

Woodbridge High School

Edexcel GCE A Level Spanish

Student Handbook 2019-21



Name _____ TG: _____



Frequently Asked Questions

What lessons will I have?

You will have 5 lessons per fortnight with Miss Zmirou and 4 per fortnight with Mr. Baker

What topics will I cover?

Theme 1: La evolución de la sociedad española - Theme 1 is set in the context of Spain only. This theme covers social issues and trends.

- El cambio en la estructura familiar La evolución de las actitudes hacia el matrimonio, las relaciones y las familias.
- El mundo laboral La vida laboral en España y las actitudes hacia el trabajo; las oportunidades de trabajo para los jóvenes; la igualdad de género.
- El impacto turístico en España El impacto económico; las oportunidades que ofrece el turismo; el impacto socioambiental.

Theme 2: La cultura política y artística en el mundo hispanohablante - Theme 2 is set in the context of Spanish-speaking countries and communities. This theme covers artistic culture (through music and festivals and traditions) and political and artistic culture (through media).

- La música Los cambios y las tendencias; el impacto de la música en la cultura contemporánea.
- Los medios de comunicación La televisión y las telenovelas: los medios de comunicación escritos y en internet; el impacto en la sociedad y la política.
- Los festivales y las tradiciones Los festivales, las fiestas, las costumbres y las tradiciones

Theme 3: La inmigración y la sociedad multicultural Española - Theme 3 is set in the context of Spain only. This theme covers social issues and trends.

- El impacto positivo de la inmigración en la sociedad Española Las aportaciones de los inmigrantes en la economía y la cultura.
- Enfrentando los desafíos de la inmigración y la integración en España Las medidas adoptadas por las comunidades locales; la marginación y el aislamiento desde el punto de vista de los inmigrantes.
- La reacción social y pública hacia la inmigración en España El enfoque político hacia la inmigración; la opinión pública.

Theme 4: La dictadura franquista y la transición a la democracia - Theme 4 is set in the context of Spain only. This theme covers political culture.

- La Guerra Civil y el ascenso de Franco (1936-1939) La Guerra Civil y el ascenso de Franco, los republicanos contra los nacionalistas; las divisiones en la sociedad.
- La dictadura franquista La vida cotidiana bajo la dictadura franquista: la opresión política, la censura, las divisiones en la sociedad.
- La transición de la dictadura a la democracia El papel del Rey Juan Carlos en la transición; el Gobierno de Suárez; el golpe de Estado de 1981.

What do I need for the lessons?

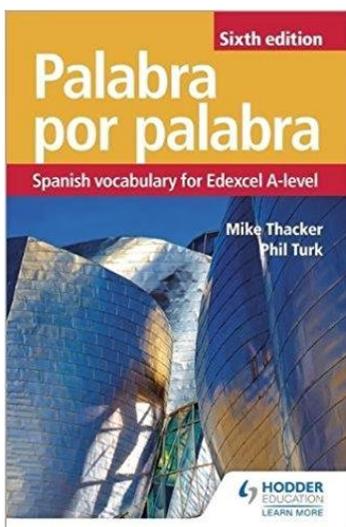
You will be given an assessment file, where all marked work should be kept along with a tracker. This needs to be brought in for all lessons. You will also need a folder with dividers to keep your class notes filed per themes and subthemes. You will be given an Edexcel text book which you should bring to every lesson.

From time to time we will dip into other course books and authentic material we have found in newspapers, magazines or on the internet. These will be given to you as appropriate.

You may also want to buy a large dictionary to use at home – we recommend the *Oxford Spanish Dictionary* (about £25). You should also have a small dictionary to use at school, or download the word reference app.

We also need to you to purchase ‘Palabra por Palabra’ (for Edexcel A-level **Sixth Edition**) to help with essay writing phrases as well as topic per topic A level vocabulary – you can buy it new on Amazon for £9.

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/Palabra-por-Sixth-Vocabulary-level/dp/1510434836>



What exams will I have?

There are three units which are taken at the end of year 13:

Paper 1 (40%) – Listening, Reading and Translation -2 hours. This involves listening (30 marks), reading comprehension (30 marks) and translation from Spanish into English (20 marks)

Paper 2 (30%) – Written response to works and Translation – 2 hours 40 minutes. This involves a translation from English into Spanish (20 marks) and 50 marks each for an essay about a film and a book that we will have studied together.

Paper 3 (30%) – Speaking – 21-23 minutes. This involves a discussion on a theme (based on a stimulus, 5 mins prep time is given), and a presentation and discussion on a topic you will have researched.

What will I do in lessons?

Lessons will be conducted mainly in Spanish, although some of the grammar lessons will be in English early on in the course. We will spend a lot of time learning and practising new grammar rules and getting to the bottom of some of the difficulties of Spanish grammar. In topic lessons, you will learn how to deal with longer texts, how to approach the different types of exam questions, and how to develop your ability to understand and respond to texts on a range of issues relevant to modern Spanish society and the wider Spanish speaking world. You will also use your language independently for home learning and preparation for class tasks.

How will I know how well I am doing?

You will have regular vocabulary and class tests and at the beginning you will have lots of grammar tests to check that you are learning the rules at home. You will have a formal assessment each half term. You will have several target setting sessions with your teachers over the year in which you will discuss your work and progress in detail. We will do a mock exam, based on the sections of the course that we have covered, at the end of year 12.

What should I do if I am having problems?

It is very important to stay positive. If you are finding something hard, you should ask your teacher for help during the lessons or stay behind and get them to explain again. When you are doing homework, make sure you are using a dictionary and your notes to help you. Keep track of the new vocabulary and learn new vocabulary each week – it is much easier to do this in small chunks as opposed to all in one go.

How is A-level different from GCSE?

At GCSE you studied a range of topics and were able to talk and write about issues relevant to you, using different tenses and grammatical structures. At A-level, the course is more challenging, but much more interesting! As you can see from the themes above, we will study a wide range of topics and issues relating to Spanish speaking countries and the wider world. We will use a lot more authentic materials – newspaper articles, videos, websites, to help us look in detail at these issues. In terms of grammar, you will be expected to know much more than at GCSE, and be confident using different tenses and structures independently. The more interested you are in the world around you, the easier it will be for you to talk about these things in Spanish. It is crucial that you watch or read the news in your spare time as well as think about and discuss current affairs.

In year 12 we will study a film in detail, and in year 13 we will study a book. This is the time when students really start to notice their progress, reading a book in Spanish is a big achievement. In preparation for speaking you will also have to research an area you are interested in from the themes above, in order to present and discuss for 10 minutes in the speaking assessment.

The A-level Spanish course is not easy but it is a great challenge and you will get a lot out of it. We are also here to support you and guide you through, see below for sources of help.

Specification Information

Awarding Body: Edexcel Specification Title: Level 3 Advanced GCE in Spanish

Specification Code: (9SP0)

The full specification is available online : <https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/spanish-2016.html#tab-1>

Home Learning Tasks

You have 9 hours per fortnight of lessons for A Level Spanish. We would expect you to undertake a further 9 hours private study per fortnight, either in your timetabled private study times or at home. These are examples of the types of task you will be set for home learning:

Vocabulary Learning – it is extremely important to keep up to date with this.

Grammar Learning and Exercises – especially at the beginning, there will be regular grammar tests. Home learning could be paper-based or online-based.

Independent Reading – this could be a comprehension exercise from the text book, an article or other authentic text, or reading the book that we decide to study in year 13.

Independent Writing - This could take a number of forms – an essay, summary, diary entry or presentation are just a few.

Research – Finding information on a general or specific question, preparing for a debate, and working on the Independent Research Project in year 13.

Reviewing your notes – It is always a good idea to read through your notes again after a lesson, and re-write or add to them where necessary.

Group work – There will be times where as a small group you will work together to produce a presentation or activity for the rest of the class.

Departmental Sanctions

You are expected to attend all of your lessons with your teachers. If your attendance falls below 95%, your parents will be informed and you risk being asked to leave the course.

When you miss a lesson it is your responsibility to catch up on the work missed and complete any HL that was set then. We would suggest making photocopies of a partner's note.

You must meet all deadlines set for home learning tasks and exam preparation. If you fail to do this, we will take appropriate steps, following the 6th form intervention policy.

If you feel that you might not be able to complete a piece of work by the deadline, you should seek help or advice before the due date.

Websites – Key Sources of Information

You should add to these as you go along so that you have a written record of websites used.

GENERAL WEBSITES

You will often use the internet to help you and as a reference source. We recommend the following websites which may be of use:

www.wordreference.com	Online language dictionary
www.languagesonline.org.uk	Interactive grammar exercises
www.conjugemos.com	Verb tables and tests to practise conjugation
www.memrise.com	memorising vocabulary website
http://www.elmundo.es/	News and articles in Spanish
https://elpais.com/	News and articles in Spanish
http://cinemania.elmundo.es/	online movie reviews in Spanish
http://www.rockdelux.com/	online music magazine in Spanish
http://www.eluniversal.com/	Venezuelan news
http://www.eluniversal.com.mx/	Mexican news
http://www.eluniversal.com.mx/cultura/musica	Latin American cultural mag (in Spanish)
https://soundsandcolours.com/	online Latin American cultural magazine (in English)

Films

We will study a film in depth in year 12, and films are a great way to improve your listening skills and cultural awareness. Here are a list of films you could investigate:

Diarios de motocicleta, dir. Walter Salles (2004) ; El laberinto del fauno, dir. Guillermo del Toro (2006)
La historia oficial, dir. Luis Puenzo (1985) ; La lengua de las mariposas, dir. José Luis Cuerda (1999) ;
La misma luna, dir. Patricia Riggen (2007) ; Las 13 rosas, dir. Emilio Martínez-Lázaro (2007)
Machuca, dir. Andrés Wood (2004) ; Mar adentro, dir. Alejandro Amenábar (2004)
Todo sobre mi madre, dir. Pedro Almodóvar (1999) ; Voces inocentes, dir. Luis Mandoki (2004)
Volver, dir. Pedro Almodóvar (2006) ; Maria llena eres de gracia , dir. Joshua Martson (2004)

Sources of Support

If you have a problem at home or in school with work for Spanish, you should try to solve the problem yourself in one of the following ways:

Problems with vocabulary, language or understanding difficult texts

Use a paper or online dictionary to look up key words. Try to work out a 'best guess' for each sentence. If this doesn't work, spend more time going through the text in detail.

Problems with listening exercises

Read the exercise carefully and note down all the words you know. Listen carefully to the recording and make sure you have noted any words you know. Look up words you don't know. Slow down the recording using Windows Media Player.

Grammar Problems

Don't forget to check everything carefully. Ask yourself what case or ending you need and why. Read up again in the grammar book. Use your tables of endings in this booklet. Check out grammar websites for help.

Vocabulary Learning

Make sure you eliminate all the words you already know. Make the process active – look, cover, write, check – make sure you draft and redraft lists of vocabulary to learn. Typing out the lists can also help.

There are dictionaries and grammar reference books in the library and also dictionaries in the private study area. Your teachers are here to help if they are free, EZ in M1.9 and OBR in M2.12

Key Tips for Successful Language Learning

Listening and Speaking -Pronunciation

Learning how to pronounce a foreign language like a native speaker is difficult but not impossible. The better your pronunciation, the better people will understand you and the easier you will find it to understand them.

- Before you start trying to speak a foreign language, spend some time tuning your ears to its sounds and rhythms. You can do this by listening to the language as much as possible via the radio, TV, films etc.
- Rather than just listening or watching at random, find out what programmes are on and choose one that sounds interesting. In this way you will have an idea of what the programme is about.
- Set yourself goals, for example when listening to the news try to work out the main points, names, dates and times.
- Even if you can't understand very much at all, try to identify word and sentence boundaries
- Don't try to listen to or watch too much in one go: if you're finding it a struggle, take a break and/or do something else.
- Listening to songs in the language is another way to improve your listening comprehension, especially if you have the lyrics written out so that you can follow them as you listen.

Learning vocabulary

- Associate the familiar with the unfamiliar - try to find word or phrases in English which sound like and if possible have a similar meaning to words in the language. Build mental images or draw pictures based on the connections.
- Testing and revision - to ensure the words stick in your memory, test yourself on them at regular intervals. If you learn some new words in the morning for example, check that you can still remember them later that day, the next day, a week later and a month later. If you find some words hard to recall, try thinking up different associations for them. You may need to try several different associations before you find one that works.
- Learn related words & phrases - when learning the word for hand, for example, try to learn related words, such as parts of the hand; actions of the hand; other parts of the body, and things you might wear on your hands. Also try to learn words with the same root and phrases which include the word hand.
- As you learn more words you will start to spot connections between words. The more words you learn the easier you will find it to guess the meanings of new words.
- Practice reading as much as possible - a great way to build up your vocabulary is to have a go at reading books, magazines, newspapers or comics written in the language. Ideally look for reading material covering topics you find interesting. When reading, try to guess the meanings of any words you don't know and then check them in a dictionary to see if your guesses were correct. You don't have to look up every unfamiliar word as long as you can get the gist of the text.

Los Deberes de verano

En septiembre, vamos a repasar toda la gramática importante del año 11 que necesitaremos para el bachillerato de español.

Durante tus vacaciones, tienes que completar actividades para preparar.

1) Ve una película en español y escribe una redacción de 200 palabras (historia, personajes, sus opiniones)

2) Debes dominar la gramática de los verbos regulares al presente / pretérito / imperfecto y futuro también – puedes repasar si necesitas con tu cuaderno de vocabulario de GCSE

Además tienes que completar todos los ejercicios de gramática encontrados abajo