



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission

**Guidelines for marking of (Optional) School-based oral test in Spanish at the
Junior Certificate Examination**

The following marking-scheme is offered to teachers by way of suggestion (as is the format of the test). If another marking scheme is chosen, details **must** be submitted to the State Examinations Commission before 1st May. It is strongly recommended, however, that where there is divergence from the detail of the suggested marking scheme, the broad division of marks, i.e. General Questions: 40% and Role-plays: 60% should be adhered to.

1. Broad division of marks	Total: 80 marks
(a) General questions:	32 (8 x 4)
(b) 2 Role Plays:	48 (2 x 24)

2. General criteria for marking individual sections of test:

For each communicative task (i.e. general question, role-play or other task chosen), the main criterion must be **whether the task is in fact accomplished**, i.e. whether the pupil would have made himself/herself understood in a Spanish context.

The candidate who carries out the wrong task, or whose spoken Spanish would not be easily understood by a Spanish native, must be awarded **less** than 40% of the marks in that section. Conversely, the candidate who carries out the right task and does so in a manner comprehensible to a Spanish native speaker, despite a number of mistakes in pronunciation, vocabulary, structures etc., **must** be awarded half marks.

The remaining marks for each section could be awarded for proficiency in pronunciation, vocabulary and structures.

(Structures will feature more prominently in the Role-plays than in the General Questions section).

- 3.** The Marks awarded for the oral (80/400) account for 20% of the whole exam.
(In the case of candidates who do not do the Optional Oral test, 320 marks = 100%).
- 4.** The following marking sheet is offered as guidance.

GENERAL CONVERSATION

The examiner is requested to select 8 of the following **or similar** questions.

In doing so he/she is asked to respect as far as possible the normal coherence of everyday conversation, i.e. not to skip arbitrarily from topic to topic and to allow the candidate to elaborate on particular responses.

The examiner should feel free to paraphrase and to encourage the candidate as necessary.

1. *¿Cuántos años tiene?*
2. *¿Cuándo es tu cumpleaños?*
3. *¿Dónde vive?*
4. *¿Eres de aquí?*
5. *¿Cuántos sois en tu familia?*
6. *¿Tienes hermanos?*
7. *¿Cómo se llaman?*
8. *¿Cuántos años tienen?*
9. *¿Tienes animales en casa?*
10. *¿Te gustan los animales?*
11. *¿A qué hora te levantas normalmente? (¿y el sábado?)*
12. *¿A qué hora sales de casa por la mañana?*
13. *¿Te acuestas temprano?*
14. *¿Qué te gusta hacer en tus ratos libres?*
15. *¿Eres deportista?*
16. *¿Qué deporte prefiere?*
17. *¿Cómo vienes al instituto?*
18. *¿Vives cerca del colegio?*
19. *¿Cuántas asignaturas estudias?*
20. *¿Cuál te gusta más?*

21. *¿Por qué te gusta esta asignatura?*
22. *¿Estudias otros idiomas?*
23. *¿Cómo es tu pueblo?*
24. *¿Qué hay en tu pueblo?*
25. *¿Hay un cine en tu pueblo?*
26. *¿Vas al cine de vez en cuando?*
27. *¿Te gusta ver la televisión?*
28. *¿Qué tipo de programas prefieres?*
29. *¿Te gusta escuchar la radio?*
30. *¿Sabes tocar algún instrumento?*
31. *¿Ayudas en casa?*
32. *¿Qué haces para ayudar en casa?*
33. *¿Te gusta la música?*
34. *¿Qué tipo de música prefieres?*
35. *¿Tienes muchos CDs?*
36. *¿Has estado en España?*
37. *¿Te gusta España - ¿Por qué?*
38. *¿Qué haces los fines de semana?*
39. *¿Qué vas a hacer este fin de semana?*
40. *¿Qué hiciste el fin de semana pasado?*

State Examinations Commission

General Questions

	0	1	2	3	4
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					

Total:

Marking Scheme:

- 4 Marks** Full, unambiguous, undistorted communication.
- 3 Marks** Good communication, but with hesitation either in understanding the question or in responding.
- 2 Marks** Part of the message is missing.
- 1 Mark** Most of the message is missing.
- 0 Marks** Silence - unintelligible - a grammatical sentence but not the required message.

Example:

Question: *¿Tienes hermanos?*

- *(Tengo) dos hermanos y una hermana.* (4)
- *Mmm... No entiendo (question asked again) .. sí, tengo una hermana.* (3)
- *.....hermana.....* (2)
- *Tengo.... Tengo....* (1)
- *Tengo quince años.* (0)

(Each responding/initiating statement in a Role-play can be marked in the same way.)

CANDIDATE'S CARD

SECTION A: TASK 1

You and a friend are visiting a Spanish town and you ask a *policía* how to get to the tourist office. Your friend doesn't speak Spanish and you will have to explain the directions to him/her in English.

- 1 Attract the policeman's attention.
- 2 Ask him how to get to the tourist office.
- 3 Tell him you don't understand and ask him to repeat what he said.
- 4 Your friend wants to know what he said.
Repeat the directions in English as if explaining to your friend.
- 5 Ask the policeman if it is far. Thank him for his help.

SECTION A: TASK 2

You go into the clothing department of a store to buy a sweater. The examiner will play the role of the salesperson and will start the conversation.

- 1 Greet the shop-assistant. Say that you want to buy a sweater.
- 2 Say what colour you would like.
- 3 The salesperson shows you a sweater. Ask if you can try it on.
- 4 You try it on but it is too big for you. Tell the salesperson that it is too big.
- 5 The salesperson gives you another one to try on. You like it and ask how much it costs.

SECTION A: TASK 3

You are a customer in this restaurant. The examiner will play the role of the waiter. Choose a dish from each of the three courses offered and something to drink. Ask for the bill and check if service is included.

Restaurante El Faro

Menú del día

Sopa del Pescado

Gazpacho Andaluz

Zumo de Fruta

*

Pollo Asado

Chuleta de Ternera

Merluza a la Romana

Salmón Frito

(Todos estos platos se sirven con una ensalada y patatas fritas)

*

Fruta Fresca

Flan Español

Helados

*Precio €22.00
(Servicio incluido)*

Para beber : vino de casa; agua mineral; cerveza.

EXAMINER'S CARD

SECTION A: TASK 1

You are a *policía* in a Spanish town. Two visitors need directions to the tourist office. One of them doesn't speak any Spanish.

- 1 *Buenos días. ¿Cómo puedo ayudarle?*
(Asks you how to get to the tourist office.)
- 2 *¿La oficina de turismo? Pues, baje esta calle, tome la segunda calle a la izquierda y la oficina de turismo está a mano derecha al lado de Correos.*
(Says that he/she doesn't understand and asks you to repeat the directions. Do so slowly.)
- 3 (The visitor who doesn't speak Spanish asks his/her friend to repeat what you said in English).
- 4 (Asks you if it is far.)
No está muy lejos. A cinco minutos andando.
- 5 (Thanks you for your help.)
De nada.

SECTION A: TASK 2

You are a salesperson in a clothing department. A customer wishes to buy a sweater.

- 1 *Buenos días. ¿En qué puedo servirle?*
(Customer greets you and says that he/she wants to buy a sweater.)
- 2 (You ask what colours. The customer/candidate is free to choose a colour.)
¿De qué color quería el jersey?
- 3 (You show the customer a sweater. He/she asks to try it on.)
Sí. Los probadores están allí.
- 4 (You give the customer a smaller size.)
¿Quisiera Usted probar éste? Es más pequeño.
- 5 (The customer likes this one and asks you how much it costs.)
20 euros.

SECTION A: TASK 3

You are the waiter in this restaurant.

The customer/candidate is to order one dish from each of the three courses and something to drink.

He/she is to ask for the bill and check if service is included.

Restaurante El Faro

Menú del día

Sopa del Pescado

Gazpacho Andaluz

Zumo de Fruta

*

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CANDIDATE'S CARD

SECTION B: TASK 1

You and your friend are hiking in Spain.

You seek accommodation in an *Albergue Juvenil*.

Your friend doesn't speak Spanish so you have to book both of you in. You have to act as an interpreter for your friend.

The examiner will play the role of the Warden of the Youth Hostel.

- 1 Ask if there are rooms for two people for the night.
- 2 Ask how much it costs.
- 3 Repeat what you are told in English as if explaining to your friend.
- 4 Ask where the kitchen is.
- 5 Repeat what you are told in English as if explaining to your friend.

SECTION B: TASK 2

You are with a friend in a railway station in Spain.

Your friend doesn't speak Spanish and you are helping him/her to buy a return ticket to Madrid and to find out when the next train is leaving. You have to act as an interpreter for your friend.

The examiner will play the role of the ticket clerk at the *despacho de billetes*.

- 1 Ask for a return ticket to Madrid.
- 2 Ask the ticket clerk to repeat what he said.
- 3 Translate what he said into English as if explaining to your friend.
- 4 Ask at what time the next train to Madrid leaves.
- 5 Say the departure time in English as if interpreting for your friend.

SECTION B: TASK 3

The examiner will play the role of your Spanish pen-friend.

You want to know more about his or her school.

- 1 (a) Find out how many pupils there are;
(b) and then say whether you think it is a big or a small school.
- 2 Find out at what time classes start and finish.
- 3 (a) Ask what are his/her favourite subjects; and then say what subjects you prefer.
- 4 Ask if the teachers are strict.
- 5 Find out if there are sports facilities (e.g. gymnasium, swimming pool, football pitch); (b) and then say what sports facilities there are in your school.

EXAMINER'S CARD

SECTION B: TASK 1

You are the Warden of a Youth Hostel .Two hikers are looking for accommodation.

- 1 (They ask if there is room for two people).
Si , tenemos camas para esta noche.
- 2 (They ask how much it costs.)
Dieciocho euros por noche.
- 3 (Candidates repeats this in English as if explaining to his/her friend.)
- 4 (They ask where the kitchen is.)
Es la segunda puerta a la derecha.
- 6 (Candidate repeats this in English as if explaining to his/her friend.)

SECTION B: TASK 2

You are a ticket clerk in a Spanish railway station.

Two Irish students, one of whom does not speak Spanish , present themselves.

The one who does speak Spanish is assisting his/her friend to go to Madrid.

- 1 (Asks for a return ticket to Madrid.)
Un billete de ida y vuelta a Madrid. 30 euros por favor.
- 3 (Asks you to repeat what you said.)
30 euros , por favor.
- 3 (Candidates repeats price in English as if explaining to his/her friend.)
- 4 (Asks at what time the next train for Madrid leaves.)
A las once y veintiséis.
- 5 (Candidate repeats 11.26 in English as if explaining to his/her friend.)

SECTION B: TASK 3

You are the candidate's Spanish pen-friend. He or she wants to know about your school.

(His/her instructions are in brackets and some possible answers to his/her questions are suggested.)

- 1 (Find out how many pupils there are and say whether you think it is a big or a small school.)
Hay unos quinientos alumnos.
React to candidate's comment. *Sí, es bastante grande.*
- 2 (Find out at what time classes start and finish.)
Las clases empiezan a las nueve menos cuarto y terminan a las cuatro.
- 3 (Ask what are his/her favourite subjects, and then say what subjects you prefer.)
Lo que me gusta más es la historia... no me gusta nada el inglés...

4 *(Ask if the teachers are strict.)*

Depende. Algunos son un poco estrictos, pero en general son simpáticos

5 *(Find out if there are sports facilities (e.g. gymnasium, swimming pool, football pitch), and then say what sports facilities there are in your school.)*

Sí, hay un gimnasio bastante grande y canchas de tenis, pero no tenemos una piscina.

[Note: The interpretation in English may be found confusing and is not an essential feature of a role - play. Teachers should feel free to develop their own role – plays according to the material covered in individual classes. The above are offered merely by way of guidance.]