



Pearson
Edexcel

Examiners' Report

Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2023

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE

In Spanish (4SP1) Paper 01R

Edexcel and BTEC Qualifications

Edexcel and BTEC qualifications are awarded by Pearson, the UK's largest awarding body. We provide a wide range of qualifications including academic, vocational, occupational and specific programmes for employers. For further information visit our qualifications websites at www.edexcel.com or www.btec.co.uk. Alternatively, you can get in touch with us using the details on our contact us page at www.edexcel.com/contactus.

Pearson: helping people progress, everywhere

Pearson aspires to be the world's leading learning company. Our aim is to help everyone progress in their lives through education. We believe in every kind of learning, for all kinds of people, wherever they are in the world. We've been involved in education for over 150 years, and by working across 70 countries, in 100 languages, we have built an international reputation for our commitment to high standards and raising achievement through innovation in education. Find out more about how we can help you and your students at: www.pearson.com/uk

Summer 2023

Publications Code 4SP1_01R_2306_ER

All the material in this publication is copyright

© Pearson Education Ltd 2023

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 maybe 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 different places in a city and to match them to the appropriate image. The sentences contained familiar vocabulary items from the list provided in the Specification. Most candidates gained full marks for this question.

Question 2

This question is a multiple matching question about my house. 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.

Many candidates were successful and gained full marks in this question.

Question 3

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

(b) *Descripción: azul, cuero or caro.* Most candidates answered this question correctly and gained the two marks available.

The spelling of *cuero* proved problematic for some candidates. However, all the spellings that were phonically recognisable were credited.

(e) *Perdido - dónde: en la tienda de zapatos or en la tercera planta.* The answer *en el centro commercial* was not accepted as correct as it was not specific enough.

Question 4

This is a non-verbal question about city breaks which requires some deduction to work out whether the statements of the six speakers are positive, negative, or positive and negative. This question is worth 6 marks.

Although the level of demand increased in this question, it was pleasing to see that most candidates had some success and there were many that achieved at least 3/4 marks.

The most frequently correct answers were:

4(a) Positive *Las personas son muy simpáticas. Además, nunca te aburres porque hay mucho que hacer.*

4(b) Positive and negative *Nuestro hotel era maravilloso, pero llovió sin parar y tuvimos que quedarnos en nuestra habitación.*

The most frequently wrong answer was:

4(e). Negative *Solo había festivales de música que odio. Yo quería ver espectáculos deportivos, pero no había ninguno.*

Question 5

This is a multiple-choice question about voluntary work. Several candidates scored 3 marks out of the 6 available.

A particularly challenging question was Q.5 (b) Where candidates had to interpret and process what they heard to be able to select the correct answer by linking *Ahora puedo hacer muchas cosas nuevas* with *Elvira ha aprendido mucho.*

The most correct answer was 5(f) *Este año hay menos voluntarios.*

Question 6

This question requires candidates to process and interpret meaning in a gap-fill exercise about sunbathing.

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.

Particularly challenging was Q. 6 where candidates had to select the correct answer by linking (d) *Un bebé puede tomar el sol desde que tiene un mes* with *Después del primer mes de vida, un bebé puede tomar un poquito el sol,*

Most candidates answered correctly:

6(a) *Es suficiente tomar el sol 15 minutos al día* that linked with *se necesita solamente tomarlo un cuarto de hora al día.*

Question7:

This question is an advantage and disadvantage table fill question. It requires candidates to listen to an extended recording about social media 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.

(a) and (b) The positive aspects of social media were *ver fotos, contactar a parientes hacer negocios.*

(c) The negative aspects were *no hacer deberes, discutir con mis padres and robo de información personal*

(d) and (e) The positive aspects were *disfrutar leyendo los mensajes / me hacen reír, conocer a muchos jóvenes* and *seguir las noticias*

7 (f) The negative aspects were *sentirse triste por querer hacer lo que hacen otras personas, dormir mal* and *no encontrarse con sus amigos en persona.*

Most candidates found this question challenging but several candidates scored around 3 marks.

Overall, the most frequent correct answers were: *ver fotos, no hacer deberes* and *discutir con mis padres.*

Advice and Guidance

- Remember that the question title, e.g., *Las redes sociales* 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.

