

OxfordAQA International GCSE Spanish (9269)

Switching guide

Switching from Pearson Edexcel International or Cambridge International Examinations to Oxford International AQA Examinations

For this new International GCSE Spanish specification, OxfordAQA Exams have blended the best of the AQA specification, which is one of the most popular specifications in England, with some new ideas, new concepts and new approaches to learning to make it more appropriate for international schools.

It has been put together following consultation with teachers who will see this as the ideal choice for students who want to study and excel in Spanish at GCSE and beyond.

Topic by topic comparison

	AQA Exams specification (9269)	Pearson Edexcel International specification GCSE (4SP1)	Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) specification (9609)
Number of papers	4	3	4
Number of topic areas	3	5	5
Topics			
	Topic 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Me, my family, friends and people I know • Relationships with family • Relationships with friends and people I know 	Topic 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home and abroad 	Topic A: Everyday activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time expressions • Food and drink • The human body and health • Travel and transport
	Topic 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technology in everyday life • Social media • Mobile technology 	Topic 2: Education and employment	Topic B: Personal and social life <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self, family and friends • In the home • Colours • Clothes and accessories • Leisure time

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	<p>Topic 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free-time activities • Music • Cinema and TV • Sport • Customs and festivals 	<p>Topic 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal life and relationships 	<p>Topic C:</p> <p>The world around us:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People and • The natural world, the environment, the climate and the weather • Communications and technology • The built environment • Measurements (eg. size, shape) • Materials
			<p>Topic D:</p> <p>The world of work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education • Work
			<p>Topic E:</p> <p>The international world</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Countries, nationalities and languages • Culture, customs, faiths and celebrations

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Listening			
	<p>Written exam: Externally assessed</p> <p>1 hour 15 minutes</p> <p>60 marks</p> <p>25% of GCSE</p>	<p>Externally assessed</p> <p>Written examination: 1 hour 45 minutes</p> <p>80 marks (40 marks for reading and 40 marks for writing)</p> <p>50% of GCSE</p>	<p>Reading Externally assessed</p> <p>Written examination: 1 hour</p> <p>45 marks</p> <p>25% of GCSE</p>
Questions	<p>Section A:</p> <p>33 marks</p> <p>Question in English, to be answered in English or non-verbally.</p>	<p>Section A:</p> <p>Reading</p> <p>5 questions, which are a combination of multiple-choice, note-taking, gap-filling and short-answer questions.</p>	<p>Candidates read a number of texts and answer multiple-choice and matching questions as well as questions requiring shorter answers.</p>
	<p>Section B:</p> <p>18 marks</p> <p>Questions in Spanish, to be answered in Spanish or non-verbally.</p>	<p>Section B:</p> <p>Writing</p> <p>There are 2 open-response writing tasks and a task that requires writing verbs in their correct forms. Each task in this section is linked to a specific topic area.</p>	

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	<p>Section C:</p> <p>9 marks</p> <p>Translation from Spanish into English (a minimum of 50 words).</p>		
Assessment Objectives	<p>AO1: Listening – understand and respond to different types of spoken language.</p>	<p>Understand and respond, in writing, to spoken language. Communicate in writing, using a register appropriate to the situation, showing knowledge of a range of vocabulary in common usage and of the grammar and structures prescribed in the specification, and using them accurately.</p>	<p>L1: understand the main points and key information in simple everyday material</p> <p>L2: understand clear speech on a range of familiar topics</p> <p>L3: understand the description of events and expression of ideas, opinions and attitudes in simple texts</p> <p>L4: identify and select relevant information in predictable text</p>

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Speaking			
	<p>Non-examined assessment</p> <p>10 minutes + 10 minutes preparation time</p> <p>40 marks</p> <p>25% of GCSE</p>	<p>Internally conducted and externally assessed Spoken examination:</p> <p>8–10 minutes series</p> <p>40 marks</p> <p>25% of GCSE</p>	<p>Speaking internally assessed and externally moderated</p> <p>Approximately 10 minutes</p> <p>40 marks</p> <p>25% of GCSE</p>
Questions	<p>Photo card</p> <p>15 marks</p> <p>3 – 5 minutes</p> <p>General conversation</p> <p>25 marks</p> <p>5 – 7 minutes</p>	<p>The examination is made up of three tasks (A, B and C). Students will present and answer questions on a picture that is related to one of the topic areas. They will also discuss two different topics, chosen at random by Pearson. The assessments are conducted by teachers in one session within a prescribed assessment window. The recordings are then submitted to Pearson for external marking.</p>	<p>Candidates complete one role play and conversations on two topics. Internally assessed and externally moderated.</p>
Assessment Objectives	<p>AO2: Speaking – communicate and interact effectively in speech.</p>	<p>Communicate in speech, showing knowledge of a range of vocabulary in common usage and of the grammar and structures prescribed in the specification, and using them accurately.</p>	<p>S1: Communicate clearly and effectively in a range of predictable everyday situations</p> <p>S2: Engage in conversations on familiar topics, expressing opinions and feelings</p>

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			<p>S3: Use a range of structures and vocabulary with reasonable accuracy</p> <p>S4: Demonstrate some ability to maintain interaction S5: show some control of pronunciation and intonation.</p>
Reading			
	<p>Written exam:</p> <p>Externally assessed</p> <p>1 hour 15 minutes</p> <p>60 marks</p> <p>25% of GCSE</p>	<p>Reading and Writing combined</p> <p>Externally assessed</p> <p>Written examination: 1 hour 45 minutes</p> <p>80 marks (40 marks for reading and 40 marks for writing)</p> <p>50% of GCSE</p>	<p>Reading</p> <p>Externally assessed</p> <p>Written examination: 1 hour</p> <p>45 marks</p> <p>25% of GCSE</p>
Questions	<p>Section A:</p> <p>33 marks</p> <p>Questions in English, to be answered in English or non-verbally.</p>	<p>Section A:</p> <p>Reading 5 questions, which are a combination of multiple-choice, note-taking, gap-fill and short-answer questions.</p>	<p>Candidates read a number of texts and answer multiple-choice and matching questions as well as questions requiring short answers.</p>

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	<p>Section B:</p> <p>18 marks</p> <p>Questions in Spanish, to be answered in Spanish or non-verbally.</p>	<p>Section B:</p> <p>Writing</p> <p>There are 2 open-response writing tasks and a task that requires writing verbs in their correct forms. Each task in this section is linked to a specific topic area.</p>	
	<p>Section C:</p> <p>9 marks</p> <p>Translation from Spanish into English (a minimum of 50 words).</p>		
Assessment Objectives	<p>AO3: Reading – understand and respond to different types of written language.</p>	<p>Communicate in writing, using a register appropriate to the situation, showing knowledge of a range of vocabulary in common usage and of the grammar and structures prescribed in the specification, and using them accurately.</p> <p>Understand and respond, in writing, to written language.</p>	<p>R1: Understand the main points and key information in simple everyday material.</p> <p>R2: Understand authentic factual texts on a range of familiar topics</p> <p>R3: Understand the description of events and expression of ideas, opinions and attitudes in simple texts.</p> <p>R4: Identify and select relevant information in predictable texts.</p>

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Writing			
	<p>Written exam: Externally assessed</p> <p>1 hour 15 minutes</p> <p>60 marks</p> <p>25% of GCSE</p>	<p>See Reading. Externally assessed.</p>	<p>Written exam: Externally assessed</p> <p>1 hour</p> <p>45 marks</p> <p>25% of GCSE</p>
Questions	<p>Question 1</p> <p>8 marks</p> <p>Message (student produces 4 sentences in response to a photo).</p>	<p>Section A</p> <p>Reading</p> <p>5 questions, which are a combination of multiple-choice, note-taking, gap-fill and short-answer questions.</p>	<p>Candidates complete one form-filling task, one directed writing task and one task in the format of an email/letter or article/blog.</p>
	<p>Question 2</p> <p>16 marks</p> <p>Structured writing task (student responds to 4 compulsory detailed bullet points, producing approximately 90 words in total).</p>	<p>Section B</p> <p>Writing</p> <p>There are 2 open-response writing tasks and a task that requires writing verbs in their correct forms. Each task in this section is linked to a specific topic area.</p>	

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	<p>Question 3</p> <p>12 marks</p> <p>Translation from English into Spanish (minimum 50 words).</p> <hr/> <p>Question 4</p> <p>24 marks</p> <p>Open-ended writing task (student responds to two compulsory detailed bullet points, producing approximately 150 words in total). There is a choice from 2 questions.</p>		
Assessment Objectives	AO4: Writing – communicate in writing.	<p>Communicate in writing, using a register appropriate to the situation, showing knowledge of a range of vocabulary in common usage and of the grammar and structures prescribed in the specification, and using them accurately.</p> <p>Understand and respond, in writing, to written language.</p>	<p>W1: Communicate simple factual information clearly for everyday purposes.</p> <p>W2: Write simple phrases and sentences on a familiar topic</p> <p>W3: Write simple connected texts describing events, experiences, opinions and hopes and ambitions.</p> <p>W4: Use a range of simple vocabulary and language structures reasonably accurately.</p>