



Supporting Your Child with GCSE Revision: Spanish



This leaflet supports parents and carers in helping their child prepare effectively for GCSEs in Spanish. It outlines key content, exam structures, and practical revision approaches that make a difference at home.

Exam Board: Edexcel

Assessment Structure

Students complete four exams, each worth 25% of the total grade:

- Listening – understanding spoken Spanish.
- Reading – comprehension and translation from Spanish into English.
- Writing – short and extended written tasks, translation into Spanish.
- Speaking – role-play, photo card, and general conversation.



1. Identity and Culture – family, friends, hobbies, social media, festivals and traditions.
2. Local Area and Travel – town, region, holidays, environment and tourism.
3. School and Future Plans – school life, rules, ambitions, jobs and further study.
4. Global and Social Issues – the environment, poverty, volunteering, health and education.
5. Languages for Life – using Spanish beyond school for study, work or travel.



The Exam Element

Students complete **four assessments**: three **externally examined papers** (Listening, Reading, Writing) and one **Speaking assessment** set by Pearson.

Paper 1: Speaking in Spanish — tested by Pearson, designed to assess spontaneous and prepared speaking tasks.

Paper 2: Listening — students listen to spoken Spanish, answer in English and Spanish, including comprehension and dictation tasks.

Paper 3: Reading — includes comprehension of texts, translation from Spanish into English, and related grammar tasks.

Paper 4: Writing — students produce written Spanish responses, including translation from English into Spanish, and tasks requiring control of grammar, vocabulary and structure.

All papers are **tiered** (Foundation and Higher), and vocabulary, grammar and content are drawn from a prescribed list in the specification.



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Examples of Revision Tools

Flashcards:

- Identity & Culture – family vocabulary (padre, madre, hermano), personality adjectives, phrases like me llevo bien con...
- Local Area & Travel – holiday vocabulary (hotel, transporte, playa), weather and directions.
- School & Future Plans – school subjects, future tense verbs (seré, estudiaré, trabajaré).
- Global Issues – environment vocabulary (reciclar, contaminación, energía verde), opinion phrases (en mi opinión, es importante que...).
- Grammar Focus – common verbs (tener, ser, estar), present, preterite, and future tense endings.

Mind Maps:

- Identity & Culture – family and friends → technology → free time → festivals.
- Local Area & Travel – home, town, region → transport → holidays → environment.
- School & Future Plans – subjects → opinions → school rules → post-16 and career aspirations.

How Parents Can Help

- Encourage regular speaking practice: ask your child to teach you a few new Spanish words each day.
- Support weekly revision of vocabulary using flashcards or digital apps such as Duolingo or Language Nut.
- Encourage your child to watch or listen to Spanish media (songs, short clips, news, or films with subtitles).
- Check written work together – focus on accuracy in tenses and spelling.
- Practise listening tasks aloud using past paper recordings or GCSEPod resources.
- Praise small steps of progress — language learning improves most through frequent short sessions.

