

Examiners' Report/
Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2013

International GCSE Spanish (4SP0)
Paper 1

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International GCSE Spanish

Paper 1 Listening

General comments

The 2013 paper proved to be accessible to all students and clearly tested their knowledge and understanding of spoken Spanish. It was evident that students had been well prepared and had practiced in preparation for the examination.

All questions set were answered as predicted and in particular, in the final section, (questions 15 – 17 which targeted grade A - A*) only the highest performing students demonstrated a full and clear understanding of the more extended extracts of language heard.

Section A

Questions 1 to 5

There were only a few students who did not achieve full marks in questions 1-5.

Question 6

Q6 (a) some students wrote incorrectly the English word 'double' rather than 'doble'

Q6(b) mostly successful.

Q6(c) mostly successful.

Q6(d) a common mistake was 'salmar'

Q6(e) many students answered the question of 'when' rather than 'where' and so wrote incorrectly '7 -10'. The spelling of the word 'terrazza' proved to be problematic. However all recognizable spellings of this word were credited with a mark.

Questions 7 to 11

Most students responded well to this question demonstrating their ability to follow slightly longer extracts of dialogue which contain some unfamiliar items relating to members of the family.

The most likely error was seen in question 7 where students wrote 'España' instead of 'Estados Unidos'.

Section B

Question 12

This was well attempted by most students with the greater majority scoring the one mark available for this question.

Question 13

Most students scored the one mark available for this question.

Question 14

A number of students did not recognise the word 'muebles' and were therefore unsuccessful.

Question 15

Many students confused '3 hours' with '3 euros' and wrongly ticked C.

Question 16

This question proved to be a good discriminator. Only the very high end of the entry scored the full marks available.

Short answers were acceptable here rather than full sentences.

16(a) Some students correctly identified the age of 18 and scored 1 mark.

16(b) Most students managed to score 1 of the 2 marks available. 'actores famosos' was well recognized.

16(c) Some students scored 1 of the 2 marks available for 'la vida de una pintora' .

The other two ideas in this question proved more difficult. Many students correctly noted 'la situación de Europa, España or el país' as an answer but failed to provide the required second piece of information 'durante los años 40' or 'durante la Guerra Mundial'.

There was too some evidence of random guesswork: eg 'Europa was confused with ropa'.

16(d) This question proved to be very challenging. Only the very few scored the marks available.

Question 17

As anticipated only the very high end of the entry scored the full marks available for these questions.

In these questions students had to be able to understand significant detail from a longer extract of dialogue which contained unfamiliar language. They also had to demonstrate their ability to make the links with the questions and the gist of the dialogue to produce the correct answer. The most likely error was seen in part (d).

Grade Boundaries

Grade boundaries for this, and all other papers, can be found on the website on this link:

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