

Examiners' Report/
Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2013

GCSE Spanish (5SP03)
Paper 3F Reading and Understanding in
Spanish

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**GCSE Spanish
Paper 3 Foundation Tier
Reading and Understanding in Spanish
Examiner Report**

General Comments

Most students 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 Foundation and Higher papers proved to be accessible to all students. Entry selections made by centres were appropriate. Very few students left significant gaps in their answers or failed to complete the paper at either level. Very good students 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 students who entered at the higher level.

Spelling

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

Grammar

In Q7(Foundation Tier) / Q6(Higher Tier) students were required to read an email and to respond indicating the appropriate time zone of each event. Some students struggled with recognising verbs in different tenses.

Conclusion

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

FOUNDATION TIER

Q1

This question was generally well done by most students. Some students failed to recognize 'bufanda' and 'corbata'.

Q2

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

Q3

The majority of students scored 2 or 3 of the 4 marks available. The most likely errors were Q3(i) 'job centre' and Q3(iv) 'travel agents'.

Some students lost marks because they ticked 5 boxes instead of 4. In these cases one mark is deducted for every additional box crossed in excess of 4.

Q4

The majority of students scored 2 of the 4 marks available. The most common errors were:

Q4(iii) linking 'tener éxito' with 'successful'

Q4(iv) this question proved to be challenging and a good discriminator. Only very few scored the one mark available.

Q5

The majority of students scored 2 or 3 marks of the 4 available.

The most common errors were:

Q5(i) confusing 'sixty' and 'seventy'

Q5(iv) recognising 'gratis'

Q6

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

Q7

This question proved to be a good discriminator as students had to demonstrate their ability to identify verb tenses other than the present. Weaker students frequently struggled to recognise the different tenses used in the text. There was too some evidence of random guesswork.

Q8

More correct than incorrect. Most common errors were:

Q8(i) the church

Q8(ii) the left

Q9

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

Q10

Students performed well in this question scoring 3 of the 4 marks available.

Q10(a) there was evidence of some guesswork in this question.
Random incorrect answers were 'family/fun/weekend/good' holiday.

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>

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