

Examiners' Report/
Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2016

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE
in Spanish (4SP0/01)
Pearson Edexcel Certificate
in Spanish (KSP0/01)

Paper 1: Listening

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International GCSE/ Edexcel Certificate Spanish
Paper 1 Listening
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General comments

The 2016 paper proved to be accessible to all candidates and clearly tested their knowledge and understanding of spoken Spanish. Most candidates demonstrated clearly that they had understood the rubrics and were familiar with the format of the examination. It was also evident that they had practiced well in preparation for the examination.

All questions set were answered as predicted and in particular, in the final section, questions 17,18 and 19 which targeted grades B, A and A* only the highest performing candidates demonstrated a full and clear understanding of the more extended extracts of language heard.

Spelling

The spelling of some words in Question 19 proved problematic for some candidates. However, examiners were sympathetic with their responses and where spelling was phonically recognisable, versions of required words were credited positively.

Questions 1 to 3

There were only very few candidates who did not achieve full marks in questions 1-3.

Question 4 to 6

There were only very few candidates who did not achieve full marks in questions 4-6.

Questions 7 to 12

Most candidates responded well and scored full marks for these questions.

Question 13

This was well attempted by most candidates with the majority scoring 4 of the 6 marks available for this question. Wrong choices were made at random.

Question 14

This question proved to be a good discriminator. Most candidates scored 4 of the 6 marks available for this question. The most frequently wrong responses were: 14(iv) and 14(vi)

Question 15

Most candidates scored 2 or 3 out of the 3 marks available for this question demonstrating their ability to follow slightly longer extracts of dialogue which contain some unfamiliar items.

Question 16

Most typically the score here was 2 or 3 marks out of the 4 marks available for this question.

16 (iii) proved very challenging. The main cause for the loss of one mark was making the link between 'el mio es casi igual al de mi hermano' and 'los dormitorios de los hermanos son parecidos'

Question 17

This question proved very challenging and only the high end of the entry scored more than 4 marks out of the 6 available for this question.

The following key points are worthy of note:

Q17(i) around 45 % of candidates answered this question correctly.

Q17(ii) this question was more frequently correct than incorrect.

Q17(iii) only the very best of the candidates answered this question correctly.

Q17(iv) around 70% of candidates answered this question correctly.

Q17(v) this question was more frequently correct than incorrect.

Q17(vi) around 50 % of candidates answered this question correctly.

Question 18

This question targeted grade A. Most typically grade A candidates scored 4 or 5 of the 6 marks available for this question demonstrating their ability to follow longer extracts of dialogue which contain some unfamiliar items relating to extreme sports.

Question 19

The final question in this examination targeted grade A*. This question proved to be very challenging and a good discriminator. This passage contains some complicated lexis and structures, as is appropriate for a question at this level.

As anticipated only the very high end of the entry scored the full marks available for this question. These candidates were able to understand significant detail from this longer extract of dialogue which contains unfamiliar language. They demonstrated their ability to make the links with the questions and the gist of the dialogue and to produce the correct answers.

Many candidates scored 2 or 3 of the 7 marks available for this question.

Q19 Reasons to study a language: The most likely correct answer was 'comprender otras culturas/paises'. The other ideas in this question proved more difficult.

Q19 Reasons why they could find it difficult: The most likely correct answers were 'no es para todos', 'es caro' and 'se necesita disciplina' The other ideas in this question proved more difficult.

Conclusion

The outcome of the examination of this paper this summer was pleasing. The majority of centres had prepared their candidates thoroughly so they had a good understanding of the requirements of this unit. This allowed candidates to respond well to its demands.

Advice and guidance

- Candidates need to read the questions carefully before attempting to answer them.
- Candidates should ensure they listen carefully to the recordings and understand the passages, and base their answers on the actual content of the passage rather than impose their own speculations.
- Candidates' responses should be written clearly.
- A good knowledge of vocabulary items is required.
- Candidates aiming for a higher grade require a good knowledge of more complicated lexis and structures.

Grade Boundaries

Grade boundaries for this, and all other papers, can be found on the website on this link:

<http://www.edexcel.com/iwantto/Pages/grade-boundaries.aspx>