

YEAR 12 SPANISH

ORGANISING YOUR FILE

A well organised file is the key to success at A Level. If you keep to these guidelines you will have no difficulty in keeping yourself prepared for lessons and keeping up with what is expected of you.

Please label your file dividers as follows:

1. **Course information**
2. **Los valores tradicionales y modernos**
 - Los cambios en la familia
 - Actitudes hacia el matrimonio y el divorcio
 - La influencia de la Iglesia Católica
3. **El ciberespacio**
 - La influencia de Internet
 - Los móviles inteligentes en nuestra sociedad
 - Las redes sociales: beneficios y peligros
4. **La igualdad de los sexos**
 - La mujer en el mercado laboral
 - El machismo y el feminismo
 - Los derechos de los gays y las personas transgénero
5. **La influencia de los ídolos**
 - Cantantes y músicos
 - Estrellas de televisión y cine
 - Modelos
6. **La identidad regional en España**
 - Tradiciones y costumbres
 - La gastronomía
 - Las lenguas
7. **El patrimonio cultural**
 - Sitios históricos y civilizaciones prehistóricas
 - Arte y arquitectura
 - El patrimonio musical y su diversidad
8. **Dossier de cine: EL LABERINTO DEL FAUNO**
9. **Dossier de literatura: LA CASA DE BERNARDA ALBA**
10. **Grammar**
11. **Speaking Exam Preparation**
12. **Reading, Listening and Writing Exam Preparation**

- ✓ When you are given handouts, please ensure that they are filed in the appropriate section of your folder. If you miss a lesson for any reason, it is your responsibility to get a copy of anything handed out.

- ✓ Use your private study time to develop your independent study skills (not just to complete homework!). Use online resources such as Kerboodle for explicit exam practice, or for more general information read Spanish newspapers or blogs.
 - My Kerboodle Log-in: _____
 - My Kerboodle Password: _____

EXAM TIPS

The exams:

- a. **Listening:** There is always one listening question where you write your answers in English and there will be 3-4 items requiring answers in Spanish, or an answer given by a number or letter.
- b. **Reading :** This section is made up of 3 or 4 items requiring answers in Spanish or an answer given by a number or a letter. There is also a **grammar** section, with ten sentences where you have to manipulate a given verb, noun or adjective correctly.
- c. **Writing :** You will have a choice of questions but you only need to answer **one**. You must write a minimum of **200 words**. Make sure you answer the question given, focus on using a wide variety of vocabulary, with good structures that make your work 'flow' nicely. Accuracy is also important so make sure that you leave enough time to check through your work at the end. Use your **imagination** & make sure you address the task. **Check verbs-** tense & person + endings, **check adjectival agreements** and remember you want to try to include a **variety of structures and tenses eg:**
 - 🇪🇸 en cuanto a; en lo que concierne a
 - 🇪🇸 Impersonal 'se' phrases, e.g. se dice que, se puede, se debería
 - 🇪🇸 Adverbs : probablemente
 - 🇪🇸 Negative, e.g. ningún, nadie, nunca
 - 🇪🇸 Seguir + gerundio
 - 🇪🇸 Advanced opinions: A mi modo de ver, no cabe duda de que

Check spellings and remember you are in control – it's your opportunity to shine and show the progress you've made since GCSE– if you know something is incorrect –do not use it!

You must try to keep to the approximate timings for each section or else you will find that you will run out of time!

WHAT CAN I DO TO REVISE?

- 🇪🇸 Revise key vocabulary from the topics covered throughout the year (see below) but it is also a good idea to look over GCSE vocabulary too.
- 🇪🇸 Look through previous Listening, Reading and Writing practice, especially past papers.
- 🇪🇸 Revise verbs, tenses and grammar points covered this year (see list below)
- 🇪🇸 Use useful revision sites (look at the sites listed at the end of this booklet)

GRAMMAR

- 🍷 Nouns
- 🍷 Quantifiers/Intensifiers
- 🍷 Adjectives
- 🍷 Comparisons
- 🍷 Possessives
- 🍷 Adverbs
- 🍷 Pronouns
- 🍷 Prepositions
(personal a, por and para)
- 🍷 Conjunctions
- 🍷 Negatives
- 🍷 Continuous tenses and gerunds
- 🍷 Subjunctive mood
- 🍷 'Ser' and 'Estar'
- 🍷 'Por' and 'Para'
- 🍷 Verbs – regular, irregular, reflexives, radical changing (in all tenses), preterit, perfect, future, conditional, imperfect, pluperfect and future perfect

ESSAY WRITING TIPS

Your essay should consist of 3 main sections:

1. The introduction

- a) Put the question in context. Why is it important? How about starting with an interesting fact or statistic?
- b) Then say what you are going to do in your essay – stick to the essay title!

2. The main body of the essay

Depending on the essay question, you may need to divide this section into an “arguments pro” part and “arguments cons” part. Remember, 2 or 3 arguments for each part is generally enough.

For each argument, remember, one idea per paragraph and for each paragraph:

1. What is my point?
2. Where is my evidence?
3. How does this answer the question?
4. How can I link this to the next point?

Keep your reader with you. You are taking them for a walk - don't let them go!

3. The conclusion

Sum up the main points you have made throughout the essay – DON'T introduce new ideas. Give your opinion if possible.

Finally

1. Do a **systematic error check** using the checklist below.
2. Does your language read above GCSE level? Can you bring more interest and complexity to your language?

Really useful writing tips

- Avoid phrases like *pienso que.../creo que....*. If you want to make clear you are expressing a personal opinion use: **en mi opinión, desde mi punto de vista** or **a mi modo de ver**; or a more sophisticated expression like: **estimo que...** or **considero que...** or even **tengo que admitir que...** or **quisiera añadir que...**
- Avoid phrases like *mucha gente piensa que*. If you want to express a commonly held view, say: **como se sabe, teniendo en cuenta(consideración) que, como es bien conocido por todos, considerando que**
- Do not overuse the word *problema*. Try **el tema (en cuestión)** (issue) or **el tópico** (topic) or **la polémica** (debate) or **el asunto** (matter)
- Use good sentence starters: **se puede notar que, no se puede negar que..., es obvio que..., lo primero que hace falta decir es que, no cabe duda de que....**
- Use linking phrases to start new paragraphs: **siendo eso así ..., dicho eso..., no se debe olvidar que ..., lo que demuestra que...**
- Try to include subjunctives
- Use rhetorical devices:

Rule of three – **la televisión es informativa, omnipresente , pero adictiva**

Contrast – **por un lado..., por otro lado.../por una parte...por otra parte...**

Interjections – **¡Qué horror! ¡Qué desastre!**

Rhetorical questions – **¿Quién puede dudar eso?**

Proverbs or sayings – **poner algo patas arriba, la mejor defensa es un ataque, más vale prevenir que luego lamentar, más vale tarde que nunca...**

Emotional appeal – **imagina si estuvieras desempleada, ponte en el lugar de...**

Imagery –

- Don't use *decir* – try **afirmar/declarar/pretender/comprobar**
- Don't use *ser/estar* – try **representar/constituir/encontrarse**
- Don't use *tener* – try **disponer de/poseer/ofrecer/ejercer**
- Don't use *causar* – try **provocar/acarrear/producir/llevar a**
- Do not overuse the phrase *hay*. Try **existe/se encuentra**
- Don't use *mucho/a(s)* – try **un buen número de/una cantidad importante de**
- Avoid weak and vague adjectives like *bueno/malo/fuerte/interesante/importante*. Try **favorable/dañino/persuasivo/fascinante/indispensable/prejudicial/beneficioso**

ESSAY TERMINOLOGY



★ INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

<p>Primeramente En primer lugar En segundo lugar Voy a hablar de/Me gustaría hablar /analizar/ Vamos a estudiar... El tema que he elegido es... La pregunta que me gustaría abordar es Lo que encuentro más interesante es.... Me gustaría examinar el tema de... Es necesario que nos preguntemos.... Vamos a considerar dos aspectos del problema.... Para clarificar el problema vamos a observar....</p> <p>Debemos considerar las ventajas y desventajas.... De todos es sabido....</p>	<p><i>First of all</i> <i>First(ly)</i> <i>Secondly</i> <i>I am going/ we are going to talk about/</i> <i>We are going to examine/ study</i> <i>The theme I chose to study is...</i> <i>The question I want to ask/ address is...</i> <i>What I find most interesting is...</i> <i>I would like to look into the topic of...</i> <i>It is necessary to ask ourselves whether...</i> <i>We have to consider two aspects of the problem</i> <i>In order to clarify the problem, we are going to</i> <i>observe...</i> <i>We have to weigh the pros and cons</i> <i>It is well known...</i></p>
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★ PERSONAL COMMENTS

<p>En mi opinión En lo que a mí me concierne Por mi parte En mi caso Desde mi punto de vista Pienso que Creo que Encuentro que Me parece que Estoy segura que Estoy convencido/a que Yo diría que Me inclino a creer que</p>	<p><i>In my opinion</i> <i>As far as I am concerned</i> <i>For my part</i> <i>As for me</i> <i>From my point of view</i> <i>I think that</i> <i>I believe that</i> <i>I find (that)</i> <i>It seems to me that</i> <i>I am sure that</i> <i>I am convinced that</i> <i>I would say that</i> <i>I am inclined to believe that</i></p>
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★ IMPERSONAL EXPRESSIONS

<p>Es necesario precisar que Es importante tener en cuenta que Es evidente que Es incuestionable que Es posible distinguir Se debe resaltar que Sería más correcto decir que Nos hace pensar que Parece claro/evidente que Basta decir que Hoy en día hay una tendencia a decir que</p>	<p><i>It is necessary to specify that...</i> <i>It is important to take into account</i> <i>It is obvious that...</i> <i>It is unquestionable that...</i> <i>It is possible to distinguish</i> <i>One must point out that...</i> <i>It would be more accurate to say that...</i> <i>There is ground for thinking that...</i> <i>It seems clear that...</i> <i>Suffice (it) to say that...</i> <i>Today there is a tendency to say that...</i></p>
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« CAUSE AND EFFECT RELATIONSHIPS

Por consiguiente Así que Por lo tanto Por esta razón Es decir Además Entonces Esta es la razón por la que Se deduce que Se piensa que Se puede entender que Podemos interpretar que Este estudio revela que Este ejemplo prueba que Este párrafo nos muestra que No hace falta decir que	Consequently Therefore Thus For this reason That is to say / namely Besides Then That's why It can be deduced that... It can be thought that... It can be understood that... We can interpret this as... This study reveals that... This example proves that... This passage shows that... It goes without saying that...
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★ CONTRADICTING

Pero Sin embargo Por el contrario En realidad Por un lado .../ por una parte Por otro lado / por otra parte Más que Aunque Incluso si A pesar del hecho de que / a pesar de En realidad De hecho	But However On the contrary Actually On one hand... On the other hand Rather Although Even if/ even though Despite the fact that To tell the truth In fact
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★ CONCLUSION

En conclusión Para resumir / para concluir Finalmente / para terminar / En pocas palabras / en una palabra Brevemente Habiendo considerado todos los aspectos En conjunto Como hemos explicado Como hemos dicho Como hemos resaltado / subrayado antes Esto muestra que Esto demuestra que Podemos concluir que Hemos llegado a la conclusión de que	In conclusion To sum up Finally In a few words / In a word In short All things considered All in all As was explained As was stated As was pointed out earlier This shows that This demonstrates that We can conclude that We have reached the following conclusion that
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WRITTEN WORK CHECK GRID

Complete with the date and note down what topic your essay was on, and run through the checklist each time you do one:

FECHA:							
TEMA:							
1. Planned an outline (essays: intro, main body of 2-4 points for pros and for cons, opinions, conclusions, solutions)							
2. Tenses (pret/ imp/ plup/ perf/ past cont/ pres cont/ pres/ fut perf/ cond perf/ fut/ fut cont/ cond..)							
3. Person of verb (yo/ tú..)							
4. la mayoría/ la gente/ la ciudad= singular							
5. Personal A (But not when it is doing action: el hombre hacía... Vi al hombre)							
6. Prepositions after verbs (a/ con/ de/ sobre...)							
7. Adjectival agreements (la chica guapa)							
8. Correct gender for nouns (<u>e</u> l hombre/ <u>l</u> a participación/ <u>e</u> l problema/ <u>e</u> l sistema)							
9. Por/ para (para + inf, por + time..)							
10. Passive (ser + past participle agreeing: fue matado por...- he was killed by...)							
11. Avoidance of passive (<u>se</u> bebe el vino- Wine is drunk*)							
12. Accents (la declaración/ las declaraciones)							
13. Spellings (use dictionary to help you)							
14. Appropriate register of language used (high/ technical/ complicated for essays)							
15. Essay expressions (se debe mencionar que/ es imprescindible que se mencione...)							
16. Subjunctives (checked endings: regular/ irregular)							
17. Subjunctives (used correctly with phrase in correct tense)							
18. Checked work thoroughly before handing in?							

TYPICAL SPANISH IDIOMS

Modismos típicos españoles

<http://www.geocities.com/athens/thebes/6177/idioms.htm>

Al hierro caliente batir de repente *Beat the hot iron at once.* **Strike while the iron is hot**

Antes que te cases mira lo que haces *Before you marry look what you do* **Look before you leap**

Beben agua en el mismo jarrito *They drink water from the same little jug* **They are as thick as thieves**

Cada perico a su estaca, cada changa a su mecate *Each parrot on its perch, each monkey on its rope.* **To each his own**

Caras vemos, corazones no sabemos *Faces we see, hearts we don't know* **Can't judge a book by its cover**

Darle un beso a la botella. *To give the bottle a kiss* **To have a swig**

De la subida más alta es la caída más lastimosa. *Of the highest rise, the shortest fall.* **The bigger they are the harder they fall**

En menos que canta un gallo. *In less time than the rooster crows* **In a shake of a lamb's tail**

Estar como perro en barrio ajeno. *To be like a dog in a neighbor's yard* **To feel like a fish out of water**

Más loco que una cabra *Crazier than a goat* **mad as a hatter**

Más vale pájaro en mano que ciento volando. *A bird in the hand is worth more than a hundred flying* **A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush**

Meter la cuchara *To put the spoon in* **put your oar in**

Mientras que en mi casa estoy, rey soy *While in my house, I am king.* **A man's home is his castle**

Ser más listo que un coyote *To be more ready (alert) than a coyote* **sharp as a tack**

Tener más lana que un Borrego *To have more wool than a lamb* **To have money to burn**

Vivito y coleando *Alive and wagging tail* **alive and kicking**

Al que madruga, Dios lo ayuda *The early Bird catches the worm*

No hay nada tan atrevido como le ignorancia *Fools rush in where angels fear to tread*

El campo fértil no descansado, tórnase estéril *All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy*

Al canto del petiguere *At the cock's crow/At Day break*

REALLY USEFUL SPANISH WEBSITES and how to use them best!

TO WORK ON YOUR LISTENING



You should select a short audio or video clip from the Internet. Play the clip at least three times and write a brief summary in Spanish (it needn't be any longer than 50 words) with a vocabulary list of at least 10 words. These could be key words or they could be words that are new to you and had to be looked up.

It is easier to start with short news bulletins. Video clips are ideal as they are easier to understand. Start with shorter clips and then when you feel ready, you could choose a radio programme from the Radio station websites listed below.

Spanish News

www.euronews.net

Select language 'español' and then choose from a wide variety of News videos.

www.20minutos.es/

es.news.yahoo.com/

Follow the link to **Video Noticias** for three-minute news clips.

es.noticias.yahoo.com/

Spanish TV channel websites:

www.antena3tv.com

Choose from the menu for the topic area you are interested in and then browse for

www.antena3videos.com/

For news, browse for videos at:

www.informativos.telecinco.es/

www.canalsur.es

Click on the link to TV "en directo" (live) and you will be able to watch the channel on streaming video.

www.informativos.telecinco.es/reproductor_video.htm

For celebrity gossip....

es.celebrities.yahoo.com/

Click on "Perfiles de Famosos"

Spanish Radio on-line

www.rtve.es/rne/envivo.htm

Select a radio station from the list.

www.topradio.es/

Easy listening music radio station for Spanish and English / American pop music.

www.lyngsat.com/freeradio/

[Spain.html](#)

TO WORK ON YOUR READING



Select an article which interests you, read it carefully and select at least 10 new pieces of vocabulary to look up. The choice of topic area is limitless. The temptation may be to pick an article on fashion, but you should avoid doing this every week as they are not so easy to understand. It is a good idea to vary the topic area and to choose articles related to the syllabus topics so that you encounter a variety of vocabulary.

www.bbc.co.uk/languages/spanish/news

The best place to start is the BBC's languages web-pages. Choose the "**reportajes**" link to find articles from the former "**Semanario Internet**" with a variety of reading exercises. The articles are archived into topic areas that relate to the AS and A level syllabus.

Some of them include audio clips so you can base your listening task on the same topic.

www.elmundo.es

Spanish daily newspaper. The website gives you access to all of the day's news articles.

www.elpais.es

Spanish daily newspaper. The website gives you access to the day's news articles although you may require a subscription to view the majority of the articles in full.

es.news.yahoo.com/

www.abc.es/

On-line Spanish daily news.

www.terra.es

On-line Spanish daily news.

www.donbalon.es/front/

Spanish football website with related articles.

www.hola.com

Spanish celebrity gossip magazine. Subscription required to view some of the articles.

www.terra.es (archive news)

www.marca.es (sport)

www.estrelladigital.es