

Examiners' Report/ Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2014

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

Paper 1: Listening

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International GCSE Spanish

Paper 1 Listening

Examiner Report

The 2014 paper proved to be accessible to all candidates and clearly tested their knowledge and understanding of spoken Spanish. In spite of being a new examination, 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 18 and 19 which targeted grades 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 marked positively and where spelling was a phonically recognisable version of the required word it was credited.

Questions 1 to 3

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

Question 4 to 6

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

Questions 7 to 12

Most candidates responded well to this question

The most likely error was:

9 'F' hacer vela

Question 13

This was well attempted by most candidates with the greater majority scoring the 4 or 5 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 3 or 4 of the 6 marks available for this question.

The most likely errors were seen in questions:

14(i) where candidates were not sure of the word
'entrenador'

14(iv) Many candidates did not score the one mark available for this question because they confused 'la conoció cuando tenían 6 años' with 'hace 6 años' and wrongly selected A.

14(vi) Many candidates did not score the one mark available for this question because they wrongly assumed that it was 'le gusta más el fútbol' rather than 'le gusta más que el fútbol'.

Question 15

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

Question 16

This type of question proved challenging. Most typically the score here was 1 or 2 of the 4 marks available for this question.

Question 17

Most candidates scored 4/5 of the 6 marks available for this question. The following key points are worthy of note.

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

Q17(ii)candidates often failed to recognise 'espectáculo' as the correct answer.

Q17(iii) mostly successful.

Q17(iv)candidates often failed to link 'suelen ser extranjeros' with 'vienen de otros países' as the correct answer.

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

Q17(vi) candidates often failed to link 'no deberían continuar' with 'deberían desaparecer' as the correct answer.

Question 18

This question targeted Grade A.

Most typically borderline Grade A candidates scored 4 out of the 6 marks available for this question demonstrating their ability to follow longer extracts of dialogue which contain some unfamiliar items relating to buying goods online.

Only the very high end of the entry scored the full marks available for this question. Wrong choices were made at random.

Question 19

The final question in this examination targeted Grade A*.

This question proved to be very challenging and a good discriminator. As anticipated, only the very high end of the cohort scored the full marks available. A and A* grade 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 3 out of the 7 marks available for this question.

There was some evidence of guesswork, in particular where candidates imposed their own speculations about the disadvantages of sending mobile phones to poor countries, simply offering answers such as 'in many places they don't have electricity/ it is too difficult to send them' rather than referring to the text.

Q19 Advantages. The most likely correct answer was 'bueno para el medio ambiente'. The other two ideas in this question proved more difficult.

Q19 Disadvantages. The most likely correct answers were 'malo para la salud' and 'es adictivo'. Very few candidates recognised 'hay que recargar la batería constantemente'.

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.

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>

