

Examiners' Report/
Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2015

Pearson Edexcel GCSE
in Spanish (5SP01/1F)
Paper 1F: Listening and
Understanding in Spanish

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GCSE Spanish

Unit 1: Listening and Understanding in Spanish Examiner Report

General Comments

Candidate performance across the paper in general was good and indeed many candidates were fully able to access all the questions. Candidates were able to deal with the different task types although the open ended question which required candidates to answer in English proved to be challenging for weaker students who in some cases did not attempt to answer.

Question 1

This question which targeted Grade G required the recognition of single lexical items with regards to sport. Practically all students identified the correct answers apart from a very small minority who failed to recognise *el baloncesto* in (ii) and perhaps surprisingly *el atletismo* in (iv).

Question 2

Question 2 was a multiple choice task and targeted Grade F. It was accessible to the majority of candidates although in (i) 42% did not know *azafata* and in (iv) 45% failed to understand *pintor*. It is imperative for candidates to have thorough knowledge of the core vocabulary to achieve maximum marks on this question as indeed with all the questions on the Foundation paper apart from the crossover questions.

Question 3/Higher Question 2 (crossover question)

This question targeted Grade D and candidates had to listen to short statements about friends and choose the correct answers from a list of options. The question was intended to discriminate and did so as Higher Level candidates performed better than weaker candidates who found it more challenging. At Foundation Level the problems arose in (ii) *reír y divertirse* and in (iii) *Clara nunca quiere hacer las tareas*.

Question 4/Higher 1 (crossover question)

This question targeted Grade C and required candidates to listen to Clara talking about her likes and dislikes with regard to shopping. At Higher Level candidates in general achieved the maximum 4 marks whereas at Foundation Level 55% of candidates scored 2 marks. Difficulties lay in the misunderstanding of *me atienden*, *me agrada*, *disfruto*, *almacenes*, *me canso* and *desagradable*.

Question 5

Candidates were required to listen to some friends talking about the books they read and the question targeted Grade E. In general the question was answered quite well although *las novelas policíacas* in (iii) and *me gusta mucho dibujar* in (iv) proved to be difficult for just over half the candidates.

Question 6

Question 6 targeted Grade F and candidates had to listen to some friends talking about their use of the Internet. Practically all candidates correctly answered (i) and (ii) but about a third failed to understand *mando correos electrónicos* in (iii) and somewhat surprisingly *hago mis deberes en Internet* in (iv).

Question 7/Higher Level 6 (crossover question)

This question targeted Grade C and the task type required candidates to listen to some friends discussing the local museum. The question discriminated well as the performance of Higher Level candidates far surpassed that of the weaker candidates. Overall almost all Higher Level candidates correctly answered (i) and (iii) and 75% scored correctly in (ii) and (iv). At Foundation Level however, just over half the candidates achieved the marks in (ii) and (iv). Failure to understand *se aprende mucho en las visitas guiadas, me inquieta que mucha gente no venga al museo porque las entradas son muy caras* prevented many Foundation candidates from accessing the marks.

Question 8/ Higher Level 5 (crossover question)

Question 8 was aimed at Grade D. Candidates had to listen to Ana talking about her work experience and choose the correct answer from the options available. The question was accessible to all candidates in general but whereas 90% of Higher Level candidates scored the maximum 4 marks under two thirds of Foundation Level candidates achieved 2 marks for the question. Difficulties lay in the miscomprehension of *repartir las cartas, utilizo el ordenador, me molesta, me dejan mensajes largos* and *me distraigo*.

Question 9

Question was a multiple choice task type which targeted Grade G. Candidates were required to listen to some friends talking about the drinks they liked. Practically all candidates scored the maximum 4 marks and it is clear that they are familiar with this vocabulary. A very small minority, not even amounting to 1% were unfamiliar with *el zumo de fruta* in (iv).

Question 10

Question 10 targeting Grade E required candidates to listen to Merche talking about her town and then answer the questions in English. Again this year it was pleasing to note that candidates heeded the rubric as answers in Spanish did not appear. In (a) misunderstanding led to incorrect answers such as: Spain, East Spain, the outskirts of the city and North of the city. In (bi) just over 50% wrote the correct answer. Failure to understand produced incorrect answers such as: the people, most are Spanish and the little beach. In (bii) candidates who did not understand *me gusta porque es limpia* produced answers such as: there are woods, there is a lot to do, it is near, it is fun. Although 70% of candidates achieved the mark in (c) incorrect answers included: there are lots of shops, it is too close to her, no-one speaks Spanish.

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