

Examiners' Report/  
Principal Examiner Feedback

June 2011

GCSE Spanish (5SP01) Paper 1F

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June 2011

Publications Code UG028788

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## **Unit 1: Listening and Understanding in Spanish (5SP01)**

### **Foundation Tier**

#### **General Comments**

The Unit 1 Listening and Understanding paper produced candidate performances across the full mark range. In general the questions were accessible to all candidates. Nevertheless, where responses given required candidates to provide more specific detail about what they had heard, these proved to be sufficiently challenging.

#### **Question 1**

Question 1 required candidates to identify specific references to information about Enrique and his family by choosing one of three options relating to specific questions asked. This was well done. The lexical item that proved problematic was 1d tienda.

#### **Question 2**

Question 2 was a matching task. The majority of candidates were able to correctly identify all items although autocar (ii), coche (iii) and andando (iv) were difficult for some.

#### **Question 3**

Question 3 required candidates to listen to two short dialogues in which some friends were discussing their holidays and to select items referred to in the conversations from a number of listed possibilities. Most candidates scored 2 of the 4 marks available for this question. Difficulties mainly encountered were the matching of the heard albergue juvenil and baratísimo with the given prompts accommodation and cost. With Javier's questions some candidates had a problem matching piscina climatizada with facilities.

#### **Question 4**

Question 4 was a multiple choice task based on Julia's job. This question was done well by most candidates, although 4(ii) no es fácil and 4(iv) trabajaba en el teatro caused problems for some.

#### **Question 5**

Question 5 was a matching task with pictures. Candidates were required to match what the people wanted to buy with the places indicated in the pictures. Whilst candidates were generally able to respond correctly, the following lexical items caused problems for some: 5(i) ropa nueva and 5(ii) un anillo o un monedero.

#### **Question 6**

Question 6 was another version of a matching task and was well done by most candidates. Items which caused difficulty were Juan (iii) lectura and Luis (iv) natación.

#### **Question 7**

This question required candidates to be able to recognise opinions and details from a longer extract of dialogue which contained familiar language in a less familiar context. It was based on a dialogue in which Marcela was having an interview about going to college. The question proved to be quite challenging for some candidates. Answers (b) and (f) were more correctly achieved than items (e) and (g). In (e) maybe candidates frequently failed to link química with ciencias and in (g) candidates were frequently confused by no tengo experiencia de trabajo.

### **Question 8**

This question was similar in type to question 5. Candidates had to listen to some young people discussing their problems and match them against a given number of headings. The question was very well done by the majority of candidates at both Foundation and Higher tiers. The main problem proved to lie in Isabel (ii) me gustaría trabajar a tiempo parcial which some candidates did not equate with an opportunity to earn money.

### **Question 9**

This question was similar in type to question 4. It was a multiple choice task relating to going out. The question was done well although parts (ii) and (iii) were answered more successfully than parts (i) and (iv). Some candidates struggled with sábado in (i) and the time las ocho y diez in (iv).

### **Question 10**

Question 10 required the candidates to identify the correct place in Zaragoza and the reason for going there heard as in two short dialogues. They were required to indicate their comprehension by writing single word answers in English in a text box. The majority of candidates answered in English although some answers were answered in Spanish and thus failed to score the allocated marks. In Question 10a part (i) failure to understand iglesia led to frequent incorrect and random answers such as cinema, glacier, beach, England and theatre. In part (ii) antigua was commonly interpreted as interesting, to pray and fun. In Question 10b part (i) centro de la ciudad was most commonly thought to be the shopping centre hence in part (ii) candidates made frequent references to shopping, to eat, it's cheap and the weather.

A small number of queries were received about the duration of the recording. Edexcel will be offering guidance for this on the front cover of the examination paper and on the recording to provide more clarity.

## **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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Order Code UG028788 June 2011

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