
A Level Spanish Exemplars: Paper 2, Section A

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Introduction

- The purpose of this pack is to provide teachers and students with some examples of responses to A Level Spanish.
- The sample assessment materials which these responses are based on can be found on the Pearson website.
- In this pack, you will find a small sample of responses, an examiner commentary and the mark scheme for each question.
- The responses are all from students and we have retained their original responses where possible.
- If you have any enquiries regarding these materials or have any other questions about the course, please contact our subject advisor team on teachinglanguages@pearson.com

Paper 2, Section A: Translation, Question 1

Question and mark scheme

1 Traduce el texto siguiente **al español**.

(20)

We Spanish like to enjoy ourselves; we are perfectly capable of turning even a simple family reunion into a weekend of partying and although we may have a few festivals with themes such as animals, wine and tomatoes, it is religious celebrations that stand out over any other form of festivity. There are a great number of processions where statues from our churches are carried through the streets. However, many of these festivals were not originally religious. In fact, the Catholic Church has adopted many ancient festivities through the centuries, giving them a Christian meaning while at the same time condemning the historical context of the ceremony.

Paper 2 mark scheme

Section A – Question 1 (translation) into assessed language

This task is a points-based mark scheme in which 1 mark is given for each correct individual section of language. A correct translation is provided in a grid which also outlines the alternative translations that will be accepted or the translations to be rejected. Marking principles for error tolerance with examples are given directly above the grid.

Marking principles

Accents: non-grammatical accent errors are tolerated, for example *jovenes* rather than *jóvenes* unless they cause ambiguity (for example *entro* rather than *entró*).

Spelling: non-grammatical mis-spellings are tolerated, for example *imigracion* rather than *inmigración*, as long as they are not ambiguous or in the wrong language (for example *eimigración* rather than *immigration*).

Verb endings must be correct and will not be classed as spelling errors.

Adjective endings must be correct and will not be classed as spelling errors.

Accept any appropriate alternatives that do not already appear in the acceptable answers column.

	Text	Correct Answer	Acceptable Answers	Reject	Mark
1	We Spanish like	A (nosotros) los españoles nos gusta			(1)
2	to enjoy ourselves;	divertirnos;	pasarlo bien		(1)
3	we are perfectly capable of	somos perfectamente capaces de	completamente	capazes	(1)
4	turning even a simple family reunion	convertir hasta una sencilla reunión familiar	transformar simple		(1)
5	into a weekend of partying	en un fin de semana de fiesta		a un fin de semana	(1)
6	and although we may have a few festivals	y aunque tengamos unos pocos festivales		tenemos	(1)
7	with themes such as	con temas tales como	como (without tales)		(1)
8	animals, wine and tomatoes,	los animales, el vino y los tomates,			(1)

	Text	Correct Answer	Acceptable Answers	Reject	Mark
9	it is religious celebrations that stand out over any other form of festivity.	son los festivales religiosos que destacan	resaltan sobresalen	es los festivales	(1)
10		sobre cualquier otra forma de festividad.	otro tipo		(1)
11	There are a great number of processions	Hay un gran número de procesiones	desfiles	grande número	(1)
12	where statues from our churches are carried through the streets.	donde estatuas de la iglesia son llevadas por las calles.	donde se llevan estatuas iconos a través de las calles		(1)
13	However, many of these festivals	Sin embargo, muchos de estos festivales	muchas de estas fiestas		(1)
14	were not originally religious.	no eran religiosos originalmente.	(religiosas if fiestas used above) originariamente		(1)
15	In fact, the Catholic Church has adopted	De hecho, la Iglesia Católica ha adoptado	En realidad A decir (la) verdad		(1)
16	many ancient festivities	muchas festividades antiguas	ancianas		(1)
17	through the centuries,	a lo largo de los siglos,	durante		(1)
18	giving them a Christian meaning	dándoles un significado cristiano	un sentido	dándolas	(1)
19	while at the same time	mientras a la vez	al mismo tiempo		(1)
20	condemning the historical context of the ceremony.	condenando el contexto original de la ceremonia.	el contexto de la ceremonia original.		(1)
Total (20)					

Candidate A:

~~Nos española gusta a nos disputar~~
 A. Nosotros españoles nos gusta ^{aventuras} ~~a disputar~~,
 estamos perfectamente capaz de aún
 convirtiendo un familia reunión simple
 simple reunión de familia en una fin
 de semana de fiestas y aunque podemos
 que tener unos pocos festuales con
 temas por ejemplo animales, vino y
~~tomates~~ ^{tomates}, es celebraciones religioso
 que destacan sobre cualquier otro forma
 de festividad. Hay un gran número
 de processiones donde estatuas de
 nuestras iglesias se llevan por ~~las~~
 las calles. Sin embargo, muchos de
 estos festuales no eran religiosos
 originalmente. De hecho, la Iglesia
 Católica ha adaptado muchas
 festividades antiguas a través de
 los siglos dadas un significado
 cristiano mientras al mismo tiempo
 conderhado la contexto historical de
 la ceremonia.

Examiner comment:

The candidate gained marks for points 2, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17 and 19 in the mark scheme.

8 marks

Candidate B:

A Nosotros ^{los} españoles nos gusta divertirnos, somos capaces de convertir incluso una reunión familiar sencilla en un fin de semana de fiesta y aunque podemos tener algunos festivales con temas como los animales, el vino y los tomates, ~~es~~ son celebraciones festivas que destacan encima cualquier otra forma de fiesta. Hay un gran número de procesiones donde las estatuas de nuestras iglesias se llevan por las calles. Sin embargo, muchas de estas festivales no eran religiosas. De hecho, la Iglesia Católica ha adoptado muchos festivales antiguos por los siglos, dándoles un significado cristiano mientras el mismo tiempo concuerda & el contexto histórico de la ceremonia.

Examiner comment:

This is a very sound translation that shows evidence of good handling of familiar and complex structures. There are some issues with the choice of lexis that affect the transfer of meaning. The candidate gained marks for points 1, 2, 5, 7, 8, 12, 15, 16, 18, 19 and 20 in the mark scheme.

Note on points 3 and 14: The candidate left out the adverbs "perfectamente" and "originalmente", which despite not being common words, it is not difficult to translate them into Spanish.

Note on point 4: A mark was not given to this section due the misspelling of the word "familiar". The reason being that it does change the grammatical category of the word from an adjective to a noun. Cases like this will be individually considered at Standardisation, to make sure that the Mark Scheme covers most of the possible renditions of the translation.

Note on point 6: The candidate failed to use the present subjunctive appropriately in this sentence.

Note on points 9, 10 and 11: The candidate made some wrong choice of lexis which affected the meaning of the phrases. If the rest of the phrase had been correct, the accent on "celebraciones" would have been ignored and the mark would have been given. The double "s" in "procesiones" would have been ignored as well, had the word "number" been translated correctly.

Note on point 13: The reason why "muchas de estas festivales" was not accepted was that this is a grammatical error, therefore cannot be treated as a misspelling.

Note on point 17: The candidate chose to use "por" to translate "through" which is incorrect in this particular instance.

11 marks

Candidate C:

A nosotros, los españoles, nos gusta divertirnos: somos completamente capaces de convertir aún una reunión simple familiar en un fin de semana de fiesta y aunque quizás tengamos unas fiestas con temas como los animales, el vino y los tomates, ~~son~~ las celebraciones religiosas son las que son más únicas que todas otras formas de festividad. Hay un montón de desfiles donde ~~estaban de manera regular~~ ^{se llevan las estatuas de} nuestras iglesias por las calles. Sin embargo, ~~mucho de~~ ^{se} mucho de estos festivales no eran ~~religiosos~~ ^{religiosos} originalmente. De hecho, la Iglesia Católica ha adoptado muchas festividades ~~religiosas~~ ^{prehistóricas} durante los siglos ~~de~~ dándoles un sentido cristiano mientras al mismo tiempo ^{de acuerdo con el} ~~esta~~ contexto histórico de la ceremonia.

Examiner comment:

The candidate gained marks for points 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 14, 15, 17, 18 and 19 in the mark scheme.

Note on point 6: The reason why “unas fiestas” was not awarded a mark was that in order to convey the meaning of the phrase “a few” in Spanish, it is necessary to specify “unos/as pocos/as”. In some instances, the indefinite article can be used on its own, but only when referring to time expressions, such as “a few days = unos días”.

Note on point 13: The reason why “mucho” was not accepted was that this is a grammatical error, therefore cannot be treated as a misspelling.

14 marks