



Examiners' Report

Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2024

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE

In Spanish (4SP1) Paper 01

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## **General comments**

4SP1 01 is assessed by means of a 30- minutes examination plus 5 minutes reading time. During this time, candidates are assessed on their understanding of spoken Spanish across a range of different types of texts.

The assessment consists of 7 questions and is out of 40 marks. Questions 3 and 7 seek responses in Spanish.

Recorded texts may be in the form of short statements, monologues, and dialogues. The topics of the listening texts are taken from a range of different situations from both everyday life and academic contexts with which students will be familiar. The examination begins with shorter statements, which build into short paragraphs and longer conversations.

The assessment is linear, and all rubrics are in Spanish. Multiple choice questions have four options.

It is positive to be able to report that most candidates demonstrated a good understanding of the format of the examination. In general, it was evident that candidates had been well prepared and had practiced in preparation for the examination. Most entrants achieved success on questions which required the recall of familiar vocabulary items from the list provided in the Specification. However, some candidates were less successful on questions which contained some complicated lexis and structures and required processing or interpreting meaning.

### *Spelling*

The spelling of some Spanish words proved problematic for some candidates. However, where spelling was phonically recognisable versions of required words were credited.

## **Question 1**

This question requires candidates to listen to short sentences about the weather and to match them to the appropriate image. The sentences contained familiar vocabulary items from the list provided in the Specification. Many candidates found this question accessible and scored full marks.

## **Question 2**

This question is a multiple matching question about eating at home. Candidates are provided with images and must identify what is being mentioned. This question requires candidates to recall and transcribe correctly from the recording.

Candidates must cross only six boxes. If a candidate crosses more than this number, one mark is deducted from the correct answers for each extra cross.

The majority of candidates were successful and gained full marks in this question.

### Question 3

This question requires candidates to listen to an extended passage about shopping for a present and produce target language responses in bullet point form. This question assesses communication and not the quality of language.

- (a) *Para quién? Mi hermana* This was the most correct answer
- (b) *Por qué? Cumpleaños* Many successful candidates identified the correct answers and gained a mark.
- (c) *Día? Viernes* Several candidates answered this question correctly.
- (d) *Comprar Dónde? Centro comercial* Several candidates wrote incorrectly *cerca de su casa* which was insufficient to be awarded the mark.
- (e) *Regalo Qué? Móvil* Most candidates recognize the word *móvil* but surprisingly some did not.
- (f) *Precio Cuánto? 150 (euros)* Many candidates found numbers challenging and different numbers were offered as an answer.

### Question 4

This is a non-verbal question about holidays which requires some deduction to work out whether the statements of the six speakers are in the Past Present and Future. This question is worth 6 marks.

Although the level of demand increased in this question and in n this question, candidates had to use their knowledge of grammar it was pleasing to see that most candidates had some success and there were many that achieved around 4 marks.

The most frequently correct answers were:

- 4(a) A finales de agosto, me gustaría ir con mi familia a España.
- 4(b) Fuimos de vacaciones a Italia el verano pasado.

The most frequently wrong answer was:

- 4(c) Nosotros íbamos a la playa todos los años porque teníamos una casa allí.

### Question 5

This is a multiple-choice question about Carlos' job. Most candidates scored 3 marks out of the 6 available.

A particularly challenging question was:

5(c) where candidates had to process what they heard to be able to select the correct answer by linking ... *podré mejorar mi inglés; estudié en Inglaterra y entiendo todo lo que dicen pero necesito hablar más* with *Carlos quiere practicar el inglés*.

The most correct answer was

5(b) *Este trabajo es bueno porque es a tiempo parcial*

There was evidence that some of the items of vocabulary used in this question were sometimes not known. Errors were made at random which indicated that some candidates guessed an answer which seemed logical to them.

### Question 6

This question requires candidates to process and interpret meaning in a gap-fill exercise about Helping at home. Most candidates scored 3 marks out of the 6 available

Most candidates found this question very challenging because they are provided with thirteen words in a box which they had to match to what the text said to complete six sentences. In this type of question candidates had to understand the passage, the items in the pool of words, and the vocabulary and grammatical content of the sentences in the questions.

Most candidates answered correctly:

6(a) *Luís comenzó a ayudar en el jardín.*

6(b) *De adolescente, Luís aprendió a trabajar en equipo.*

*The most wrong answer was*

6(d) *creó su propio horario que incluía los estudios, el ocio y la ayuda en casa organizar su tiempo.*

### Question 7

This question is an advantage and disadvantage table fill question. It requires candidates to listen to an extended recording about living in Barcelona and to complete a table with the positive and negative aspects. In this question communication and not the quality of language is assessed. The extended passage contained some complicated lexis and structures, as is appropriate for a question at this level.

Most candidates scored 4 marks.

(a) and (b) The positive aspects of living in Barcelona were; *es segura, tiene buen transporte público* and *se puede esquiar muy cerca*

(c) The negative aspects were *alquilar pisos/el alojamiento es caro* and *el aire no es puro*

(d) and (e) The positive aspects were: *buen clima/ temperaturas agradables* and *está cerca de Francia*

(f) The negative aspects were *muchos embotellamientos /muchos coches, pocas calles peatonales* and *hay pocos carriles para las bicicletas.*

### **Advice and Guidance**

- Remember that the question title, provides an important clue.
- A good knowledge of vocabulary items is required.
- Candidates should focus their attention on checking carefully that what they have written is a coherent and logical answer to the question as it is asked.
- Candidates must remember that in the multiple- choice questions, most alternative incorrect options will contain an element of distraction, such as a word or phrase from what candidates have heard and learning to look for these can be a helpful skill.
- In this specification, longer passages appear earlier in the paper, and practice of notetaking is very important to be able to answer the more demanding questions.
- In Question 7 candidates must check if the information is a positive or negative aspect and ensure this information is placed in the correct part of the table.

### **Conclusion**

Most centres had prepared their candidates well, so they had a good understanding of the requirements of this unit. The examiners marking this unit appreciated the efforts that the teachers had made to allow their candidates to reach their full potential.

