

Additional translation practice: Spanish (Paper 4 – Writing)

This resource supports GCSE Spanish (8698). Two full sets of sample assessment materials for the new GCSE specification are available to teachers (one via the AQA website in the Assessment folder for each language, the other via the secure e AQA area of the site, in the Secure Key Materials section). To support teachers and students with work on translation, practising teachers have written two additional translations per tier (English-German).

Foundation Tier questions

0 1

Translate the following sentences into **Spanish**.

My house is big.

I like English, but I prefer Spanish.

I am going to buy a new computer.

In my family, we do lots to help the environment.

I went to the cinema last week.

[10 marks]

0 2

Translate the following sentences into **Spanish**.

I watch the television.

My friend's sister works in a shoe shop.

There is a park near my house.

I have to do lots of homework.

I bought a jacket in the town centre yesterday.

[10 marks]

Foundation Tier mark scheme

The translation is assessed for Conveying key messages (5 marks) and Application of grammatical knowledge of language and structures (5 marks), as specified in the criteria below. The maximum mark is 10. When awarding the marks, the student's response across all five sentences should be considered as a whole.

[10 marks]

Conveying key messages

Level	Marks	Response
5	5	All key messages are conveyed.
4	4	Nearly all key messages are conveyed.
3	3	Most key messages are conveyed.
2	2	Some key messages are conveyed.
1	1	Few key messages are conveyed.
0	0	No key messages are conveyed.

Application of grammatical knowledge of language and structures

Level	Marks	Response
5	5	Very good knowledge of vocabulary and structures; highly accurate.
4	4	Good knowledge of vocabulary and structures; generally accurate.
3	3	Reasonable knowledge of vocabulary and structures; more accurate than inaccurate.
2	2	Limited knowledge of vocabulary and structures; generally inaccurate.
1	1	Very limited knowledge of vocabulary and structures; highly inaccurate.
0	0	The language produced does not meet the standard required for Level 1 at this tier.

Notes

A mark of zero for Conveying key messages automatically results in a mark of zero for Application of grammatical knowledge of language and structures, but apart from that, the Conveying key messages mark does not limit the mark for Application of grammatical knowledge of language and structures.

Indicative content

The following indicative content is an example of a response which would be awarded full marks.

Translation 1

Indicative content

My house is big.	Mi casa es grande.
I like English, but I prefer Spanish.	Me gusta el inglés, pero prefiero/me gusta más el español.
I am going to buy a new computer.	Voy a compra /Compraré un nuevo ordenador/una nueva computadora/un nuevo portátil (accept the adjective placed after the noun)
In my family, we do lots to help the environment.	En mi familia hacemos mucho para ayudar el medio ambiente.
I went to the cinema last week.	Fui al cine la semana pasada.

Translation 2

Indicative content

I watch the television.	Veo la televisión/la tele.
My friend's sister works in a shoe shop.	La hermana de mi amigo/mi amiga trabaja en una zapatería.
There is a park near my house.	Hay un parque cerca de mi casa.
I have to do lots of homework.	Tengo que hacer muchos deberes/muchas tareas.
I bought a jacket in the town centre yesterday.	Compré una chaqueta en el centro ayer.

Higher Tier mark scheme

The translation is assessed for Conveying key messages (6 marks) and Application of grammatical knowledge of language and structures (6 marks) as specified in the criteria below. The maximum mark is 12. When awarding the marks the student's response across the passage should be considered as a whole.

[12 marks]

Conveying key messages

Level	Marks	Response
6	6	All key messages are conveyed.
5	5	Nearly all key messages are conveyed.
4	4	Most key messages are conveyed.
3	3	Some key messages are conveyed.
2	2	Few key messages are conveyed.
1	1	Very few key messages are conveyed.
0	0	The content does not meet the standard required for Level 1 at this tier.

Application of grammatical knowledge of language and structures

Level	Marks	Response
6	6	Excellent knowledge of vocabulary and structures; virtually faultless.
5	5	Very good knowledge of vocabulary and structures; highly accurate.
4	4	Good knowledge of vocabulary and structures; generally accurate.
3	3	Reasonable knowledge of vocabulary and structures; more accurate than inaccurate.
2	2	Limited knowledge of vocabulary and structures; generally inaccurate.
1	1	Very limited knowledge of vocabulary and structures; highly inaccurate.
0	0	The language produced does not meet the standard required for Level 1 at this tier.

Notes

A mark of zero for Conveying key messages automatically results in a mark of zero for Application of grammatical knowledge of language and structures, but apart from that, the Conveying key messages mark does not limit the mark for Application of grammatical knowledge of language and structures.

Translation 1

I like to go on holiday to Spain. It is always sunny and our favourite hotel has a big swimming pool. Last summer we went to Madrid and I saw a concert in the bull-ring. I am going to study Spanish at university although I think that it will be difficult.

Indicative content

The following indicative content is an example of a response which would be awarded full marks.

Me gusta ir de vacaciones a España. Siempre hace sol y nuestro hotel favorito / preferido tiene una piscina grande. El verano pasado fuimos a / visitamos Madrid y vi un concierto en la plaza de toros. Voy a estudiar / Estudiaré español en la / a la universidad aunque pienso que/ creo que / me parece que será / va a ser difícil.

Translation 2

I have a Spanish friend who lives in Valencia. I spent three weeks in his home last summer. His parents were lovely and I enjoyed myself very much. He is going to arrive in England next month. He wants to go to my school and we will work in my father's shop at the weekend.

Indicative content

The following indicative content is an example of a response which would be awarded full marks.

Tengo un amigo español/una amiga española que vive en Valencia. Pasé tres semanas en su casa el verano pasado. Sus padres eran simpáticos/amables y me divertí mucho/ lo pasé muy bien. Va a llegar a Inglaterra el mes que viene. Quiere ir a mi colegio y trabajaremos/vamos a trabajar en la tienda de mi padre el fin de semana.