

Examiners' Report/
Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2014

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

On the Unit 1 Listening and Understanding paper for the 2014 series again candidate performance across the full mark range was achieved. In general terms all candidates were able to access the questions. However, on the Higher tier paper, those questions which targeted Grades B-A*, where responses given required candidates to provide more specific detail and deduce information from what they had heard, yet again proved to be sufficiently challenging and as a result success was limited for some unfortunately.

Question 1

Question 1 required candidates to identify specific references to information about school subjects by selecting the correct answer from visual stimuli. This question was well done by practically all candidates. Only 1(iv) seemed to prove difficult as some failed to equate *la informática* with the correct answer.

Question 2

Question 2 was a multiple choice task and targeted Grade F. The majority of candidates correctly chose the correct answers in parts 2(ii) and (iii) although it was clear that *una habitación individual para una noche* in 2(i) and *una habitación con ducha* in 2(iv) were not commonly known by many thus producing incorrect answers.

Question 3 (crossover question)

This question required candidates to listen to short statements where Nieves talked about her friend Alba and select the answers from a list of options. At Foundation Level the difficulties proved to lie again in 3(i) where candidates failed to understand *mayor que yo* and equally in 3(iv) where *Más que nada le gusta ir al extranjero* caused difficulties.

Question 4 (crossover question)

This multiple choice question targeting Grade C required candidates to listen to a short dialogue taking place at a train station. There was a marked difference in performance between Foundation Level and Higher Level candidates. At Higher Level practically all candidates scored the maximum 4 marks for this question with a small number obtaining 3 marks whereas Foundation candidates had problems understanding *prefiero viajar por la tarde, ida y vuelta, al lado de la ventana* and *setenta y cinco euros* thus failing to score marks.

Question 5

Candidates had to listen to some friends discussing adventure holidays and giving their opinions about them. By and large the question was answered quite well although *conocer a gente nueva me interesa mucho* in 5(ii) and *pues para mí son demasiado caras* in 5(iii) proved to be problematic for some candidates.

Question 6

This question required candidates to identify which television programmes a group of friends listened to. The majority of candidates scored well on this question although overall only 56% correctly identified *los dibujos animados* in 6(i) and 55% understood *los animales jóvenes* in 6(iii).

Question 7 (crossover question)

This multiple choice question required candidates to be able to listen to short statements about adventure holidays. At Foundation Level just under 60% of the candidates scored 1 out of the 4 available marks. Lexical items causing difficulties were: *trabajé de canguro*, *soy miembro de una orquesta*, *el domingo al mediodía fui a la boda de mi prima* and *asistí a un curso de cocina*.

Question 8 (crossover question)

This question required candidates to listen to Lola describing what she was going to do in town. Almost 60% of the Foundation Level candidates failed to understand *quiero cortarme el pelo* in 8(i), *debo comprar unas sandalias azules nuevas* in 8(ii), *iré a ver a mis compañeras de clase* in 8(iii) and *hoy a más tardar tengo que mandar un regalo* in 8(iv).

Question 9

Question 9 was a multiple choice task which required candidates to listen to how some people travelled to work. Overall this question was done extremely well by all candidates and it is clear that at Foundation Level different types of transport are widely known.

Question 10

Question 10 required candidates to listen to an announcement about a special offer. They were required to indicate their comprehension by writing answers of one or two words in English. It was pleasing to see that the candidates heeded the rubric and answers in Spanish did not appear. In 10(a) *los abrigos* led to incorrect answers such as: swimming costumes, sunglasses, flowers, shoes, books, clothes, fruit to mention just a few. In 10(b) the percentage discount of 50% appeared as: 15%, 56%, 20%, 75%, 25%, 10% and 40%. The location of the item in 10(c) produced many incorrect answers such as: in front of the till, in the plant section, upstairs, near a plant, on the first floor, in the garden centre, in the town centre to name but a few. In 10(d) failure to understand *julio* produced incorrect answers such as: next week, June, today, on Friday, at the end of the month.

Grade Boundaries

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