



Rewarding Learning

SPANISH STUDENT STUDY CARD #11

READING COMPREHENSION SKILLS

Introduction

At AS, the reading comprehension exercise consists of a stimulus in Spanish followed by questions and answers in Spanish [Question 1].

At A2, the reading comprehension exercise consists of two questions: a gap-filling exercise [Question 1] and a set of questions in Spanish to be answered in Spanish [Question 2].

Assessment

The reading comprehension exercise is assessed according to the A02 criterion only.

Assessment Objective/s

You will be assessed according to the following criterion:

- A02: understand and respond to written language drawn from a variety of sources.

Look at the mark scheme to familiarise yourself with the requirements of the criterion and guidance on how to achieve the top bands.





Skills

Here are some suggestions to help you prepare for this skills area.

- Read through the whole text at least twice before even looking at the questions.
- Try to make sense of the title and context heading if there is one.
- Find words that look like English words (cognates).
- Read through all the questions before starting the first one to ensure no overlap of answers.
- Pay attention to the structure of the text which may assist with the location of an answer.
- Look for speech marks-ensure you understand who is talking.
- Watch out for idiomatic language. This might require some imagination on your part!
- Look for word families e.g.. **vivir, vivienda, vivo** and consider the function of each word i.e. is it a verb, a noun or an adjective.
- Reading aloud or under your breath can help with understanding, especially when considering how punctuation can affect meaning.
- Look for compound verbs and nouns.
- Use context clues or related words to decipher unknown vocabulary.
- Watch out for false friends like **realizar**.
- Check how many marks are awarded for each question and structure your response accordingly. Do not answer a 4 mark question with 2 lines.
- Do not lift full sentences from the text - make an attempt to paraphrase.