tasks. Any relevant information on these tasks will be rewarded.

The point at which the task has been successfully completed will be indicated within the body of the text, by a tick with e.g. A1, A2, A3 in the left hand margin.

Task A	(A1) Describe your school and (A2) facilities and buildings and (A3) give your opinion of it / them	
	Accept	Reject
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any complete sentences or parts of complete sentences which fulfil the requirements of the task. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ambiguous statements because of wrong person or tense of verb, even if qualified by correct subject/possessive pronoun or time reference. e.g. <i>Tu instituto / me gustó</i> Names + location for description.

Task B	(B1) Mention last week's activity; (B2) which you liked best; (B3) say why	
	Accept	Reject
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any complete sentences or parts of complete sentences which fulfil the requirements of the task. Past time scale may be accomplished by use of preterite, perfect or imperfect tense. Accept present tense for B3 - reason, but must relate to activity already mentioned 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ambiguous statements because of wrong person or tense of verb, even if qualified by correct subject/possessive pronoun or time reference. e.g. <i>juego al fútbol / me gusta / la semana pasada voy....</i> Reject present tense for B2 Activities not liked.

Task C	(C1) Say what you are going to do in September, (C2) expect details; (C3) give reason(s)	
	Accept	Reject
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any complete sentences or parts of complete sentences which fulfil the requirements of the task. Future time scale as either immediate or simple future. e.g. <i>en septiembre trabajaré en... ..</i> <i>septiembre voy a trabajar.....</i> Reasons in the present tense e.g. <i>porque me gusta trabajar al aire libre</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ambiguous statements because of wrong person or tense of verb, even if qualified by correct subject/possessive pronoun or time reference. e.g. <i>En septiembre trabajo.....</i>

Question 2**(8 marks – Communication)**

There are 3 tasks. Any relevant information on these tasks will be rewarded.

The point at which the task has been successfully completed will be indicated within the body of the text.

As per the descriptors in the Part 1 Mark Scheme a mark of between 0 and 8 will be awarded for Degree of Communication.

Task A	(A1) A description of the favourite city; (A2) reason(s) why like it	
	Accept	Reject
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any complete sentences or parts of complete sentences which fulfil the requirements of the task. Ignore wrong facts about the city 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Descriptions which are not about cities or large towns – reject villages and countryside. <p>(NFP if candidates refer to villages/countryside in subsequent tasks).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Names and location
Task B	(B1) Description of last visit there; (B2) reaction to it; (B3) reason(s) for this	
	Accept	Reject
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any complete sentences or parts of complete sentences which fulfil the requirements of the task. Past time scale may be accomplished by use of preterite, perfect or imperfect tense. Reactions and reasons in the present tense provided they clearly refer to a recent visit in the past. 	
Task C	(C1) Description of favourite city in 2050. (C2) Suggested improvement(s). (C3) Reason(s) for this/these.	
	Accept	Reject
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any complete sentences or parts of complete sentences which fulfil the requirements of the task. Future time scale as either immediate future (voy a...), simple future or conditional. For C1 answers must be in future time scale For C2 and C3 statements can be in the present or future time frames, using such expressions as <i>la ciudad necesita...</i>, <i>no hay...</i>, <i>deben construir...</i>, followed by reasons also in the present tense. Accept description of a different city from that mentioned in Task A. 	

Quality of Language

Questions 1 & 2

18 marks

As per the descriptors in the Part 1 Mark Scheme a mark of between 0-18 will be awarded globally over both questions for Quality of Language.

The following restrictions apply in the award of marks for Range & Complexity and Accuracy:

Communication Mark	Max. Range & Complexity mark	Max. Accuracy mark
0	0	0
1 - 4	6	6
5 - 8	8	8
9 - 12	10	10
13 - 16	12	12

Marks are given out of 12 for Range and Complexity and out of 12 for Accuracy and these are added together. The resulting mark out of 24 is divided by 2 to give a total mark out of 12 for Quality of Language. (Half marks are rounded up).