



Pearson

Examiners' Report

Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2017

Pearson Edexcel GCSE

In Spanish (5SP03)

Paper 3F: Reading and Understanding in Spanish.

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GCSE Spanish
Unit 3F: Reading
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Candidate's performance

Most candidates demonstrated a clear understanding of the rubrics and the general format of the examination. It was evident that they had been well prepared and had practiced in preparation for the examination.

Both papers Foundation and Higher, proved to be accessible to all candidates.

Entry selections made by centres were appropriate. Very few candidates left significant gaps in their answers or failed to complete the paper at either level.

Very good candidates scored highly throughout each paper set. They demonstrated a clear and precise understanding of the subtleties expected at the higher level questions, in terms of content vocabulary, grammar and level of inference.

Crossover questions generally discriminated well and were completed more accurately by candidates who entered at the higher level.

Spelling

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

Conclusion

The outcome of this unit was pleasing. The majority of centres had prepared their candidates thoroughly so they had a good understanding of the requirements of this unit and responded well to its demands.

FOUNDATION TIER

Question 1

This question is targeted at Grade G and requires the candidates to match single lexical items with pictures of different sports. It was well done by most candidates.

Question 2

Q2 Most candidates in the Grade F/G range scored 2 of the 4 marks available in this question. The main causes for the loss of marks was:

Q2 (ii) hay mucha niebla en esta región

Q2 (iii) hace mucho viento especialmente en otoño

Question 3

The majority of candidates scored 4 of the 4 marks available.

The most likely errors will be seen in

3(iii) 'we are a big family and want a quiet place'

Question 4

The majority of candidates scored 2/3 of the 4 marks available.

This question proved to be challenging and a good discriminator.

The most likely error was

4(i) Only 58% answered this question correctly.

Question 5

The majority of candidates scored 3 marks of the 4 available.

The most common error was missing the link between

5(iv) 'I have to get up early' and 'empiezo a trabajar muy temprano'

Question 6

Around 50% of the candidates scored 2 marks for this question. The main causes for the loss of marks was:

Q6 (ii) Having breakfast

Q6 (iii) Spending time outdoors.

Question 7

7 This question proved to be a good discriminator. The majority of candidates scored 1 of the 4 marks available.

7(i) Only 21% answered this question correctly.

7(iii) Only 23% answered this question correctly. Most candidates missed the link between 'estoy en contacto diariamente con ella con una llamada' and 'speak with her every day'

7(iv) Only 16% answered this question correctly. Most candidates missed the link between 'desde que Marta tenía cinco años' and 'when she was a child'

Question 8

The majority of candidates scored 2/3 of the 4 marks available.

The most likely errors will be seen in

8(ii) some candidates wrongly thought that 'levar una botella de agua' was 'Food'. The correct answer was 'comprar algo de comer'

8(iii) recognizing the word 'maleta'.

Question 9

This question targeted at Grade G requires the candidates to recognise single lexical items. Many candidates scored 2/3 of the 4 points available for this question. Some candidates failed to recognize:

9 (iv) 'Prefiero la química'

Question 10

Candidates found this question challenging. The majority of candidates scored 2 of the 4 marks available. There was some evidence of guesswork where candidates failed to interpret the correct answer:

10(c) Q10 Candidates found this question challenging. The majority of candidates scored 2 of the 4 marks available.

The most frequently wrong responses were:

10(c)What items are on offer at the moment? The correct answer was 'sports clothes'. Many candidates just wrote 'clothes'

10(d)'What is next to the new shop?' The correct answer was 'the post office'. Only 20% answered this question correctly. There was some evidence of guesswork where candidates wrote: the bank, the station, the church, etc.

Advice and Guidance

- Candidates need to read the questions properly.
- Candidates should ensure that they read the texts carefully and base their answers on the actual content of the text rather than impose their own speculations.
- Their responses should be written clearly.
- A good knowledge of vocabulary items is required.
- Candidates aiming at a higher grade require a good knowledge of more complicated lexis and structures.

