



Pearson Edexcel GCSE – Picture Description

Teacher Guide: 'Speaking Mats' for student support

- For each language there are the following speaking mats: one in the target language, a translated version, and one with top tips in English.
- You may choose to keep the translated version for students who need extra support or use it as a solution sheet after setting students the task of translating the target language speaking mat into English.
- These slides support focused practice and revision throughout the course but are not an exhaustive vocabulary and grammar list for the picture description.
- All vocabulary and grammar used are taken from the specification lists; Higher Tier-only vocabulary is clearly marked.
- You may teach extra productive vocabulary outside the specification list, but this is optional. Students who use additional vocabulary will get equal but not extra credit.
- For further training and marking guidance, see:

[Professional Development Academy](#) | [Online CPD courses](#) | [Pearson UK](#) for 'Conducting the Speaking' and 'Unpacking the Speaking' courses.

Our language-specific GCSE 2024 Qualification pages for exemplars with examiner commentaries.

Pearson Edexcel GCSE Spanish – Picture Description

P

People



- Hay...
un hombre / una mujer / un abuelo / una abuela
un chico / una chica / un niño / una niña / un bebé
una familia / una pareja / un grupo de... amigos / estudiantes / jóvenes / adultos / turistas
(tres) personas / alumnos / muchas personas / muchos alumnos
una madre / un padre / dos hijos / dos hermanos / un profesor / una profesora
- El hombre / la mujer / los chicos / las chicas...
es / son...
alto / bajo / rubio / *moreno / viejo/a(s) / joven / jóvenes
- **Tiene / Tienen...**
el pelo largo / corto / rubio / negro / castaño / pelirrojo
los ojos verdes / azules / marrones
- **Lleva / Llevan...**
gafas / un sombrero / uniforme escolar / ropa deportiva
un jersey / un vestido / unos pantalones / unos zapatos
una falda / camisa / camiseta / chaqueta / corbata
unas zapatillas de deporte blancas / negras / azules

Está / Están...

Mood

contento/a(s)
enfadado/a(s)

cansado/a(s)
triste(s)



To start

En la foto hay...
Se puede ver...
Veo...
Hay...

A

Activity



- El chico a la izquierda / la chica a la derecha / las tres personas...

está / están...

| | | |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| chateando | escuchando | jugando |
| hablando | trabajando | paseando |
| estudiando | bailando | celebrando |
| cocinando | mandando | descansando |
| comiendo | bebiendo | haciendo |
| discutiendo | aprendiendo | escribiendo |
| corriendo | viendo | leyendo |

Linking

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| también / pero / y / porque | creo que / pienso que... |
| *además / *sin embargo | me parece que... |
| *por lo tanto / | diría que... |
| *aunque / *mientras | See 'Top Tips' for how to use opinion expressions |

L

Location



- **Está / Están en...**
casa / clase
un parque / bosque / pueblo / centro deportivo
un instituto / colegio / centro comercial / restaurante
una calle / ciudad / tienda / plaza / oficina / fiesta
la playa / costa / cocina / sala / estación / universidad
el campo / jardín / cine / trabajo
- **Está / Están...**
al aire libre / de vacaciones / en la montaña
- **Hay...**
unos árboles / edificios / unas tiendas
muchos monumentos / coches / muchas casas
- **Se puede ver...** el cielo / el mar / un río / unas fotos

Adjectives: bonito / feo
grande / pequeño
nuevo / viejo / histórico
limpio / sucio
cómodo / incómodo

Where?

en primer plano / en segundo plano
en el centro / al fondo
a la derecha / izquierda
delante de / al lado de

Weather

hace... frío / calor
sol / viento
llueve / nieva
es... invierno / primavera
verano / otoño

Pearson Edexcel GCSE Spanish – Picture Description (translation)

P

People



- There is / There are...

a man / a woman / a grandpa / a granny

a boy / a girl / a child (boy / girl) / a baby

a family / a couple / a group of... friends / students / young people / adults / tourists

(three) people / pupils / lots of people / lots of pupils

a mum / a dad / two children / two siblings / a teacher

(male / female)

- The man / woman / children (boys / girls)...

is / are...

tall / short / fair / dark / old / young

- He / She has... **They have...**

long / short / blond / black / brown / red... hair

green / blue / brown...eyes

- He is / She is / They are wearing...

glasses / a hat / school uniform / sports clothes /

a jumper / a dress / trousers / shoes

a skirt / shirt / T-shirt / jacket, blazer / tie

white / black / blue trainers

He / She is...

Mood

They are...

happy

tired

angry

sad



To start

In the photo there is / there are...

You can see... / I see...

There is / there are...

A

Activity



- The boy on the left / the girl on the right / the three people...

is / are...

| | | |
|----------|-----------|-------------------|
| chatting | listening | playing |
| talking | working | going for a walk |
| studying | dancing | celebrating |
| cooking | sending | resting, chilling |
| eating | drinking | doing, making |
| arguing | learning | writing |
| running | watching | reading |

Linking

also / but / and / because

*in addition / *however

*therefore /

*although / *while

I believe / I think that...

It seems to me that...

I would say that...

See 'Top Tips' for how to use opinion expressions

L

Location



- He / She is...

They are...

at home / in class

in...a park / forest / town / sports centre / school / shopping centre / restaurant

in...a city / a shop / a square / an office / at a party at the beach / at the coast / in a kitchen / in a lounge / at a station / at a university

in...the countryside / a garden / a cinema / at work

- He / She is... **They are...**

outdoors / on holiday / in the mountains

- There are...

some trees / buildings / shops / lots of monuments / cars / houses

• You can see... the sky / the sea / a river / some photos

• **Adjectives:** pretty / ugly big / small clean / dirty new / old / historical comfortable / uncomfortable

Where?

in the foreground / in the background

in the centre / at the back

on the right / left

in front of / next to

Weather

it's... cold / hot

it's... sunny / windy

it's raining / snowing

it is... winter / spring / summer / autumn

Pearson Edexcel GCSE – Picture Description – Top Tips

Thematic Contexts

My Personal World Lifestyle and Wellbeing

My neighbourhood Media and technology

Studying and my future Travel and tourism

During your revision time, think about what sort of picture could link to your chosen thematic context

P People



Relationships

Say who they are (a man, two women)

Family members (son, mother, grandparent)

How they might be connected (siblings, friends)

Physical Appearance

Hair: colour, length

More details: height, eye colour

Clothing

Type of clothes (t-shirt, jumper, dress, uniform)

Colours (remember word order and agreement)

Mood (happy, sad, tired)

Variety

Describe more than one person for varied vocabulary

Opinions

DO mention your opinion on their mood or relationship: "I think they are happy because they are smiling" or "I think they are friends"

DON'T give personal opinions: "I love her T-shirt"



Preparation

Before your exam you will choose your thematic context from a choice of two

You will have 14 minutes in the invigilation room, plus 1 minute in the exam room. You need to choose Picture 1 or Picture 2

Make notes on A4 paper about the ONE picture you have chosen. You can refer to these during the exam

A Activity



Use verbs in the correct form

'He/she is...' or 'they are...'

playing football watching TV

shopping smiling / laughing

eating breakfast dancing

Use the present tense (or the *present continuous tense)

Vocabulary

Mention objects or features in the photo that relate to the activity. For example: "There is a swimming pool"

Describing the picture

Give as much detail as possible – this task is worth 8 marks

It's better to say what you know than what you'd ideally say. Aim to be as accurate as you can

Use the vocabulary you feel confident about and vary your language but take some risks and have a go too!

L Location



Use vocabulary for places

Forest, trees, campsite, beach, classroom, shopping centre, etc.

Mention any other objects or features you can see – think of any nouns you can add in.

Describe the weather

Mention weather conditions if visible in the picture (hot, cold, snowy).

Use adjectives

Big, small, modern, old etc.

Opinions

DO mention the weather or season if obvious:

"I think it's summer because they are wearing t-shirts and it is sunny"

DON'T give personal opinions:

"I don't like shopping centres"