

# Examiners' Report Winter 2008

IGCSE

IGCSE Spanish (4440)

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.org.uk](http://www.edexcel.org.uk).

Winter 2008

All the material in this publication is copyright  
© Edexcel Ltd 2008



## Contents

1.	4440/01 Examiner's Report	6
2.	4440/02 Examiner's Report	7
3.	4440/03 Examiner's Report	8
4.	Statistics	9



## IGCSE Spanish 4440/01 Examiner's Report

There were 94 entries for this examination series and overall candidates performed very well. Candidates had clearly been well prepared for the examination and responded well to both the task types as well as the topic content. Comments on individual sections and questions on the paper are noted below.

### **Questions 1-5**

These questions targeted Grades G and F. All candidates entered answered with confidence and achieved the full marks available.

### **Question 6**

This question targeted Grades E and D. Candidates generally scored very well indeed. They wrote the correct information in the correct spaces in the grid. All answers given were in Spanish as required. Occasional wrong answers were in 6 (i) where candidates misheard or misinterpreted the time *a las dos de la tarde* which following *ayer* negated this response. In 6(iv) many candidates correctly identified all 4 items in the bag although only two were required for a mark.

### **Question 7**

This question targeted Grade C and was answered with varying degrees of success. The following links between the transcript and the questions proved problematic to some. *Visitar otros países* linked to *el destino* and *tomar el sol/hace frío* linked to *el tiempo*

### **Question 8**

This question targeted Grade A. Most candidates answered all the questions well and in the correct language. Weaker candidates struggled throughout. There was evidence of some guess work. It is to candidates' credit however, that they had a go, rather than leaving answers blank.

### **Question 9**

This question targeted Grade B. Occasionally the wrong number of crosses was noted in the grid. Candidates need to be reminded to check the number of marks allocated to questions of this type.

### **Question 10**

This question targeted Grade A\* and proved to be a suitable challenge. Most problematic were: 10(ii) wrongly assuming that since Conchi referred to poor classroom discipline, she also thought the teacher shouted too much which was Pablo's suggestion. In 10(iii) candidates often missed Pablo's comment "me da igual" and therefore answered this question incorrectly.

## **IGCSE Spanish 4440/02 Examiner's Report**

Candidates performed very well on the paper overall, the vast majority of them having first language skills in Spanish.

Rubrics and attention to conventions were followed appropriately. Candidates were able to complete the paper in the time allocated and did not omit sections or leave questions unfinished.

### **Section A**

#### **Part One**

Questions 1, 2, 3.

Candidates generally scored full marks on these sections; there was no evident pattern of error in the very few mistakes which did arise.

### **Section A**

#### **Part Two**

Question 4

Candidates found no problems at all with this question and answered clearly and often imaginatively. Candidates tended to write more words than the amount suggested, but as the quality of language was so high this did not adversely affect their marks. Candidates who were not native speakers answered adequately at this level.

### **Section B**

#### **Part One**

Question 5

As in Section A, although the text was more difficult here, candidates had no problems and scored very highly overall.

### **Section B**

#### **Part Two**

Question 6

Most candidates performed well on this question. Some gave a general summary of the text in the 'Ahora' part of (a) but no questions posed unfeasible problems of comprehension. All other questions were addressed well in terms of use of language and idiomatic expression.

### **Section C**

Question 7

Candidates performed very well in the essay writing part of the paper and produced fluent, imaginative and interesting work which met the criteria and made good use of appropriate idioms. Some candidates wrote more than was suggested for the total number of words but, as in Section A, this was not generally detrimental to their marks due to their overall competency.

Option (c) was the most popular choice, followed by option (a); very few candidates chose (b). A small minority of candidates lost marks by not addressing *all* the points asked for in the question prompts.

## **IGCSE Spanish 4440/03 Examiner's Report**

Only one centre entered the November series examination with a total of two candidates. The orals were conducted strictly in accordance with the Specification requirements and the candidates had been well trained to cope with the demands of the exam; they were sympathetically conducted and kept carefully to time. The quality of the sound recording was good and all the paperwork was correctly presented.



## Statistics

### IGCSE Spanish 4440

Grade	Max Mark	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Lowest mark for award of subject grade (all candidates)	100	85	76	67	59	49	39	30	21
Lowest mark for award of grade for Paper 3, Speaking (optional)	60	51	45	39	33	26	19	13	7

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

Telephone 01623 467467  
Fax 01623 450481

Email [publications@linneydirect.com](mailto:publications@linneydirect.com)

Winter 2008

For more information on Edexcel qualifications, please visit [www.edexcel.org.uk/qualifications](http://www.edexcel.org.uk/qualifications)

Edexcel Limited. Registered in England and Wales no.4496750  
Registered Office: One90 High Holborn, London, WC1V 7BH