

Examiners' Report/ Principal Examiner Feedback

November 2009

IGCSE

IGCSE Spanish (4440) Paper 03 - Speaking (optional endorsement)

Edexcel is one of the leading examining and awarding bodies in the UK and throughout the world. We provide a wide range of qualifications including academic, vocational, occupational and specific programmes for employers.

Through a network of UK and overseas offices, Edexcel's centres receive the support they need to help them deliver their education and training programmes to learners.

For further information please call our Customer Services on + 44 1204 770 696, or visit our website at www.edexcel.com.

If you have any subject specific questions about the content of this Examiners' Report that require the help of a subject specialist, you may find our **Ask The Expert** email service helpful.

Ask The Expert can be accessed online at the following link:

<http://www.edexcel.com/Aboutus/contact-us/>

Alternately, you can speak directly to a subject specialist at Edexcel on our dedicated Languages telephone line: 0844 576 0035.

(If you are calling from outside the UK please dial + 44 1204 770 696 and state that you would like to speak to the Languages subject specialist).

November 2009

Publications Code UG022420

All the material in this publication is copyright

© Edexcel Ltd 2009

General Comments

The speaking tests were conducted efficiently and in most cases strictly in accordance with the requirements of the Specification, although in a few cases it would be advisable to become fully conversant with the Specification before conducting the exams. It is important that candidates should select a picture or a photograph that means something to them and in which they have an interest. They will talk more passionately and fluently about something that holds a personal meaning for them. Equally, Teacher Examiners should wherever possible allow the candidates to take the initiative and talk freely about their chosen subject. Ideally about 80% of the oral exam should be dominated by the candidate and the Teacher Examiner's role should be restricted to asking the open questions that prompt the student to provide the information. Every opportunity should be given to the candidates to demonstrate their ability over a wide range of structures, vocabulary and tenses in all three sections of the exam and care should be taken to time the conversations as equally as possible since all three of the conversations are marked separately.

Candidates were put at their ease, had prepared well the pictures and photographs that were used for Section A and responded readily to the unprepared topics in Sections B and C. The recordings were generally clear and the microphones had been positioned to the advantage of the candidates. Most of the candidates responded spontaneously, fluently and in detail, frequently giving their opinions and justifying them. It was pleasing to find that many candidates took the initiative and volunteered information without waiting to be asked.

The level of accuracy in language was impressive and the teachers conducting the exams gave the students every opportunity to demonstrate their abilities over a wide range of vocabulary, tenses and structures. The timings of the tests were accurate and the teacher examiners are generally to be congratulated on their thorough, efficient administration.

Statistics

Grade	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Lowest mark for award of subject grade (Paper 01 and 02 only)	85	76	67	59	49	39	30	21
Lowest mark for award of grade for Paper 03, Speaking (optional)	51	45	39	33	28	19	13	7

Further copies of this publication are available from
International Regional Offices at www.edexcel.com/international

For more information on Edexcel qualifications, please visit www.edexcel.com
Alternatively, you can contact Customer Services at www.edexcel.com/ask or on + 44 1204 770 696

Edexcel Limited. Registered in England and Wales no.4496750
Registered Office: One90 High Holborn, London, WC1V 7BH