

# FACTFILE: GCSE SPANISH



## Writing 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:

- 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 French 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; and
- Using ICT.

#### Preparation

- Start to create your own bank of vocabulary on my studies and school life, including a bank of idiomatic expressions and synonyms where appropriate.
- Create a bank of expressions that are transferable to any piece of extended writing.
- Highlight the vocabulary that is more advanced and more difficult to spell.
- Use different coloured pens for different types of words, e.g. masculine/feminine nouns, verbs, adjectives.
- Prepare the verbs associated with my studies and school life in three different tenses.

- Familiarise yourself with the GCSE specification and its requirements for writing, especially the mark scheme.
- Anticipate the type of extended piece of writing and translation that could arise relating to this topic; and
- Prepare opinions and justifications relating to my studies and school life.

## Practice

- Work in pairs and give each other a quiz on vocabulary from Spanish to English.
- In pairs give each other regular spelling tests.
- Make effective use of class assessments/ homework, take into account the feed-back that has been offered and act upon it.
- Use grids to self-evaluate, so as to include the type of language that will gain marks.
- Read other people's work and identify good use of language and areas for improvement.
- For translation; try to translate a phrase in different ways, in other words look for ways round translating a word you may not know.
- Translate simple phrases into past, present and future tenses.
- Avoid using a dictionary when practising translation.
- Make effective use of course book/online writing material that is available.
- Use Specimen Assessment Material if appropriate.
- If you have access to a native Spanish speaker, ask him/her to read your preparation material; and
- Use all of the material that you have prepared for the other three units.

## Revision

- Can you spell your vocabulary?
- Do you know extended writing (transferable language) expressions?
- When you approach a question, do you provide as much detail as possible, without going off topic?
- Are you answering questions with idiomatic expressions, opinions and justifications where appropriate?
- Do you always read the question very carefully?
- Have you completed a practice writing examination and received feed-back?

