



Rewarding Learning

# SPANISH STUDENT STUDY CARD #12

## READING - TRANSLATION FROM SPANISH INTO ENGLISH [AS]

### Introduction

At AS, you will complete one translation from Spanish into English.

### Assessment

The translation is AS Section B Question 2. This is a short passage in Spanish that should be translated into accurate English.

The translation exercise will be drawn from a variety of sources such as magazines, newspapers, reports, books or other forms of extended writing related to the AS themes.

### 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.

You should be able to:

- clearly transfer meaning from Spanish into English;
- be sensitive to register and idiom;
- avoid errors;
- understand and apply accurately the grammatical system and a range of structures.

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 Spanish text at least twice.
- Try to get the gist of the title if there is one.
- Work out the context of the translation.
- What does the structure look like? Is it a dialogue? How many speakers are there and what gender are they?
- Keep to the writer's style e.g. is it a newspaper article, a blog or a letter to a friend?
- Highlight verbs and scrutinise their endings.
- Watch out for reflexive verbs or impersonal structures.
- Particular attention should be paid to the gender and number of nouns, pronouns and to the person, tense and mood of verbs.
- 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 and translate accordingly.
- Be aware that translating word-for-word will result in a stilted end result. You must translate meaning above everything else.
- You do not need to stick rigidly to the word order of the passage. Play around with word order to find a version that sounds natural in English.
- Remember that you may not have the luxury of writing a rough draft.
- Write words above the text.
- Play with meaning in your head before you put pen to paper.