

GCE Spanish – 6SP04

Research-based Essay Guide

Exemplar 1 – Rasgos de la sociedad hispanohablante moderna

Summer 2014

PREFACE

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Please note that:

- Some items may have been removed, such as references to individuals and places. Please refer to the commentaries by the Principal Examiner for specific references.
- In order to maintain the authenticity of the writing, some errors and mistakes have been reproduced from the original candidate's response.

Question 3(c) - Rasgos de la sociedad hispanohablante moderna

***¿Cuáles han sido los problemas sociales o políticos que han afectado a la sociedad hispanohablante que has estudiado?
Evalúa lo que están haciendo las autoridades para solucionarlos.***

El fenómeno que en el botellón ha llegado a ser un rito de iniciación en España con más del 80% de los jóvenes participando cada mes. Las razones por las que las jóvenes asisten a los botellones varían pero es innegable que la principal es debido a la inseguridad laboral y el botellón es una solución barata para divertirse.

Hay un montón de impactos que vienen de estas reuniones grandes, como el ruido y basura que afectan a todos los miembros de la sociedad, justo con el gran gasto público. Igualmente problemas de la violencia y la salud relacionadas con el alcohol que han subido por el 26% en los últimos diez años.

Hay una variedad de medidas para controlar los botellones que han sido impuestos. Su legalidad depende de las comunidades autónomas distintas por ejemplo en Barcelona, Madrid y Andalucía existe una ley antibotellón y además multas de hasta 20,000 euros para beber en la calle. Sin embargo en regiones gobernadas por grupos de la izquierda – defienden la libertad de los jóvenes y un método de control es los botellódromos como en Granada – áreas designadas por el botellón, lejos de zonas residenciales. Este método ha sido muy eficaz y popular en estas regiones y es probable que será más popular en el futuro. Otras medidas incluye escenas de educación sobre los riesgos del alcohol para que los jóvenes no hagan elogio el alcohol 72% de los españoles sugieren ofrecer un ocio alternativo por las noches como una solución.

Tenemos que evaluar los impactos a largo plazo de los botellones en los futuros e imágenes de los jóvenes para que la situación no empeore.

(274 words)

Commentary on Exemplar - Rasgos de la sociedad hispanohablante moderna

The candidate has studied contemporary Spanish society and decided to write about the phenomenon of *el botellón*. This is an example of a popular choice of response for this topic area. Unfortunately, many candidates failed to fully understand the question and therefore attempted to mention more than one social or political problem. Some of them wrote about the problems that arose as a result of this phenomenon (*el botellón*), which was a valid approach to take if it was made clear, especially in the introduction. Most of the candidates dealt well with the evaluative part of the question, however there was not a great deal of detail.

This candidate starts by saying that *el botellón* has become an initiation ritual among young people, the main reason for this being that they have little money as a result of high levels of unemployment. It is therefore a cheap form of entertainment. In the following paragraph the candidate writes about some of the consequences of *el botellón* such as noise, litter, the drain on public funds, violence and health problems related to the consumption of alcohol.

The next paragraph outlines measures that have been put in place to control *los botellones*, explaining that these differ from one region to another; however some of the measures have been very popular and may become the norm in the future.

Finally, there is a short conclusion inviting people to reflect on the impact this has on the future of young people.

This candidate has shown some evidence of reading and research and has partially understood the question. It would have been better to state in the introduction that (s)he was going to write about the problems that are caused by the phenomenon of *el botellón*. There is a lack of a personal views on the issues presented, but there was adequate evaluation of what authorities are doing to tackle these problems. The candidate was awarded marks at the top end of the 13-18 mark band for Reading, Research and Understanding.

The essay is organised, with a short, but not very effective introduction, a paragraph stating the problems, a paragraph giving good details on the approach taken by authorities and an adequate conclusion. The candidate has supported the statements presented by statistics on the number of youngsters that take part in *botellones* each month, the increase in the health problems related to alcohol and the number of Spaniards who suggest that alternative forms of evening entertainment would be a

solution. The details given about how the regions of Barcelona, Madrid and Andalusia are dealing with the problem, as well as other regions with more left-wing governments such as Granada, are clear and relevant. The candidate was awarded marks in the 5-6 mark band for Organisation and Development.

The language used by the candidate communicates in a satisfactory manner, but there are some issues with comprehensibility in the conclusion. There is some good lexis, such as *inseguridad laboral, su legalidad, comunidades autónomas, elogio al alcohol, un ocio alternativo, botellódromos*. The candidate has also used some good expressions to evaluate and analyse: *las razones varían pero es innegable que la principal..., tenemos que evaluar los impactos a largo plazo...para que la situación no empeore*. However the candidate has some difficulty with the use of *por* and *para* and there are some spelling errors. As a result, the candidate was awarded a mark in the 3-4 mark band for Quality of Language.