

FACTFILE: GCSE SPANISH



Writing 5

CONTEXT 2: LOCAL, NATIONAL, INTERNATIONAL AND GLOBAL AREAS OF INTEREST



My local area and the wider environment



Introduction

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

Learning Outcomes

You should be able to:

- communicate in writing for a variety of purposes;
- write short texts, using simple sentences and familiar language to convey meaning and exchange information;
- translate sentences from English into Spanish to convey key messages accurately and to apply grammatical knowledge of language and structures in context;
- produce clear and coherent extended text to present facts and express ideas and opinions for different purposes and in different settings;
- make accurate use of a variety of vocabulary and grammatical structures;

- manipulate the language, using and adapting a variety of structures and vocabulary with accuracy and fluency for new purposes (including using appropriate style and register); and
- make independent and creative use of the language to identify key points, express and justify their thoughts and points of view.

These lists are neither prescriptive nor exhaustive.

Skills

- Communication.
- Self-Management.
- Working With Others.
- Problem Solving.
- Being Creative.

Preparation

- Familiarize yourself with the specification requirements and grade boundaries.
- Familiarize yourself with the rubrics and type of questions you will have to answer in this component of the GCSE.
- Consolidate your knowledge of basic vocabulary in Spanish, e.g. **prepositions, weather, numbers, connecting words.**
- Identify areas of weakness that you need to work on, e.g. **spelling, topic vocabulary.**
- Develop a bank of topic based vocabulary from the CCEA core vocabulary lists such as:
 - **Places in town**, e.g. la panadería, el polideportivo;
 - **Opinions and reasons**, e.g. lo bueno/lo malo, lo mejor/lo peor, me parece;
 - **Topic related verbs**, e.g. vivir, hacer (**weather**), poder, ir, estar, (**location**), tomar, subir, bajar, cruzar (**directions**).

Practice

(classroom activities and independent study suggestions)

- Translation practice English to Spanish from SAM.
- Group work or individual task. Mini-topics to practise extended writing, e.g.
 - **Mi Casa** – Where? Type? Rooms? Good/bad points? What would you change?
 - **Mi Barrio** – A description of where you live including what there is to do for different people as well as the good and bad points. Would you like to live elsewhere? Why?
 - **Mi Barrio – Entonces y Ahora** – A comparison of your area in the past to how it is now.
 - **¿La Ciudad o El Campo?** – Discuss the pros and cons of life in the city and in the country.
 - **Mi Región – Los Problemas y Las Soluciones** – Identify the main problems in your area, e.g. pollution, unemployment, crime and offer possible solutions.
 - **El Medio Ambiente** – Focus on the main environmental problems in your area and what can/should be done to help (individually/together/at school/at home).
 - **¿Por dónde se va a....?** – Produce a simple map of a city centre and practise giving instructions on how to get to different places from a variety of starting points.

Revision

- **Topic related vocabulary** (including gender of nouns).
- **Topic related verbs** (past/present/future tenses including irregular verbs).
- **Spelling** (including agreement of adjectives).
- **Structures**, e.g.
 - vivo ahí **desde hace** (3) años
 - **Llevo** (3) años **viviendo** ahí
 - Se debería/se podría
 - Lo positivo y lo negativo
 - Hay donde comprar
 - Para visitar hay
- **Ideas and opinions** – expressed and justified.

