

Examiners' Report/
Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2014

Pearson Edexcel GCSE
in Spanish (5SP03/3F)
Paper 3F: Reading and Understanding
in Spanish

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GCSE Spanish
Unit 3 Reading and Understanding in Spanish
Examiner Report

General comments

Most candidates demonstrated a clear understanding of the rubrics and the general format of the examination. It was evident that they had been well prepared and had practiced in preparation for the examination.

Both papers, Foundation and Higher, proved to be accessible to all candidates. Entry selections made by centres were appropriate. Very few candidates left significant gaps in their answers or failed to complete the paper at either level.

Very good candidates scored highly throughout each paper set. They demonstrated a clear and precise understanding of the subtleties expected at the higher level questions, in terms of content vocabulary, grammar and level of inference.

Crossover questions generally discriminated well and were completed more accurately by candidates who entered at the higher level.

Spelling

The spelling of some English words proved problematic for some candidates. However, examiners were sympathetic in their responses and where spelling was phonically recognisable versions of required words were credited positively.

Conclusion

The outcome of this unit was pleasing. The majority of centres had prepared their candidates thoroughly so they had a good understanding of the requirements of this unit and responded well to its demands.

Question 1

This question was generally well done by most candidates.

Question 2

The majority of the candidates scored the 4 marks available for this question.

Question 3

The majority of candidates scored 2/3 of the 4 marks available. The most likely errors were:

3(i) linking 'Parrilla Internacional' – Esta semana cordero y patatas asadas. Vinos

españoles y franceses' with 'looking for a restaurant'

3(iii) linking 'Tienda de regalos' – Hay abanicos, muñecas y pósters' with 'needs to buy a present for his friend'

Question 4

This question proved to be challenging and a good discriminator. The majority of candidates scored 2 of the 4 marks available. The most common errors were:

- 4(ii) linking 'los precios eran muy altos' with 'had to spend a lot of money'
- 4(iv) linking 'para nuestras próximas vacaciones ya hemos encontrado y reservado otro lugar perfecto' with 'will not go back to the same place'

Question 5

The majority of candidates scored 3/4 marks for this question. The most common error was:

- 5(iii) his favourite hobby (recognizing 'le encanta correr')

Question 6

This question was generally well done by most candidates and gave the true F and G candidates an opportunity to score good marks.

Question 7

This question proved to be a good discriminator. The majority of candidates scored 2 of the 4 marks available. The most likely errors were:

- 7(iii) 'has been on a training course'
- 7(iv) 'already knows the people that work there'

Question 8

More correct than incorrect. The most common error was:

- 8(iii) linking 'Para tener una buena salud física y mental una dieta equilibrada es muy importante' with 'Healthy diet'

Question 9

Most candidates scored 3 of the 4 marks available for this question.

Question 10

Candidates found this question challenging. The majority of candidates scored 2 of the 4 marks available. There was some evidence of guesswork where candidates failing to interpret the correct answer:

- 10(b) 'hire boats' simply offered answers such as 'go for walks, play in the swings'
- 10(d) 'visit the church' simply offered answers such as 'to visit the town centre, because it is hot in the summer'.

Grade Boundaries

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>

