



[Year 13 Spanish @ Ballyclare High]

[Teachers: Mr J Nelson & Mrs J Wallace]

[Course Outline]

Exam Board: CCEA

<http://ccea.org.uk/spanish/>

100% External Assessment. No coursework or controlled assessment.

✓ **AS 1: Speaking** (External visiting examiner)

- **Presentation** (3 minutes, 30 marks)
- **Conversation** (8 minutes, 45 marks)

Total marks: 75 marks (30% of AS level, 12% of A level)



✓ **AS 2: Listening, Reading and Use of Language**

Section A: (40 minutes, 25 marks)

- **Listening**

Section B: (50 minutes, 40 marks)

- **Reading**
- **Translation** (Spanish into English)

Section C: (30 minutes, 35 marks)

- **Use of Language** (grammar & prose sentences)

Total marks: 100 marks (40% of AS level and 16% of A2 level)

✓ **AS 3: Extended Writing** (1 hour, 75 marks) Film (*'El bola'* by

Achero Mañas) – film available on Google Classroom & YouTube.

Total marks: 75 marks (30% of AS level and 12% of A2 level)

[How does AS level Spanish differ from GCSE Spanish?]

- Less pre-learnt material, more spontaneity and drive towards oral and written fluency and accuracy.
- Timetabled speaking classes with the native speaking assistant (minimum of 40 minutes per week). **Attendance** and **participation** are **necessary** in order to apply spoken material into classwork and homework.
- More class time - five hours of timetabled class with teachers per week.
- More independent learning - 'reading around' the subject.
- Experience dictates that an A* at GCSE does not necessarily lead to an A at AS-level.
- AS A-grade candidates in the past have **worked consistently** from September to May, have **learned their vocabulary** and **grammar**, have **persevered**, have coped with the unpredictability of the subject, have made every opportunity to **speak Spanish**, have listened to and read a variety of authentic Spanish, and have used the latest Spanish apps.

[What should I see my child doing at home?]

- **At least 4 hours** of Spanish per week.
- Learning **large volumes** of vocabulary and **grammar**; experience shows this is best managed **little but often**, on a nightly basis. Parents can help out by testing students on vocabulary, where possible.
- Completing set reading, listening and writing homeworks.
- Independently researching for complex linguistic structures to use in essays and writing essays.
- Accessing authentic Spanish websites and reading Spanish news online.
- Using the CCEA website to access past papers, support materials and listening files.
- Using a variety of apps and websites to boost their learning of Spanish. **Some great FREE apps** – Language Gym, Blooket, Memrise, Quizlet, Duolingo, Wordreference

[What if I have concerns?]

- Vigilance and partnership are essential! Don't let any problem linger. Please pick up the phone and ask to speak to Mr Nelson or Mrs Wallace.
- Talk to your son/daughter about their Spanish. Ask them to talk through what they are learning and how they are managing their workload.

[Expected 'Hot Spots']

- The following times are the most likely to be stressful for AS students throughout the year:
 - The weeks before the January exam (students should be reminded that little class time is available in January due to exam timetables and work experience).
 - The weeks before the Easter holidays.



Reminder: The AS Spanish exam will take place in early May so students must be prepared in good time.

Students should refer to the Introduction Booklet given to them at the start of the year which contains tips on independent work and revision. Lists of useful websites are included so that students can access Spanish radio, TV, newspapers and websites focusing on language acquisition.

Students can log on to Language Gym / Memrise and complete one of the wide range of activities and revision games aimed at accelerating vocabulary acquisition. Memrise comes with a handy app too, so all students can be learning directly from their phone or tablet!

Preparation is essential for AS level Spanish! Students should always be able to prepare for their next Spanish lesson or conversation class.

Extension work and past paper questions can be obtained from the Spanish department. Pupils can also access support materials such as specifications and past papers on the CCEA website.

"But I have no homework to do!"

Revision of work covered in class is **vital**. Students can look over notes and worksheets completed in school in order to boost revision.

Students can keep up to date with current affairs (see our Twitter account @ballyclarelangs), in particular using Spanish news websites and apps. Some of the best are:

www.elpais.com

www.elmundo.com

www.bbc.co.uk/mundo

www.20minutos.es

www.abc.es