

FACTFILE: GCSE SPANISH



Reading 9

CONTEXT 3: SCHOOL LIFE, STUDIES AND THE WORLD OF WORK



My studies and school life



Introduction

Here are some key points to help you study this topic.

Learning Outcomes

You should be able to:

- understand and respond to different types of written language;
- understand details within texts using high frequency familiar language;
- identify the overall message, key points, details and opinions in a variety of written passages;
- deduce meaning from a variety of written texts (from a range of specified contexts including short narratives, authentic material and unfamiliar material);

- recognise and respond to key information, important themes and ideas in extended written text and authentic sources;
- demonstrate understanding by being able to scan for particular information, organise and present relevant details, draw conclusions in context and recognise implicit meaning where appropriate; and
- translate sentences from Spanish into English.

These lists are neither prescriptive nor exhaustive.

Skills

- Communication.
- Self-Management.
- Working with Others.
- Problem Solving; and
- Using ICT.

Preparation

- Revise vocabulary on school subjects, choices, preferences, facilities, uniform, rules and the school day.
- Start to create your own bank of vocabulary on the various sub-topics.
- Divide vocabulary into different groups, as this may make it easier to learn new expressions.
- Create a bank of idiomatic expressions and synonyms.
- Familiarise yourself with tenses and how they can influence meaning.
- Highlight the vocabulary that may seem more difficult to recognise when reading (false friends).

- Become aware of how negative expressions can alter the meaning entirely.
- Familiarise yourself with verbs associated with school studies and life.
- Familiarise yourself with the GCSE specification and its requirements.
- Pay particular attention to the types of questions that may arise in a reading examination.
- Anticipate the type of translation that could arise relating to this topic; and
- Prepare opinions and justifications relating to subjects, rules, uniform and subject preferences.

Practice

- Work in pairs and give each other a quiz on vocabulary.
- Translate into English each other's role-play and conversation preparation.
- Create your own examination style questions and test one another in groups.
- Using your vocabulary list delete words in the Spanish or English side and your partner has to fill in the blanks.
- Make effective use of course book/online reading material that is available.
- Use Specimen Assessment Material if appropriate.
- If you have access to a native Spanish speaker, ask him/her to practise with you or prepare materials (if appropriate); and
- Use all of the material that you have prepared for the other three units.

Revision

- Do you know your vocabulary?
- Are you aware of how tenses and/or negative expressions can alter meaning?
- Are you familiar with the topic based verbs, synonyms and idiomatic expressions?
- Are you familiar with the type of question you may be asked in a reading examination?
- Have you prepared material for the other units in this topic?
- Have you completed any practice questions under exam conditions?
- Have you spoken to your teacher/language assistant about any difficulties you may have experienced?

