

Commentary Sample 4

Question 6

For this question students will select one writing task from a choice of three. They will be expected to write a continuous response, of about 150 words, in Spanish. Marks will be awarded for Communication and Content (10 marks), Knowledge and Application of Language (5 marks) and Accuracy (5 marks).

Write about 150 words in Spanish.

Escribe unas 150 palabras en español.

Las vacaciones

Escribe una carta a tu amigo/a

Menciona:

.adonde fuiste y por qué

.lo que hiciste

.lo que te gustó y no te gustó

.lo que vas a hacer el próximo año

Hola XXXX

Te escribo para contarte de mis vacaciones. Nunca vas a devinar donde fuimos. Fuimos a Paris porque mis tíos viven allí desde hace dos años.

Visitamos la ciudad y lo que mas me gustó fueron la catedral y las tiendas de moda. Hicimos muchas compras y gasté mucho dinero porque todo era bastante caro.

Lo que no nos gustó era que las calles estaban sucias y ruidosas. Tambien había muchos coches.

Lo pasé muy bien en Paris y me gustaría ir un mas vez pero el proximo verano quisiera ir a Florida en los Estados Unidos. Iría a Disneylandia porque me encantan los parques tematicos, Me encanta la comida americana y comeré muchas hamburguesas y patatas fritas.

Ahora me tienes que contar tus vacaciones. Adonde fuiste y con quien? El proximo año quieres venir con nosotros a Florida? Primero tengo que preguntar mis padres, pero sería guay!

Escribeme pronto.

Communication and Content 8/10

Communication

In this piece, the candidate gives a full account of her holiday in Paris. She addresses all aspects of the task by giving a very detailed and fully relevant response.

There is clear evidence that the candidate can narrate, describe and express opinions. There is a little ambiguity: *Nunca vas a devinar donde fuimos, me gustaría ir un mas vez.*

Taking into account the overall content of this piece this candidate is awarded 9 for Communication.

Content

The candidate has given a relevant response to the stimulus and has addressed all aspects of the task.

The candidate:

- mentions where she went on holiday and gives a clear explanation as to why she went there.
- gives a detailed description of the activities she did during the holiday.
- explains fully what she liked and disliked about the holidays and her opinions are backed-up with justifications.
- not only mentions where and what she would like to do next year but she asks her friend if she would like to come on holiday with her.

Taking into account the overall content of this piece this candidate is awarded 10 for Content.

Considering the two marks above, this candidate is on the borderline between 9 and 10 and she is therefore given 9 for Communication and Content.

Knowledge and Application of language 5/5

The candidate uses a good range of vocabulary : *mis tios, ciudad, tiendas de moda, dinero, parques tematicos, calles* Adjectives: *caros, sucios, ruidosos 'guay'.*

There is evidence of the use of more complex structures in the following:

- Te escribo para contarte*
- viven alli desde hace dos años.*
- lo que mas me gustó, Lo que no nos gustó*
- me tienes que contar de*
- tengo que preguntar*
- Escribeme pronto*

The candidate uses a range of tenses successfully using the first and second person singular and the third person plural. She uses the present, the preterite, the imperfect, the future and the conditional.

Taking into account the above this candidate is awarded full marks for Knowledge and Application of language.

Accuracy 5/5

Although not faultless this piece is highly accurate. There are a few errors and a few accents missing but this doesn't hinder communication.

- me tienes que contar tus vacaciones*
- tengo que preguntar mis padres*

Total 19/20

This is an excellent response to the stimulus. This candidate can go beyond what it is expected at the GCSE level by using phrases with the subjunctive.