

Examiners' Report/ Principal Examiner Feedback

June 2011

GCSE Spanish (5SP01) Paper 1H

Edexcel is one of the leading examining and awarding bodies in the UK and throughout the world. We provide a wide range of qualifications including academic, vocational, occupational and specific programmes for employers.

Through a network of UK and overseas offices, Edexcel's centres receive the support they need to help them deliver their education and training programmes to learners.

For further information, please call our GCE line on 0844 576 0025, our GCSE team on 0844 576 0027, or visit our website at www.edexcel.com.

If you have any subject specific questions about the content of this Examiners' Report that require the help of a subject specialist, you may find our **Ask The Expert** email service helpful.

Ask The Expert can be accessed online at the following link:
<http://www.edexcel.com/Aboutus/contact-us/>

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.

June 2011

Publications Code UG028790

All the material in this publication is copyright

© Edexcel Ltd 2011

Listening and Understanding in Spanish (5SP01)

Higher Tier

General Comments

Higher Tier candidates scored well overall on the questions common to both tiers although some questions proved to be less accessible than expected.

Question 1

Question 1 was a multiple choice task based on Julia's job. This question was done well by most candidates, although 1(ii) no es fácil and 1(iv) trabajaba en el teatro caused problems for some.

Question 2

Question 2 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 3

Question 3 required candidates to listen to some young people talking about their life at home. They had to select four possible answers from a series of multiple choice options. The majority of candidates did well although Yo me aburro mucho in (iv) proved difficult for some.

Question 4

In this question candidates were required to listen to two longer extracts of dialogue about problems with shopping and select the correct statements from the choices given. The first extract proved to be quite accessible as over half of the candidates scored 3 out of the 4 available marks. The second extract was more difficult for some candidates who failed to recognise un reloj digital que me iban a regalar mis padres para Navidad in (b). Equally, guay proved to be problematic in (c) as did lo compramos por un precio bastante económico in (e). Finally in (h) me devolvieron todo lo que había pagado was challenging to many.

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 6

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 7

This question required candidates to recognize opinions and details from a fairly long extract about young people discussing the environment. They had to select the correct option from the choices listed. The question was done well by the majority of candidates in parts (i) and (ii) in particular. In part (iii) some candidates did not equate la gente tira papeles y basura al suelo and ensucian las calles with litter whilst in part (iv) encender hogueras and causar incendios proved to be problematic for a small number of candidates. Whilst overall candidate performance on this question was good, Edexcel apologises for the inclusion of the environment as a tested item.

Question 8

Candidates were required to answer specific questions in English based on Claudia's discussion at the police station as a result of being mugged in the street. The question proved to be challenging for many candidates. Incorrect answers were given due to the lack of recognition of specific lexical items and to a certain amount of guesswork which led to some very imaginative and creative responses.

In (a) the answers given were largely successful although some candidates confused anteayer with yesterday. Cajero automático proved problematic to some candidates in (b).

In (c) some candidates failed to recognize tobillo and mentioned other parts of the body such as arm, leg or knee. Many candidates did not read the question properly and made references to the thief as opposed to Claudia for example: he ran away, he was too fast, he climbed a tree. The words tropecé and me caí did not cause a problem in general although la acera was widely thought to be the street.

In (d) a considerable number of candidates failed to recognize calvo or bigote. There was a wide variety of incorrect answers in e (i), many did not recognize pendientes de plata and this led to answers such as pendants, plates, keys and photos. Some candidates were confused with the material the earrings were made of which invalidated their answer. Again, some candidates did not read the question properly and simply wrote money as their answer.

The second part of (e) contained a mixture of correct and nearly correct answers as many candidates understood that the present was "for" her grandmother instead of "from". They also misunderstood abuela and wrote grandfather, grandparents, aunty and husband. Some totally misunderstood and thought that Claudia was upset as she had just bought the plates or that the plates were special to her. In future series the timing all pre

pausing, particularly in the longer items will be adjusted to ensure no undue burden is placed on memory of what has been heard.

It was pleasing to note that relatively few candidates answered in Spanish thus failing to score the allocated marks. In a minority of cases poor presentation rendered answers indecipherable. Candidates are reminded of writing their answers clearly.

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>

Further copies of this publication are available from
Edexcel Publications, Adamsway, Mansfield, Notts, NG18 4FN

Telephone 01623 467467

Fax 01623 450481

Email publication.orders@edexcel.com

Order Code UG028790 June 2011

For more information on Edexcel qualifications, please visit
www.edexcel.com/quals

Pearson Education Limited. Registered company number 872828
with its registered office at Edinburgh Gate, Harlow, Essex CM20 2JE

Ofqual



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government

