



Spanish

GCSE | AQA | 8692



Practice Papers for GCSE AQA Spanish

Writing: Foundation

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Teacher's Introduction

Purpose:

This pack contains three full practice papers for the AQA Foundation writing exam. When a new specification is launched, initially, teachers may find it difficult to source quality practice papers beyond those provided by the exam board, thereby making it difficult to accurately assess their students. Besides, there is always a risk that students can find the papers provided online by the exam board. The ZigZag practice papers allow teachers to give their students extra practice without taking this risk.

Remember!

Always check the exam board website for new information, including changes to the specification and sample assessment material.

The author has taken every step to ensure the structure of these papers mirrors that of the AQA paper, and has used their extensive experience of resource writing to produce varied and unique content. These papers cover all three AQA themes:

1. People and lifestyle
2. Popular culture
3. Communication and the world around us

How to use this resource:

We recommend setting each paper under exam conditions to give an accurate picture of students' ability at a given point. Papers can be used as teacher-assessed tasks (with the teacher marking the paper and feeding back to the students) or as self-/peer-assessment tasks (with each student or their partner assessing their work).

We are not providing a full mark scheme here as it can easily be obtained from the exam board's website, but there is indicative content and an explanation of the mark scheme and how to achieve the top marks for each task. There are also some self-/peer-assessment grids which can be photocopied and given to students to assess their own or their partner's work. At the end of the resource, there is a lined answer sheet for students to write on. You can photocopy as many as required for mock exams.

Although not in exam layout, non-write-on versions of the practice papers have been included in the resource in order to minimise photocopying and reduce costs. Additionally, questions 5.1 and 5.2 have been combined onto one page, again to reduce wasteful photocopying. At the end of the resource, there is a lined answer sheet for students to write on. You can photocopy as many as required for mock exams.

December 2025

Structure of the Paper and Mark Scheme Exemplification

The AQA Foundation writing paper comprises five tasks:

1. The photo description (10 marks)

Students write five sentences in Spanish. This task is marked for AO2 only (understanding and responding to written language in speaking and in writing). For each sentence, students can score between 0 and 2 marks. For 2 marks, the message is clearly communicated; for 1 mark, the message contains some ambiguity and is not immediately comprehensible; and for 0 marks, there is no rewardable communication.

Marking guidance

- Mark each sentence separately.
- Sentences must be about what is in the photo (they cannot refer to what is NOT in the photo).
- Sentences must be true or 'possibly' true (e.g. colour can be guessed, as photos are black and white).
- Numbers can be written as a figure (e.g. 4) or as a word (e.g. four).
- Verbs and structures can be repeated.
- First- or second-person verb forms are accepted.

Self- and Peer-assessment Grid

Use the grids below to self- or peer-assess your written responses. Please note the

1. Photo description task:

Have you...	What the mark scheme says	What it means
	communicated relevant information	write only about what is in the picture
	communicated the information clearly?	keep it simple so everyone can understand
	used complete sentences or clauses (with a verb)?	include a subject and a verb in each sentence

2. 50-word task:

Have you...	What the mark scheme says	What it looks like
	addressed all five BP?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> write at least one sentence per BP what you have written must be relevant
	written clearly?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> write in a way that is easy to understand use only language you know if you translate it back into English it should be understandable
	used a variety of vocabulary and grammatical structures?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> check that you are not repeating words you can replace 'me gusta' with 'me encanta' use connectives ('y', 'pero', 'porque', 'y tambien', 'pero tambien', 'un poco', 'bastante', etc.) check your present tense verbs (use other tenses in this task)
	checked if you have made errors, that they are only minor?	<p>When you have finished, proofread your work for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> spelling articles (el/la/los/las un/una/unos/unas) adjective agreements (usually you have to agree the gender and number of feminine adjectives and an -s at the end of nouns)

3. Grammar task:

Not suitable for self-assessment. Check the mark scheme for correct answers

4. Translation task:

For the 'rendering of the original meaning' criterion, check the mark scheme for the answer which is correctly translated.

Then convert those ticks as follows:

13–15 ticks = 5 marks

10–12 ticks = 4 marks

7–9 ticks = 3 marks

4–6 ticks = 2 marks

1–3 ticks = 1 mark

0 ticks = 0 marks

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For the 'knowledge of vocabulary and grammar' criterion, you can check you

Have you...	What the mark scheme says	What it means
	shown very good knowledge of vocabulary?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> translate all or nearly all the words
	translated the message appropriately?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> do not leave any gaps if you translate the message back it makes sense?
	used high accuracy of grammar?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> check your verbs (present and past)
	checked if you have made errors, that they are only minor?	<p>When you have finished, proofread you</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> spelling articles (el/la/los/las un/una/unos) adjective agreements (usually you check feminine adjectives and an -s at the end)

5. 90-word task:

Have you...	What the mark scheme says	What it means
	addressed all three bullet points with relevant information?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> write at least one sentence per BP what you write must be relevant to the question use the correct time frame for BP2
	communicated clearly?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> write in a way that is easy to understand if you translate it back into English it makes sense
	regularly developed your ideas?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> give at least three or four ideas per bullet point
	used a good range of vocabulary?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> avoid repetition (use each word only once) include different subject pronouns, negatives, etc.
	regularly tried to use complex language and structures?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> use a range of time phrases ('el fin que viene', etc.) use connectives ('y', 'pero', 'porque', 'poco', 'bastante', etc.) and sequences ('finalmente', etc.) you could use relative clauses, or 'tener que', 'hay que', etc.
	used present, past and future time frames mainly successfully?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> are your present, past and future verbs correct? are they in the right paragraph, with the right time frame? (remember, 'pasado/pasada' = past)
	checked if you have made errors, that they are mainly minor (some major ones may appear but they are not complex)?	<p>When you have finished, proofread you</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> spelling articles (el/la/los/las un/una/unos) adjective agreements (usually you check feminine adjectives and an -s at the end)

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ZigZag Practice Exam

Supporting GCSE AQA Spanish: 2024

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Write-on paper

Spanish
Writing



Foundation Tier Practice Paper 3

Name	
------	--

Time allowed: 1 hour 10 minutes

The maximum mark for this paper is 50.

Information:

- Answer all questions in the spaces provided.
- In **Section A**, you should answer all the questions.
- In **Section B** you should answer **either question 5.1 or question 5.2**. Do not answer both questions.
- Answer questions 2 and 5 in Spanish.
- You must not use a dictionary.
- The marks for each question are shown in brackets.
- To score the highest marks for question 2 and question 5, write something for each bullet point.
- You can write your first draft in the answer book. Clearly cross out everything that should not be marked as part of your answer.



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Section A

1. Your Spanish friend sends you this picture via Snapchat.



What is in this photo?

Write **five** sentences in Spanish.

1.1


1.2

1.3

1.4

1.5

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2. Your Spanish friend is interested in celebrities. Write a short description of your favourite celebrity.

Your answer must be in **Spanish** and approximately 50 words.

You must write at least one thing about each bullet point.

Mention:

- what they look like
- their family
- why they are famous
- why you like them
- any interesting facts



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3. Complete the following sentences in **Spanish** using your grammar knowledge.

Choose the correct **Spanish** word from the three options given. The correct word goes in the space. Use the example to help you.

Example

Ella va a pasear por la tarde.

van	va	
-----	----	--

3.1  ¿Os a ver los fuegos artificiales?

vamos	vais	van
-------	------	-----

3.2 que reciclar el plástico en casa.

Hace	Tener	Hay
------	-------	-----

3.3 La casa es pequeña pero

alegre	alegra	alegro
--------	--------	--------

3.4 La clase de ayer dos horas.

duró	duré	duramos
------	------	---------

3.5 Ella es una muy

guapa	guapo	guapas
-------	-------	--------

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4. Translate the following sentences **into Spanish**.

I live in a small village.

.....
.....

We never recycle plastic at home.

.....
.....

I like celebrating Christmas with my family.

.....
.....

Yesterday, I listened to music in my bedroom.

.....
.....

She wants to travel to Spain to try Spanish food.

.....
.....

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Section B

Answer **either** Question 5.1 **or** Question 5.2.
Only answer **one** of these questions.

EITHER

5.1 You are emailing your Spanish friend about your lifestyle.

Write your answer in Spanish in approximately

90 words.

You must write at least one detail for each bullet point.

Describe:

- what you do to stay healthy
- a sport you did last week
- how you will eat in the future

[15 marks]

OR

5.2 You are writing a plan for protecting the environment.

Write your answer in Spanish in approximately

90 words.

You must write at least one detail for each bullet point.

Describe:

- the environment in your country
- what your family is doing to protect the environment
- how you will help protect the environment

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ZigZag Practice Exam

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Non-write-on paper

Spanish
Writing



Foundation Tier Practice Paper 3

Time allowed: 1 hour 10 minutes

The maximum mark for this paper is **50**.

Information:

- In **Section A**, you should answer all the questions.
- In **Section B** you should answer **either question 5.1 or question 5.2**. Do not answer both questions.
- Answer all questions in Spanish.
- You must not use a dictionary.
- The marks for each question are given in brackets.
- To score the highest mark for question 2 and question 5, write something for each bullet point.
- You can write your first draft in the answer book. Clearly cross out everything that should not be marked as part of your answer.



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Section A

1. Your Spanish friend sends you this picture via Snapchat.



What is in this photo?

Write **five** sentences in Spanish.

- 1.1 [2 marks]
- 1.2 [2 marks]
- 1.3 [2 marks]
- 1.4 [2 marks]
- 1.5 [2 marks]

2. Your Spanish friend is interested in celebrities. Write a short description of your favourite celebrity.

Your answer must be in **Spanish** and approximately 50 words.

You must write at least one thing about each bullet point.

Mention:

- what they look like
- their family
- why they are famous
- why you like them
- a recent event

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3. Complete the following sentences in **Spanish** using your grammar knowledge. Choose the correct **Spanish** word from the three options given. The correct word goes in the space. Use the example to help you.

Example: Ella va a pasear por la tarde.

van	va	ir
-----	----	----

3.1 ¿Vosotros a ver los fuegos artificiales?

vamos	van
-------	-----

3.2 ¿Cómo se recicla el plástico en casa?

Hace	Tener	Hay
------	-------	-----

3.3 La casa es pequeña pero

alegre	alegra	alegro
--------	--------	--------

3.4 La clase de ayer dos horas.

duró	duré	duramos
------	------	---------

3.5 Ella es una actriz muy

guapa	guapo	guapas
-------	-------	--------

4. Translate the following sentences into **Spanish**.

- I live in a small village.
- We never cycle to school at home.
- I like celebrating Christmas with my family.
- Yesterday I listened to music in my bedroom.
- She wants to travel to Spain to try Spanish food.

Section B

Answer **either** Question 5.1 **or** Question 5.2. Only answer **one** of them.

EITHER

5.1 You are emailing your Spanish friend about your lifestyle.

Write your answer in **Spanish** in approximately **90 words**.

You must write at least one sentence for each bullet point.

Describe:

- what you do to stay healthy
- a sport you did last week
- how you will eat in the future

[15 marks]

OR

5.2 You are writing a postcard about protecting the environment.

Write your answer in **Spanish** in approximately **90 words**.

You must write at least one sentence for each bullet point.

Describe:

- the environment in your country
- what your family can do to protect the environment
- how you will protect the environment in the future

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Preview of Questions Ends Here

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Indicative Content

Practice Paper 1

1. Indicative content:
 - 1.1 Es una fiesta.
 - 1.2 Es el cumpleaños de una niña pequeña.
 - 1.3 Hay una abuela y un abuelo.
 - 1.4 Hay un regalo en la mesa.
 - 1.5 Tienen comida dulce.
2. Indicative content: Vivo en una casa grande con tres dormitorios y un jardín. En la ciudad no hay tren. Tenemos una piscina en el pueblo, y voy a nadar los fines de semana. Hay un parque grande con muchos árboles y un río. No hay contaminación del aire.
3. The correct answers are:
 - 3.1 hago
 - 3.2 mayor
 - 3.3 jugando
 - 3.4 sana
 - 3.5 Hace

4. Indicative content:

	Element of original language	Indicative content	Alternative rendering
1	I have	Tengo	
2	two sisters.	dos hermanas.	
3	I ... play football	yo juego fútbol	
4	normally	normalmente	frecuentemente
5	at the weekend	los fines de semana.	el fin de semana
6	studying	Él está estudiando	
7	a lot	mucho	duro
8	for his exams.	para sus exámenes.	
9	Last year	El año pasado	
10	I went	fui	
11	to the beach	a la playa	
12	with my cousins.	con mis primos.	
13	I will find	Encontraré	
14	a good job	un buen trabajo	un trabajo bueno
15	to earn lots of money.	para ganar mucho dinero.	

- 5.1 Indicative content: Yo soy una persona muy activa y mi actividad favorita es jugar en el equipo de baloncesto de mi pueblo. Tengo muchas amigas en el equipo. También me gusta estar al aire libre y salgo a montar en bicicleta con mi familia los fines de semana. Me gusta mucho y por eso fui al cine con mis amigos. La semana que viene vamos a jugar al baloncesto. Iré a la ciudad a jugar fútbol. Luego saldré a comer a un restaurante con mis amigos.
- 5.2 Indicative content: Me gusta mucho la tecnología, uso siempre mi móvil para bajar música. Me encanta ver películas de acción con mi familia. También me gusta hacer mis deberes. Me ayuda mucho a estudiar, porque puedo buscar información. Este año tuvimos clases de informática. Sin embargo, mi tableta estaba rota y creo que la tecnología será muy importante para mí porque quiero trabajar en tecnología. Necesitaré una pantalla muy grande y un ordenador nuevo.

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