

Moderators' Report/
Principal Moderator Feedback

Summer 2014

Entry Level Certificate
Spanish (8928)

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Entry Level Spanish – 8928 Paper 01

The course continues to offer candidates plenty of opportunities to succeed in their study of Spanish.

It would be useful to outline the requirements for each of the different levels:

- Level 1** 40 assessment tasks + 1 coursework task.
- Level 2** 50 assessment tasks (20 to be at level 2 or 3) + 2 coursework tasks.
- Level 3** 50 assessment tasks (20 to be at level 3) + 3 coursework tasks.

There should be at least 7 tasks completed in each of the skill areas of Listening, Reading, Speaking and Writing.

This year, awards were claimed at all 3 levels, with many candidates successful at level 3.

Centres are presenting very well organised portfolios of work which assists the moderation process enormously.

Some administrative issues came to light during the moderation period, which are highlighted below in order to help make improvements for future submissions.

Date for submission

Please ensure that the samples of student work reach the moderator by the specified date. Any late submissions affect the moderation process and could lead to a delay in candidates receiving their results. The moderator's address can be found on the bottom left of any of the copies of the OPTEMS.

OPTEMS

Centres should write the number 1, 2 or 3 (according to the level claimed) in the blank space alongside each candidate's name and the appropriate circle, 1, 2 or 3 should also be shaded. Please note that only the yellow copies of the OPTEMS should be forwarded to the moderator. The top copies should be sent to Pearson at the address given.

Record Sheet

This is a vital document and should be checked carefully prior to submitting centre marks. It is also important to tick against each task that has been successfully completed.

Task Evidence

It is important that all tasks which appear on the Record Sheet are actually submitted for moderation and that they have been marked using the current mark scheme. Centres must also ensure that candidates' responses are all annotated clearly by some method e.g. tick/cross. Each task worksheet should have the name of the candidate stated and a clear indication of the mark awarded.

Centres are requested to present student portfolios either by arranging the task sheets in order A1-32, B1-25, C1-20, D1-15 and E1-21 or by having all the tasks for each skill in the order stated on the Record Sheet.

It is advisable that candidates complete a few more than the minimum required number of tasks at each level where possible to ensure that the award is secure if one or two tasks are not able to be approved by the moderator.

Speaking recordings

Some cassette tapes submitted were of very poor recording quality and centres are now actively encouraged to provide speaking evidence on alternative media. It is important that the candidate's name and centre number is given at the beginning of the tasks and also that each task is identified (e.g. - B3). Each candidate should provide recorded evidence of having completed three speaking tasks. If sending a CD/memory stick for moderation, please send only the recordings of the candidates requested in the sample. Please note that it is a requirement of the assessment process that recorded evidence is provided for each candidate in the sample. If other media is used for recording speaking evidence, please ensure that all tracks are clearly labelled with candidate and task details.

NB: It should be noted that cassette tapes will no longer be accepted for moderation from September 2014. Centres are required to provide digital recordings (on CD or USB) of speaking assessments for moderation from Summer 2015 series onwards.

Coursework

Centres are reminded that to claim level 1, one piece of coursework must be submitted along with the correct number of completed tasks, two pieces for level 2 with the correct number of completed tasks and three pieces for level 3 with the correct number of completed tasks.

A completed coversheet must also accompany the coursework. It is a requirement that candidates sign this to authenticate their work.

