



Rewarding Learning

# SPANISH STUDENT STUDY CARD #15

## SUMMARY SKILLS

### Introduction

A summary is a condensed version of a longer piece of text. You must capture the main ideas of the original text/passage. Your own opinion is not required. You should not introduce in additional information.

Effective summary skills can help you to:

- improve your understanding of topics, language and grammar;
- be more focused and time-efficient;
- organise ideas/language into easy-to-review chunks of information.

### Assessment

The summary exercise is Question 3 of Section B in Unit A2 2.

You are required to read a passage in Spanish and summarise it in English using approximately 100 words.





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:

- understand, infer meaning and draw conclusions;
- express details, facts and information.

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.

- Is the summary the whole text or part of the text? If it is a part of a text, ensure that you read the before and after text too.
- Read the original text through two or three times, set the text aside and note all the points you recall. These will normally be the most salient points.
- When you summarise you can use key words and phrases from the text but do not copy whole sentences.
- You must paraphrase-restate the content using your own words.
- Consider changes to the person and tense of verbs in the original text.
- Thorough familiarity with changing direct speech into indirect speech is essential e.g.:
  - “dejé el ballet a los 16 años para concentrarme en mis estudios”;
  - Dijo que dejó el ballet a los 16 años para concentrarse en sus estudios.
- Be familiar with conjunctions like además or sin embargo to link your points together.
- Read your summary through and ensure it sounds like an original text.