

# GCSE SPANISH

## ABOUT THE SUBJECT:

The aims and objectives of this qualification are to enable you to:

- develop your ability to communicate confidently and coherently with native speakers in speech and writing.
- express and develop your thoughts and ideas spontaneously and fluently.
- listen to and understand clearly articulated, standard speech at near normal speed.
- deepen your knowledge about how language works and enrich your vocabulary in order for you to increase your independent use and understanding of the language in a wide range of contexts.
- acquire new knowledge, skills and ways of thinking through the ability to understand and respond to a rich range of authentic spoken and written material including literary texts.
- develop awareness and understanding of the culture and identity of the countries and communities where Spanish is spoken.
- develop language-learning skills both for immediate use and to prepare you for further language study and use in school, higher education or employment.

## WHAT WILL I LEARN TO DO?

The Pearson Edexcel GCSE (Grades 9-1) in Spanish consists of four externally examined papers based on the following skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Students must complete their speaking assessment in April/May and all other assessments in May/June in any single year.

- During Year 9 students will study the topics of Local area; Holiday and School
- During Year 10 students will study Identity and Culture
- During Year 11 students will study the topics of Future Inspiration, Study and Work

When you study Spanish at GCSE level, the emphasis is on developing your confidence to use and understand authentic materials in order to enjoy your development in the language and culture that you are studying. This course has a strong focus on Spanish Culture in particular and we will study Spanish arts, poetry and movies.

## WHAT SKILLS DO I NEED?

At GCSE, your skills will be developed and refined. You will need an ability to understand the Spanish culture, and to expect to bring in a European and worldly dimension.

## ASSESSMENT

Paper 1: Listening and understanding in Spanish. This is a written examination and at Foundation tier it lasts for 35 minutes including 5 minutes' reading time. It is worth 50 marks. At Higher tier, it lasts for 45 minutes including 5 minutes' reading time. It is worth 50 marks. It's 25% of the total qualification.

Paper 2: Speaking in Spanish. Internally conducted and externally assessed and at Foundation tier, it lasts between 7–9 minutes plus 12 minutes' preparation time; it is worth a total of 70 marks. At Higher tier it lasts between 10–12 minutes plus 12 minutes' preparation time; it is worth a total of 70 marks. It is 25% of the total qualification.

Paper 3: Reading and understanding in Spanish. This is a written examination and at Foundation tier it lasts 45 minutes; it is worth a total of 50 marks. At Higher tier, it lasts for 1 hour and it is worth a total of 50 marks. It is 25% of the total qualification.

Paper 4: Writing in Spanish. It is a written examination and at Foundation tier, it lasts 1 hour and 10 minutes; it is worth 60 marks. At Higher tier, it lasts for 1 hour 20 minutes and it is worth 60 marks. It is 25% of the total qualification.

**CAREERS:** Journalist, Lawyer, Film/Theatre Director, Public Relations Executive, Author, Newsreader, Politician, Actor,