

# GCSE Spanish



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# Spanish Pronunciation Guide

**a** Like the 'a' in 'cat'

**e** Like the 'e' in 'egg'

**i** Like the 'i' in 'ink'

**o** Like the 'o' in 'holiday'

**u** An 'oo' sound

**'g'** = Like a hard 'h' before 'i' & 'e' (*just like 'j'*)

**BUT**

Like the 'g' in 'got' before 'a', 'o' & 'u'.

e.g. gato, gozar, guisante

**'j'** A hard 'h' sound in the back of your throat

**'c'** = 'th' before 'e' & 'i'

**BUT**

'k' before 'a', 'o' & 'u'

**ce** 'theh'

**ci** 'thih'

**ca** 'ka'

**co** 'koh'

**cu** 'koo'

**'z'** A 'th' sound

**'ll'** A 'l-y' sound

**'ñ'** A 'ny' sound

**'v'** Like the 'b' in 'banana'

**'h'** Always silent in Spanish

Tick off each sound as you master it.

1  <u>ara</u> ña	2  <u>e</u> lefante	3  idea	4  <u>o</u> lvidar
5  <u>u</u> niverso	6  <u>c</u> erdo	7  <u>c</u> iclista	8  <u>c</u> asa
9  <u>c</u> oche	10  <u>c</u> ucaracha	11  <u>g</u> imnasia	12  <u>h</u> amburguesa
13  <u>E</u> spaña	14  <u>z</u> umo	15  <u>g</u> uitarra	16  <u>l</u> lave

Make notes of words you come across with each of these sounds.

a _____	ce _____	ñ _____
e _____	ci _____	v _____
i _____	ca _____	h _____
o _____	co _____	
u _____	cu _____	
g _____	z _____	
j _____	ll _____	

# Time Phrases & Connectives

## *For saying when...*

por la mañana	In the morning
por la tarde	In the afternoon
por la noche	In the evening
a las nueve	at nine o'clock
ahora (mismo)	(right) now
today	hoy

## *Past Tense...*

ayer (por la mañana)	yesterday
anteayer	the day before yesterday
la semana pasada	last week
hace dos años / un mes	two years / one month ago
el año pasado	last year

## *Future Tense...*

mañana (por la noche)	tomorrow (evening)
pasado mañana	the day after tomorrow
la semana que viene	next week
el próximo lunes	next Monday
dentro de un mes	in a month's time

# Time Phrases & Connectives

## contd.

*For narrating / sequencing...*

<b>primero</b>	firstly
<b>después</b>	afterwards
<b>antes</b>	before
<b>luego / entonces</b>	then
<b>finalmente</b>	finally
<b>mientras</b>	while

*For saying how often...*

<b>siempre</b>	always
<b>a menudo</b>	often
<b>a veces</b>	sometimes
<b>de vez en cuando</b>	from time to time
<b>casi nunca</b>	hardly ever
<b>nunca</b>	never
<b>todos los días</b>	every day
<b>todos los meses</b>	every month
<b>los lunes / los viernes</b>	on Mondays / on Fridays
<b>cada mañana</b>	every morning
<b>una vez a la semana</b>	once a week
<b>tres veces a la semana</b>	three times a week

# Time Phrases & Connectives

## contd.

*For linking clauses...*

y	and
o	or
donde	where
quien	who
pero	but
también	also
sin embargo / no obstante	however
porque	because
ya que	since / as
puesto que	since
por lo tanto	therefore
así que	so
aunque	although
por consiguiente	consequently
para + infinitive	in order to
debido a + noun	because of
a pesar de + noun	despite of
por ejemplo	for example
además	in addition

# Really Useful Spanish Table

	a (an)	the	some	to the/ at the	my	your (tú / usted)	his / hers/ their	our	your (vosotros)
<b>masculine</b>	un	el		al	mi	tu / su	su	nuestro	vuestro
<b>feminine</b>	una	la		a la	mi	tu / su	su	nuestra	vuestra
<b>plural (masc)</b>		los	unos	a los	mis	tus / sus	sus	nuestros	vuestros
<b>plural (fem)</b>		las	unas	a las	mis	tus / sus	sus	nuestras	vuestras



# Tense Reference Sheet

*\*yo & nosotros forms (I & we)*

INFINITIVE	PAST What you did	PRESENT What you do	FUTURE What you will do	CONDITIONAL What you <b>would</b> do
<b>viajar</b> - to travel	viajé / viajamos	viajo / viajamos	viajaré / viajaremos	viajaría / viajaríamos
<b>visitar</b> - to visit	visité / visitamos	visito / visitamos	visitaré / visitaremos	visitaría / visitaríamos
<b>*jugar</b> - to play	jugué / jugamos	juego /jugamos	jugaré / jugaremos	jugaría / jugaríamos
<b>comer</b> - to eat	comí / comimos	como / comemos	comeré / comeremos	comería / comeríamos
<b>beber</b> - to drink	bebí / bebimos	bebo / bebemos	beberé / beberemos	bebería / beberíamos
<b>vivir</b> - to live	viví / vivimos	vivo / vivimos	viviré / viviremos	viviría / viviríamos
IRREGULARS				
<b>hacer</b> - to do	hice / hicimos	hago / hacemos	haré / haremos	haría / haríamos
<b>tener</b> - to have	tuve / tuvimos	tengo / tenemos	tender / tendremos	tendría / tendríamos
<b>poder</b> - to be able to (can)	pude / pudimos	puedo / podemos	podré / podremos	podría / podríamos
<b>ser</b> - to be	fui / fuimos	soy / somos	seré / seremos	sería / seríamos
<b>ir</b> - to go	fui / fuimos	voy / vamos	iré / iremos	iría / iríamos
<b>haber</b> - to have (there is)	hubo (also había)	hay	habrá	habría

# Giving your opinion

Remember, to gain a C-grade at GCSE you **must** give your opinion! To make your work more impressive, justify your opinions by saying *why*.

Me encanta(n)

Me gusta(n) (mucho)

No me gusta(n) (nada)

Odio

Prefiero...

porque es...  
/ son...

Likes & dislikes

más ... que more...than  
menos ... que less...than  
tan...como as...as

muy very  
casi almost  
demasiado too  
tan as  
prácticamente  
virtually  
bastante quite  
absolutamente  
absolutely

Pienso que

I think that

Me parece que

I think that

Creo que

I believe that

En mi opinión

In my opinión

Tengo la impresión de que

I get the impression that

No aguanto / no soporto

I can't stand

More sophisticated opinions

Lo bueno / malo es que... The good / bad thing is that...

Lo que más me gusta es (que)... What I like most is (that)...

Lo que menos me gusta es (que)... What I like least is (that)...

Lo mejor / peor es que... The best / worst thing is that...

# Avoiding "porque es interesante"

## 1. Use another adjective

N.B. You need to make the adjective agree (o/a/os/as/es) and use es / son correctly!

gracioso    divertido    guay    sensacional    fenomenal    genial  
fascinante    mágico    inolvidable    óptimo

## 2. Use a verb in the same way as 'gustar'

me interesa(n)    me encanta(n)    me chifla(n)  
me divierte(n)    me relaja(n)  
me hace(n) reír    siempre me ha(n) interesado

## 3. Use a longer phrase

es algo que...    a mis amigos les gusta(n) también  
a toda mi familia le gusta(n)    es bueno/a para...  
ya lo hago desde hace mucho tiempo y .....

# Spanish Question Words

¿Cómo?

How?

¿Cuándo?

When?

¿Cuánto/a(s)?

How much / many?

¿Dónde?

Where?

¿Qué?

What?

¿Quién?

Who?

# Grade Changers!

- Vary your **adjectives** (*don't repeat 'interesante / aburrido'!*)
- Extend and justify opinions with **'porque'**
- Refer to **others** (*s/he – we – they*)
- Compare **then and now**
- Describe things with **5 details**
- Use **5 different verbs** in the past (*Hice muchas cosas...por ejemplo...*)
- Link and narrate (*De primero...luego...un poco más tarde...por último...*)
- Use **'para'** to extend (*Fui a Londres **para** ir de compras*)
- Use **'I wanted but I couldn't, so I...'** (*Quería ir al cine pero **no pude**, entonces vi la tele*)
- Refer to the **future** (*Voy a.../quiero.../me gustaría.../tengo la intención de.../espero...*)

# Grade Changers contd.

## How do I get an A\*?

- Complex sentences (2 x diff. tenses) i.e. si tuviera mucho dinero + conditional
- Relative pronouns: ...donde...
- ...quien....
- Use structure i.e. Primero... después...
- Justify opinions
- Comparatives: ... más...que....  
... menos...que...

## How do I get a B-A?

- 'A wider range of language'
- Range of tenses
- Variety of people: I, you, he, she, we, they
- Connectives / reasons
- Time phrases: siempre, todos los días
- Use negatives i.e. no, nunca, tampoco, ni...ni

## How do I get a C?

- 'A variety of language'
- 'Use opinions'
- 2 tenses - past / present / future
- Use connectives - y, pero, porque, también, así que, sin embargo

# Top Tips for Listening & Reading

1. Read the question (including the introduction to the question which gives you the context and sets the scene).
2. Expect unfamiliar language - be ready to 'de-code' - don't give up!
3. Use the pauses in the recording to 're-play' in your mind the language you have just heard, slowing it down as you do so.
4. Use sound-spelling patterns to help you 'visualise' the spelling of an unfamiliar word. It will often reveal itself as a cognate.
5. Look out for synonyms, cognates and near-cognates..
6. Look out for the number of marks for each question - this tells you how many details you need to give.
7. Be aware of negative structures used to test you!
8. Consider the type of word (verb / noun / adjective etc.) you need for gap-fills - the filled-in text must make sense grammatically.
9. Make sure you give enough details in the written answers. It is fine to directly lift from the text but make sure what you have said makes sense.
10. Read the instructions carefully so you know whether to answer in English or Spanish.

# Memory Techniques

Active learning is key to remembering. You have to DO something to keep the words in your head.

## The Cone of Learning

sparkinsight.com

*I see and I forget.  
I hear and I remember.  
I do and I understand.*  
— Confucius



### 1. Chunking

- Break your work down into sentence 'chunks'
- Take one paragraph and count the number of sentences
- Draw that number of boxes onto a page
- Write each sentence into a box from left to right
- Look at the first sentence and read it out loud. Then, close your eyes and say ('seeing the words in your mind') or 'air write' the sentence without looking at it
- Repeat the step above, this time with the first 2 sentences
- Next, try it with 3 sentences. Then 4. Repeat until you have (mostly) memorized the first paragraph.



## 2. Record it



- Record yourself on your phone/computer voice recorder (with music in the background?)
- Play it back again and again and speak along with it
- Put it onto your mp3 player
- Play it on the bus, while walking the dog, while sleeping, while doing other homework, while jogging....

## 3. Act it out

- Pretend the assessment is part of a play you are in and that your draft is your script
- Put tone, emphasis and passion into your voice
- Move around? Strike a pose?

## 4. Get someone to test you

- Learn a short extract and get someone to test you as if you were learning a script for a play.
- They do not need to understand what it means, all they have to do is listen to what you say and see if the sound matches the words on the page. They can prompt you if you forget.
- This is a good way to get family members to help you, even if they don't 'do' a language.

# Useful language websites

<http://www.linguascope.com/>



Check username & password with your teacher.

<http://languagesonline.org.uk/> - Loads of grammar exercises and good vocabulary revision.



<http://www.freerice.com/index.php?&t=18127850318&s=Spanish> -

For each answer you get right on this website 10 grains of rice are donated to help the world's hungry.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/spanish/>

All sorts on here, including listening, grammar, cultural information

[www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize) - Lots of revision units specifically tailored towards the exams.



<http://www.studyspanish.com/tutorial.htm> - Use menu on left to choose your area and explore!

<http://text-to-speech.imtranslator.net/> - Enables you to type in Spanish and hear the correct pronunciation at different speeds

<http://www.wordreference.com/> - Excellent online dictionary

<http://www.rtve.es/> - To watch Spanish TV programmes and listen to Spanish radio

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/mundo/> - News from Spanish-speaking countries around the world