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| SUBJECT: Spanish | EXAM BOARD: AQA |
| Course Overview | The aim of the A-level Spanish course is to help students develop confident, effective communication skills in Spanish as well as a thorough understanding of the culture of countries and communities where it is spoken.  At A Level, the following **four themes** and sub-themes are studied:   * + **Aspects of Hispanic society**     - Modern and traditional values     - Cyberspace     - Equal rights   + **Multiculturalism in Hispanic society**     - Immigration     - Racism     - Integration   + **Artistic culture in the Hispanic world**     - Modern day idols     - Spanish regional identity     - Cultural heritage   + **Aspects of political life in the Hispanic world**     - Today’s youth, tomorrow’s citizens     - Monarchies and dictatorships     - Popular movements   Alongside these core themes, you will also study **both** **a text and film** in the Spanish language (*La casa de Bernarda Alba* and *Volver*)**.**  **Assessment:**  You will be assessed through three papers:  **Paper 1: Listening, Reading and Writing (50% of A Level) – 2 hours 30 minutes**  This is listening, reading and translation all in one paper. You will have to manage your own time so that all questions are answered in the given time. You will have control over your listening tracks and can listen to them as many times as you want. In both the listening and reading sections, there are questions which require you to summarise information you have heard or read in Spanish in no more than 90 words. All questions are in Spanish and require an answer in Spanish, unless otherwise stated.  In detail, this paper lasts 2 hours 30 minutes and is separated into three sections. Reference will be made to at least two Spanish-speaking countries other than Spain.  **Section A** – Listening and writing (30 marks)  You will respond to comprehension questions based on a variety of contexts and sources. Material will include complex factual and abstract content, and the questions will target the main points, the gist of the recording and detail  **Section B** – Reading and writing (50 marks)  A reading assessment based on a variety of text types and genres where students will have to respond to comprehension questions.  **Section C** – Translation (20 marks)  One translation task from Spanish into English, and one translation task from English into Spanish.  **Paper 2: Writing (20% of A Level) – 2 hours**  This exam has a total of 80 marks. For both section A and B, you will have a choice from two questions.  **Section A – Written response to literary texts studied (40 marks)**  **Section B – Written response to films (40 marks)**  **Paper 3: Speaking (30% of A Level) – 21-23 minutes**  The speaking exam is separated into two parts:  **Part 1 (5-6mins) Discussion of one theme (25 marks)**  Students discuss one sub-theme from the specification based on a stimulus card. You will have a choice of two cards at the start of the assessment. Each stimulus card has a small amount of information, as well as three questions that you will be asked. You are also likely to be asked follow-up questions to your answers to develop the discuss of the sub-theme. You **must** ask the teacher/examiner two questions at some stage in the discussion.  **Part 2 (2min presentation and 9-10min discussion) (35 marks)**  Part 2a (independent research presentation)  Students give a short presentation on a subject of their choice that they will have researched during the course. This must be related to a Spanish-speaking country / culture.  Part 2b (discussion of independent research)  Students answer questions on their presentation and then have a wider discussion on their research. |
| Useful websites | • <http://www.ver-taal.com> try the reportajes  • <http://rtve.es> Search for '4 minutos' within the site and then listen and try to pick out the main stories  • <http://www.audiria.com/> Listening practice with transcripts  • <http://www.laits.utexas.edu/spe/> Video listening practice with transcripts  • <http://web.mac.com/sanferminuk/Advanced_Level_Listening/Spanish/Spanish.html> Listening exercises with exercises in pdf format  • <http://zachary-jones.com/spanish/> Good blog with articles and exercises to accompany them, as well as songs and videos  • <http://www.spanishnewsbites.com/spanish_newsbites/advanced_level/> Excellent listening activities with blank fill exercise, transcript and translator tool  • <http://feeds.feedburner.com/SlowSpainPodcast> Excellent listening activities (with transcript available)  • <http://www.asisehace.net/?cat=4> Listening activities and podcasts  • <http://www.espanol-extra.co.uk/>  • <http://www.spanishrevision.co.uk/a_level/reading/reading_index.htm> Great reading exercises  • <http://www.spanishrevision.co.uk/a_level/listening/listening_index.htm> Lots of different types of listening exercises on good A level topics  • <http://www.spanishrevision.co.uk/a_level/graphics/index.htm> Illustrative graphics on a variety of A level topics  • <http://www.spanishrevision.co.uk/a_level/index.htm>  • http://www.freeetv.com/modules.php?name=Video\_Stream&page=watch&id=2211&d =2 Euronews in Spanish  • <http://www.spanish-only.com/> Word of the day can be helpful, particularly as it gives examples  • <http://oye.languageskills.co.uk/index.html> Different activities for different levels  • <http://www.colby.edu/personal/b/bknelson/SLC/> Grammar exercises  • <http://www.jimmyp.me.uk/page3.html> Excellent grammar notes  • <http://www.languagesresources.co.uk/> Resources for different levels, including reading comprehension practice, and literature notes and worksheets |
| Essential text books and reading list | TBC in September |
| Summer task | Get one very large ring binder with 18 dividers. Bring to school on the first Spanish lesson of the second week **labelled** as follows:   1. Los valores tradicionales y modernos 2. El ciberespacio 3. La igualdad de los sexos 4. La inmigración 5. El racismo 6. La convivencia 7. La influencia de los ídolos 8. La identidad regional en España 9. El patrimonio cultural 10. Jóvenes de hoy, ciudadanos del mañana 11. Monarquías y dictaduras 12. Movimientos populares 13. **Grammar** 14. **Vocabulary** 15. **Literary Text** 16. **Film** 17. **Research for speaking presentation** 18. **Speaking Card practice**   Get one smaller ring binder in which you will keep the work from the last 2 weeks’ lessons and any work that you have to hand in that week. After 2 weeks, all work is filed in the large ring binder at home. This will be checked by your teacher every half term.  **Grammar Revision Task to complete – this is not optional.**  Go to <http://www.languagesonline.org.uk/Hotpotatoes/Index.htm>  Complete the sections on:   1. The Present Tense 2. Present continuous Tense 3. The Perfect Tense 4. Preterite 5. The Imperfect 6. The Near / Immediate Future Tense 7. The Conditional 8. Adjectives and agreements   For each section:   1. Read the introduction notes thoroughly. 2. Complete the exercises for that section. 3. Check your answers and make sure that you understand what you did wrong. 4. Check that you can conjugate the following verbs (all persons) for each tense: **ser, haber, estar, tener, hacer, poder, decir, ir, ver, dar, saber, querer, llegar, pasar, deber, poner, parecer, quedar, creer, hablar**   **Introduction to the Independent Research Project**  Research four articles on any element of Spanish speaking culture you like – a famous person, a movement (art, fashion, music, film etc.), a Spanish TV show or film, a sports team or issue, a period in history, a Spanish novel… anything (as long as it’s based in Spain or Spanish speaking places).  Summarise the articles into English, and give a brief opinion as to their usefulness (and why). |
| Why take Spanish? | You will extend and develop your knowledge of the grammar and vocabulary of Spanish through reading and listening to authentic foreign language materials, ranging from magazines and video clips to films and novels, and you will study aspects of the contemporary society, cultural background and heritage of Spain which will enable you to develop your understanding of European and worldwide current affairs.  You will develop critical thinking skills around interesting and contemporary issues including LGBTQ rights, equality, race and immigration and a variety of other fascinating and current topics. |