AQA GCSE Spanish

General conversation questions

Theme 1 – identity and culture

Nombre:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Clase: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Contents**

[**The Speaking Exam** 3](#_heading=h.gjdgxs)

[**Assessment criteria – Speaking** 4](#_heading=h.30j0zll)

[**Themes** 4](#_heading=h.1fob9te)

[**Topic 1: Me, my family and friends** 5](#_heading=h.3znysh7)

[**Topic 2: Technology in everyday life** 9](#_heading=h.2et92p0)

[**Topic 3: Free-time activities** 11](#_heading=h.tyjcwt)

[**Topic 4: Customs and festivals in Spanish-speaking countries/communities** 17](#_heading=h.3dy6vkm)

[**Theme 1 – My possible questions:** 19](#_heading=h.4d34og8)

[**Strategies for the Speaking exam** 20](#_heading=h.2s8eyo1)

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# **The Speaking Exam**

The Speaking exam worth 25% of the marks. Access to dictionaries is not permitted at any time during the test or the preparation time. Instructions and rubrics for the test are in English. You will be allowed to make notes during their supervised preparation time and take these into the examination room and can use them during the test

**Foundation Tier and Higher Tier - 60 marks**

* **Foundation Tier:** you will attend one session of 7–9 minutes (and supervised preparation time of approximately 10–12 minutes).
* **Higher Tier:** you will attend one session of 10–12 minutes (and supervised preparation time of approximately 10–12 minutes).

The format of the test will be the same for each tier and will consist of three parts.

#### **Role-play (15 marks)**

Based on a stimulus card, to be prepared by the student immediately before the test during their preparation time. You will carry out one role-playing situation (approximately two minutes at Foundation Tier and two minutes at Higher Tier). The Role-play card will allow you to answer questions and convey information, using and adapting language for new purposes. You will respond to unexpected questions and use repair strategies to sustain communication. You will also ask a question.

#### **Photo card (15 marks)**

Based on a stimulus card, to be prepared by the student immediately before the test in the supervised preparation time. You will discuss one Photo card (approximately two minutes at Foundation Tier and three minutes at Higher Tier). Teachers will ask five prescribed questions based on the Photo card. Three of these five questions will be printed on your card.

#### **General conversation (30 marks)**

The teacher will conduct a conversation based on the two themes which have not been covered on the Photo card (between three and five minutes at Foundation Tier and five and seven at Higher Tier). A similar amount of time should be spent on each theme. You will choose the first theme; the second theme is the remaining theme which has not been covered in the Photo card part of the test.

# **Assessment criteria – Speaking**

**Themes**

You will be expected to understand and provide information and opinions about different themes relating to your own experiences and those of other people, including people in countries/communities where Spanish is spoken. Your exam will cover three distinct themes. These themes apply to **all four question papers.** This booklet with focus on **Theme 1: Identity and culture**. With this booklet you will be able to prepare your answers for questions that can come up in the Speaking exam (General Conversation). **Remember: you can choose one of the themes in advance, but you must be prepared to answer questions from all themes.** You will also be preparing to write about all these topics in your Writing exam.

Theme 1 covers the following four topics with related sub-topics shown as bullet points:

**Topic 1: Me, my family and friends**

• Relationships with family and friends

• Marriage/partnership

**Topic 2: Technology in everyday life**

• Social media

• Mobile technology

**Topic 3: Free-time activities**

• Music

• Cinema and TV

• Food and eating out

• Sport

**Topic 4: Customs and festivals in Spanish-speaking countries/communities**

**Instructions:** Write your first draft. Your teacher will mark it and then you must re-write it, with corrections and improvements, below.

# **Topic 1: Me, my family and friends**

**•** Relationships with family and friends

1. **Describe a un buen amigo/a tuyo/a (*Describe a good friend of yours).***

**1st draft** ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Teacher comment:**

**Final answer**

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1. **¿Quiénes son más importantes, tus amigos o tu familia?¿Por qué? (*Who’s more important, friends or family? Why?)***

**1st draft** ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Teacher comment:**

**Final answer**

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1. **¿Te llevas bien con tus padres/tu hermano/a? ¿Por qué (no)? (*Do you get on well with your parents/brother/sister? Why (not)?).***

**1st draft** ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Teacher comment:**

**Final answer**

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1. **Describe a una persona de tu familia (*Describe a member of your family).***

**1st draft** ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Teacher comment:**

**Final answer**

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1. **¿Por qué es importante pasar tiempo con tu familia? (*Why is it important to spend time with your family?)***

**1st draft** ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Teacher comment:**

**Final answer**

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1. **¿Qué planes tienes con tus amigos o con tu familia para este fin de semana? (*Have you got plans with your friends or family for this weekend?)***

**1st draft** ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Teacher comment:**

**Final answer**

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• Marriage/partnership

**g) ¿Cómo sería tu novio/novia ideal? (*What would your ideal boy/girlfriend be like?)***

**1st draft** ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Teacher comment:**

**Final answer**

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**h) ¿Qué piensas del matrimonio? (*What do you think of marriage?)***

**1st draft** ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Teacher comment:**

**Final answer**

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i) **En el futuro, ¿crees que vas a casarte? (*In the future do you think you will get married?*)**

**1st draft** ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Teacher comment:**

**Final answer**

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# **Topic 2: Technology in everyday life**

• Social media

1. **¿Qué piensas de las redes sociales? (What do you think about social media?)**

**1st draft** ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Teacher comment:**

**Final answer**

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1. **¿Qué aplicaciones usas para estar en contacto con tus amigos y familia? (Which apps do you use to keep in touch with friends and family?)**

**1st draft** ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Teacher comment:**

**Final answer**

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• Mobile technology

1. **¿Crees que los jóvenes están obsesionados con sus móviles? ¿Por qué (no)? Do you believe that young people are obsessed with their phones? Why (not)?)**

**1st draft** ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Teacher comment:**

**Final answer**

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1. **¿Cuáles son las ventajas y las desventajas de la tecnología actualmente? (What are the advantages/disadvantages of technology nowadays?)**

**1st draft** ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Teacher comment:**

**Final answer**

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1. **¿Para qué usaste la tecnología ayer? (what did you use technology for yesterday?)**

**1st draft** ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Teacher comment:**

**Final answer**

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# **Topic 3: Free-time activities**

1. **¿Qué te gusta hacer en tu tiempo libre? (What do you like doing in your free time?)**

**1st draft** ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Teacher comment:**

**Final answer**

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1. **¿Qué hiciste el fin de semana pasado con tus amigos o tu familia? (What did you do last weekend with your Friends or family?)**

**1st draft** ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Teacher comment:**

**Final answer**

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1. **¿Qué vas a hacer con tus amigos en el verano? (What are you going to do with your friends in the summer?)**

**1st draft** ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Teacher comment:**

**Final answer**

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• Music

1. **¿Te gusta la música? ¿Por qué (no)? (Do you like music? Why (not)?)**

**1st draft** ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Teacher comment:**

**Final answer**

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1. **Describe la última vez que fuiste a un concierto (describe the last time you went to a concert)**

**1st draft** ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Teacher comment:**

**Final answer**

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• Cinema and TV

1. **¿Prefieres ver películas en casa o en el cine? ¿Por qué? Do you prefer to watch movies at home or in the cinema? Why?)**

**1st draft** ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Teacher comment:**

**Final answer**

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1. **¿Eres teleadicto/a? ¿Qué tipos de programas prefieres? (Are you addicted to TV? What programmes do you prefer?)**

**1st draft** ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Teacher comment:**

**Final answer**

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• Sport

1. **¿Eres muy deportista/o? ¿Por qué (no)? (Are you sporty? Why (not?)**

**1st draft** ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Teacher comment:**

**Final answer**

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1. **Habla de la última vez que participaste en un deporte. (Talk about the last time you practised sport)**

**1st draft** ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Teacher comment:**

**Final answer**

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1. **Para ti, ¿quién es un modelo a seguir? ¿Por qué? (Who is a good role model for you? Why?)**

**1st draft** ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Teacher comment:**

**Final answer**

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• Food and eating out

1. **¿Qué te gusta comer y beber? ¿Por qué? (What do you to eat and drink? Why?)**

**1st draft** ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Teacher comment:**

**Final answer**

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1. **¿Prefieres cenar en casa o en un restaurante? ¿Por qué? (Do you prefer to eat at home or in a restaurant? Why?)**

**1st draft** ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Teacher comment:**

**Final answer**

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1. **¿Qué comiste y bebiste ayer? (what did you eat and drink yesterday?)**

**1st draft** ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Teacher comment:**

**Final answer**

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# **Topic 4: Customs and festivals in Spanish-speaking countries/communities**

1. **¿Has probado la comida española? ¿Te gusta? ¿Por qué (no)? (Have you tried Spanish food? Do you like it? Why (not)?**

**1st draft** ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Teacher comment:**

**Final answer**

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1. **¿Cómo vas a celebrar tu próximo cumpleaños? (How are you going to celebrate your next birthday?)**

**1st draft** ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Teacher comment:**

**Final answer**

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1. **Habla de lo que hiciste por Navidad el año pasado. (Talk about what you did for Christmas last year)**

**1st draft** ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Teacher comment:**

**Final answer**

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1. **¿Crees que las fiestas tradicionales son importantes? ¿Por qué (no)? (Do you think traditional festivals are important? Why (not?)**
2. **Te gustaría participar en una fiesta española? (would you like to participate in a Spanish festival?)**

**1st draft** ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Teacher comment:**

**Final answer**

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**Remember: You will need to ask at your teacher a question at some point during the General conversation.**

# **Theme 1 – My possible questions:**

**Topic 1: Me, my family and friends**

**¿……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………?**

**Relationships with family and friends**

**¿……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………?**

**Marriage/partnership**

**¿……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………?**

**Topic 2: Technology in everyday life**

**¿……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………?**

**Social media**

**¿……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………?**

**Mobile technology**

**¿……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………?**

**Topic 3: Free-time activities**

**¿……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………?**

**Music**

**¿……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………?**

**Cinema and TV**

**¿……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………?**

**Food and eating out**

**¿……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………?**

**Sport**

**¿……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………?**

**Topic 4: Customs and festivals in Spanish-speaking countries**

**¿……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………?**

# **Strategies for the Speaking exam**

* **Requests for help**

These may include requests which may improve the student's chances of understanding (eg *"¿Puede repetir? (Can you repeat?) " "Puede hablar más despacio? (Can you speak a bit slower?"*). It is clearly preferable to use such requests for help than for communication to collapse and their use will be assessed according to the context.

* **Paraphrase**

This is where the student uses words and messages in acceptable Spanish, avoiding the use of words which he/she has forgotten (eg *"No está casada"*for*"Es soltera", "es el padre de mi madre"*for*"es mi abuelo"*). When used well, this strategy communicates the message effectively to a sympathetic native speaker and such use in an exam would be assessed accordingly.

* **Reference to specific features**

This can be used to refer to something when the name has been forgotten. You could refer to colour, size, material, position and shape. Reference to specific features (eg*"El animal con las orejas largas..." "El hombre que lleva el uniforme marrón..."*) is often quite effective and its use would be assessed accordingly in an exam.