



Examiners' Report

June 2024

GCSE Spanish 1SP0 4F

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Introduction

Questions for this paper are set in everyday contexts, addressing a range of relevant contemporary and cultural themes. They are organised into five themes, each broken down into topics and sub-topics. The five themes are: Identity and culture, Local area, Holiday and travel, School, Future aspirations – study and work, and International and global dimension.

The assessment tasks feature general content that is familiar and accessible to all candidates. Candidates are required to produce responses of varying lengths and types to express facts, ideas and opinions in Spanish. The length of each response required and complexity of language increases across the paper. Recommended word counts are specified for each question, but candidates are not penalised for writing more or fewer words than recommended in the word count nor for going beyond the mandatory bullet points. All questions are marked against the assessment criteria as published in the current specification. The instructions to candidates are in Spanish. The titles of each question are in English. The use of dictionaries is not permitted.

The examination for paper 4F is 1 hour and 15 minutes in length and it carries 60 marks. The paper consists of three open response questions and one translation from English into Spanish.

Candidates are required to answer four questions:

Q01: between 20 and 30 words giving a description of a picture with an opinion.

Q02(a) or Q02(b): a short email of between 40 and 50 words in a formal context based on four bullet points.

Q03(a) or Q03(b): an informal email or letter of between 80 and 90 words based on four bullet points.

Q04: five short sentences to translate from English into Spanish.

Q01, Q02(a), Q02(b), Q03(a) and Q03(b) increase in linguistic demand. Q03 is common to the higher tier paper. In Q01, candidates are expected to produce simple sentences in the present tense with some linking; in Q02(a) or Q02(b) candidates will produce some simple sentences with some development in the present tense. The fourth bullet point enables candidates to use a future time frame. In Q03(a) or Q03(b), candidates write a response to include present, past and future time frames and to give an opinion. In Q04, the five translation sentences increase in linguistic demand from Q04(a) to Q04(e).

Question 1

This question requires candidates to describe the photograph and to give an opinion about going to the beach. They are recommended to write 20-30 words in Spanish.

1 Describe la foto y da tu opinión sobre ir a la playa.

Escribe aproximadamente 20-30 palabras **en español**.

(12)

En la foto hay cuatro personas. Hay ~~2~~ dos chicas y dos chicos.

Están ~~hace~~ a la playa y hace sol.

~~Contentos~~ Parecen contentos.

En mi opinión, me gusta a la playa porque es divertido. Sin embargo, mi madre dice que es aburrido.



This response receives the maximum **6 marks** available for **Communication and Content**. The candidate has written information relevant to the photograph in the description and has included occasional extra details. The language used enables the candidate to give a short description, provide simple information and an opinion, with some success. The candidate uses a small selection of common, familiar vocabulary and also some more uncommon language such as *parecen* and *sin embargo*. There is no significant repetition.

This response receives a mark of **6** for **Linguistic Knowledge and Accuracy**. The candidate produces simple sentences with some linking, using *y*, *porque* and *sin embargo*. There is accurate application of a small selection of straightforward grammatical structures and the candidate refers successfully to present events as appropriate to the task eg *hay cuatro personas*, *están a la playa* and *hace sol*. Clarity of expression is hindered slightly with the omission of the verb in the sentence *En mi opinión, me gusta a la playa porque es divertido*.



A clear understanding of the present tense of common familiar verbs is vital for success in this task.

1 Describe la foto y da tu opinión sobre ir a la playa.

Escribe aproximadamente 20–30 palabras **en español**.

(12)

En la foto hay cuatro la gente.
en la playa. Diría que hace
sol porque esta la playa. En
al fondo hay cuatro personas
y manzanas.



This response receives **3** marks for **Communication and Content**. The candidate gives some relevant information in their description and includes minimal extra detail. The language used enables the candidate to give a short description and provide simple information with variable success. A clear opinion about going to the beach is not expressed. The candidate uses a small selection of common, familiar vocabulary with some repetition, *hay, playa* and *cuatro*.

This response receives a mark of **3** for **Linguistic Knowledge and Accuracy**. The candidate produces four simple sentences. There is inconsistently accurate application of a small selection of straightforward grammatical structures and the candidate sometimes refers successfully to present events as appropriate to the task eg *Diría que hace sol ..., en el fondo hay cuatro personas ...* Often errors occur that hinder clarity of communication eg *En la foto hay cuatro la gente, porque esta la playa, manzanas* and *en la playa* (written as a complete sentence without a verb).



To access the top mark band for Communication and Content, the response must contain a description of the photograph and the required opinion.

Question 2 (a)

Q02(a) requires candidates to write an email to the manager of a voluntary work project. Candidates must include the information given in the four bullet points in their response. They are asked to produce 40-50 words in Spanish.

2 (a) Quieres hacer trabajo voluntario con niños en España. Escribe un email a la directora.

Menciona:

- tus datos personales
- los deportes que practicas
- cómo quieres viajar
- una actividad que vas a hacer este fin de semana.

Escribe aproximadamente 40–50 palabras **en español**.

(16)

Estimada señora:

Hola niños,

Me llamo Audrey, tengo 16 años y soy bastante amable y muy divertido.

Uno que practico el fútbol porque me gusta este deportes, es muy fácil y ~~interesante~~ interesante también se puede jugar solamente en el fin de semana.

Supongo que ~~me gustaría~~ viajar para avión porque es muy práctico y útil.

Quiero admitir que este fin de semana

Atentamente,

voy a ir el cine con mi familia y

pienso que ~~gustará~~ será

será bastante divertido.



This response receives the maximum **8** marks available for **Communication and Content**. The candidate gives information relevant to the four bullet points and adds some development. The language enables the candidate to present simple facts, give information and to note down key points and simple ideas using common, familiar vocabulary and language structures. The language used is independently selected and does not rely on the language of the stimulus material to convey ideas.

This response receives the maximum mark of **8** for **Linguistic Knowledge and Accuracy**. The candidate produces simple sentences which are occasionally linked using *y*, *porque* and *tambien*. Straightforward grammatical structures are used, which are mostly accurate. There are mostly successful references to both present and future events. Verbs and spellings tend to be accurate with the odd exception. Occasionally, errors occur which hinder clarity of communication eg *se puede jugar seulemente en el fin de samana* and *supongo que viajo para avion*.



This question will always assess the ability to refer to both present and future events. Candidates will only be able to access the top mark bands for **Communication and Content** and **Linguistic Knowledge and Accuracy** if there is a clear reference to a future event.

2 (a) Quieres hacer trabajo voluntario con niños en España. Escribe un email a la directora.

Menciona:

- tus datos personales
- los deportes que practicas
- cómo quieres viajar
- una actividad que vas a hacer este fin de semana.

Escribe aproximadamente 40–50 palabras **en español**.

(16)

Estimada señora:

¡Hola! Me llamo Selphie y tengo veinte años. Soy muy interes-
ante en trabajo voluntario
con niños ~~soy~~ simpático y
~~soy~~ divertido. Me encanta
niños y me gusta trabajar
con niños. ¿~~Hay~~ muchas es
salario? Soy ~~soy~~ muy ex
El fin de semana voy a ir
a la playa con mis amigos
¡~~soy~~ ~~soy~~! ¡Estar
bueno,
bien.



This response receives **5** marks for **Communication and Content**. The candidate has written information relevant to two of the four bullet points (*los deportes que practicas* and *cómo quieres viajar* are not communicated) and has added some development. The language used has enabled the candidate to present simple facts, information and to note down key points using simple ideas with common, familiar vocabulary and language structures, with some success. The language used is independently selected and clarity of communication is only occasionally an issue. The lower of the two marks available in the mark band is selected. The response is deemed to be closer to the descriptor in the band below rather than that of the band above, especially given that only two of the bullet points are addressed.

This response receives a mark of **6** for **Linguistic Knowledge and Accuracy**. The candidate produces simple sentences, which are linked, using *con* and *y*. Straightforward grammatical structures are used, which are sometimes accurate. There are some accurate references to both present and future events. Occasionally, errors occur which hinder clarity of communication eg *Soy muy interesante en trabajo voluntaria con niños* and occasionally prevent meaning eg *¿muchos es salaria?* and *estar buena*.



It is useful to know the meaning of common words such as *cómo*, *dónde* and *cuándo* to be able to understand the meaning of some of the bullet points commonly used in the rubric.

Question 2 (b)

Q02(b) requires candidates to write an email to the organiser of a festival in Spain. Candidates must include the information given in the four bullet points in their response. They are asked to produce 40-50 words in Spanish.

2 (b) Quieres ir a un festival en España. Escribe un email al organizador.

Menciona:

- dónde vives
- cuándo quieres visitar
- la música que te gusta
- la ropa que vas a llevar durante el festival.

Escribe aproximadamente 40–50 palabras **en español**.

(16)

Estimado señor:

Dónde vivo en Inglaterra en el Great
Yarmouth. Mi favorita música es rap
y voy a festival de música el año
próximo con mis amigos y familia en
Norwich. Lo pase bomba. Durante el
festival voy a ir a bailar con chicas
y cantar. Mi visitar lo festival unos
años.



This response receives **3** marks for **Communication and Content**. The candidate has written information relevant to one of the four bullet points, *la música que te gusta* and has partially communicated *dónde vives*, without development of those points. There are some additional ideas presented which are related to the general topic, but not to the required bullet points. The language used has enabled the candidate to present simple facts, information and to note down key points using simple ideas with common, familiar vocabulary and language structures, with occasional success. Clarity of communication is occasionally an issue and communication occasionally breaks down. There is some reliance on language of the stimulus material to express thoughts with the use of *donde vives* in the first sentence.

This response receives a mark of **4** for **Linguistic Knowledge and Accuracy**. The candidate produces simple sentences which are sometimes linked using *y* and *con*. Straightforward grammatical structures are used, which are sometimes accurate. There are some accurate references to present and past events. Occasionally, errors occur that prevent meaning being conveyed eg ... *vamos al bailar con chicas y cantano* and *mi visitar lo festival unos años*.

2 (b) Quieres ir a un festival en España. Escribe un email al organizador.

Menciona:

- dónde vives
- cuándo quieres visitar
- la música que te gusta
- la ropa que vas a llevar durante el festival.

Escribe aproximadamente 40–50 palabras **en español**.

(16)

Estimado señor:

Donde vives en Madrid en
España, cuando visitar porque
e música festival, mi gusta
el clásico música. Me
lleve durante el festival es
ocho todos porque música
es ~~is~~ Futuro e voluntario
Ainos



This response receives **2** marks for **Communication and Content**. The candidate has written limited information comprising words and phrases related to the bullet points. Communication often breaks down due to a general lack of understanding of the language used in the bullet points. The upper of the two marks available in the mark band is selected due to the candidate conveying information relating to the music that they like, *mi gusta el classico musica*.

This response receives a mark of **1** for **Linguistic Knowledge and Accuracy**. Individual words and phrases are used, and accuracy is very limited. Regular errors occur that prevent meaning being conveyed eg *cuando visitar porque e musica festival* and *me lleve durante el festival es ocho todos porque musica es futuro e voluntario ninos*.

Question 3 (a)

Q03(a) requires candidates to write a letter to a friend about their favourite place to visit. They must address the four bullet points and produce between 80-90 words in Spanish.

3 (a) Escribe una carta a tu amigo José.

Debes mencionar los siguientes puntos:

- cómo es el lugar
- lo que hiciste allí en el pasado
- tu opinión sobre las actividades que hay para jóvenes
- otro sitio que vas a visitar en el futuro.

Escribe aproximadamente 80–90 palabras **en español**.

(20)

mi favorito es Alemania
porque es muy divertido
y interesante. Me encanta
porque es histórica es muy
bonita pero es muy sad.
ca como es muy interesante
y perfecto porque hay
periperi en me encanta.
Mis ~~familia~~ padres ~~vanos~~
fuimos la semana pasada
y muy grande es bonita
meuseum. Mi hermana ~~es~~
gustaria es como y tu



This response receives **2** marks for **Communication and Content**. The candidate has attempted to write information relevant to two of the four bullet points. They have provided brief information with just the first bullet point briefly developed. Opinions are limited with a lack of clarity in communication eg, *Mi favorito es Alemania porque es muy diveretande y interesante, Me encanta porque es historia es muy bonita.*

This response receives **1** mark for **Linguistic Knowledge and Accuracy**. The candidate produces some brief simple sentences. There are some attempts at linking with *porque, pero* and *y*. There is some repetition using *es, me encanta, porque, interesante, muy* and *bonita*. None of the sentences use accurate language. There is regular ambiguity. The use of English is a barrier to communication eg *pero es muy sad, ... y muy grande es bonita meuseum* and other errors prevent meaning being conveyed eg *la comó es muy interesante* and *Mi hermana gustaria es comó y tu.*

3 (a) Escribe una carta a tu amigo José.

write to to your friend José

Debes mencionar los siguientes puntos:

how it's good

- cómo es el lugar
- lo que hiciste allí en el pasado
- tu opinión sobre las actividades que hay para jóvenes
- otro sitio que vas a visitar en el futuro.

Escribe aproximadamente 80–90 palabras en español.

(20)

Mi región visitar favorito es Portugal. En mi opinión, Portugal es lo mejor ~~para~~ ^{ya que} hay ~~muehas~~ ^{siempre} calor, así que puede disfrutar en la piscina durante el noche y la tarde. El año pasado, mi familia y mi amigo, Alejandro visitamos ~~un poco~~ ^{unos} atracciones turísticas antes fuimos a la playa en Portugal. Aunque ~~era~~ ^{bien} era muy ~~divertido~~ para tres horas, ~~luego~~ ~~Alejandro~~ perdí mi móvil. ¡Que desastro! Después, era agotador, pero fuimos un restaurante donde la patatas fritas es maravilloso. Tengo quince años, tan las actividades ~~que~~ para jóvenes me aburre. Sin embargo, mi hermana menor encante las actividades ~~por ejemplo~~ en la región. El año próximo ~~vamos~~ ^{vamos} a ~~visitar~~ ^{visitar} el Gales. ~~Me gustaría~~ Presiero ir a región

con más sol, sin embargo me hermeno,
Jack, dice que hay más hacer. ^{en Gales} Quiere
viajar el noche ^{visitar} mi abuelos, pero ~~quiso~~
~~lo voy a~~ vamos a comprar nuevas ropas
cada día dado que mi madre encante
el mercados en el pueblo cerca del un
hotel.



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This response receives **10** marks for **Communication and Content**. The candidate has written information relevant to all four bullet points. The candidate has expanded the key points and ideas. There is a variety of language used to express ideas and opinions, with some examples of uncommon language eg *lo mejor, ya que, así que, sin embargo disfrutar, aunque, agotador*. The response shows some elements of the 7-9 mark band such as mostly effective adaptation of language, which is why the mark at the bottom of the 10-12 mark band is appropriate.

This response receives **6** marks for **Linguistic Knowledge and Accuracy**. The candidate produces some extended sentences which are linked with a variety of conjunctions such as *pero* and *y* as well as the ones mentioned above. The language is frequently accurate and the references to present, past and future events are mostly successful. There is occasional ambiguity and sometimes errors occur that hinder clarity of communication eg *Sin embargo mi hermana menor encante las actividades en la region, dado que mi madre encante el mercados ...*

Question 3 (b)

Q03(b) requires candidates to write an email to a friend about school events. They must address the four bullet points and produce between 80-90 words in Spanish.

3 (b) Escribe un email a tu amiga Marta.

Debes mencionar los siguientes puntos:

- las actividades que hay en tu colegio
- un evento que organizó el colegio el año pasado
- tu opinión sobre los eventos escolares
- una actividad que vas a hacer el año que viene.

Escribe aproximadamente 80–90 palabras **en español**.

(20)

Hola Marta, el colegio es muy aburrido. ~~Hagamos~~ En colegio, es las actividades me triste. En clase, ~~los matemáticos~~ escuchamos y aprendamos. El año pasado organizó un club de deportes por jóvenes. Jugarémos al hockey y al rugby lo que más me gusta es ~~el~~ el divertido fue. Además fue entiendo y brillante. No me gusta nada los eventos escolares, es ~~en~~ mal y el organizar es el profesores son stricto y ino aguanto! El año que viene nací al fútbol.



This response receives **4** marks for **Communication and Content**. The candidate has attempted to convey information relevant to the four bullet points. However, only the first three bullet points are conveyed. The fourth bullet point is attempted, but there is no example of a clearly communicated future event, so this bullet point is not successful. The candidate expresses mainly straightforward thoughts and ideas using some different examples of common, familiar language eg *el colegio es muy aburrido*, *En clase escuchamos*, *El año pasado organizó un club de deportes por jóvenes* (using the stimulus to start the sentence), *No me gusta nada los eventos escolares*.

This response receives **3** marks for **Linguistic Knowledge and Accuracy**. The candidate produces some extended simple sentences, which are linked with the familiar conjunction *y* and there is also *Ademas* used. The language is sometimes accurate with a few successful references to the present tense and the past. There is some ambiguity and often errors occur that hinder clarity of communication eg *... y aprendamos*, *jugarémos al hockey y al rugby* (for the past), *El año que viene hicí al fútbol* and occasionally prevent meaning being conveyed eg *En colegio las actividades me triste*, *Ademas fue entriendo y brillante*, *... es mal y el organizar el profesores son stricto*.



The stimulus will have a clear indication of the time indicator to use. Candidates are advised to use these in their response to make the intended time frame clear.

3 (b) Escribe un email a tu amiga Marta.

Debes mencionar los siguientes puntos:

- las actividades que hay en tu colegio
- un evento que organizó el colegio el año pasado
- tu opinión sobre los eventos escolares
- una actividad que vas a hacer el año que viene.



Escribe aproximadamente 80–90 palabras **en español**.

(20)

hola marta, como estas, en mi colegio
hay muchas actividades, ^{hay} futbol, baloncesto
y natacion, ~~en mi~~ me gusta baloncesto porque
es muy divertido y muy practico. el año
pasado mi colegio ~~organiza~~ organiza muchos
eventos ³⁸ ~~ej~~ ⁴² hay ~~navidad~~ navidad, la comida navidad
y dia la libro. en mi opinion creo que
los eventos escolares es muy importante
porque te dan tiempo para reconectar
con tu amigos. ⁶¹ tambien es muy
divertido ⁶⁵ porque es muy practico y
emocionante, ⁷¹ creo que la eventos es
muy divertido con tu ^{amigos} familia porque
te dan tiempo para relajarse. ⁸⁷



This response receives **8** marks for **Communication and Content**. The candidate has written information which can be considered relevant to three of the four bullet points. The fourth bullet point is not attempted. The candidate develops some key points and ideas. There is a variety of mainly common, familiar language with the occasional example of uncommon language eg *te dan tiempo para reconectar con tu amigos*.

This response receives **5** marks for **Linguistic Knowledge and Accuracy**. The candidate produces some extended sentences which are linked with conjunctions such as *y* and *porque*. The language is frequently accurate and the references to present and past events are mostly successful. *Organizo (organizó)* is recognisable as a past tense verb as it appears with a past time indicator. There is occasional ambiguity and sometimes errors occur that hinder clarity of communication eg *la comida navidad, día la libros, te dan tiempo para relaje*.



Candidates can not access the top mark bands if a bullet point is not addressed and if there are no successful attempts at references to past, present and future events.

Question 4

The translation from English into Spanish is based on the topic of family. Candidates are asked to write five sentences in Spanish which increase in difficulty.

4 Traduce las frases siguientes al español:

(a) I have a sister.

(2)

Tengo un hermano

(b) I like my family a lot.

(2)

Me gusta mucho mi familia

(c) María is intelligent, but shy.

(2)

María es inteligente, pero tímida

(d) At the weekend we swim in the swimming pool.

(3)

Este fin de ~~se~~ semana vamos a la piscina

(e) Last month we went shopping at the new market in town.

(3)

El año pasado fuimos a comprar en el mercado
en la ciudad.



Q04(a): **2** marks. The message is fully communicated. The incorrect article for *hermana* does not hinder clarity of communication.

Q04(b): **2** marks. The message is fully communicated without error.

Q04(c): **2** marks. The message is fully communicated without significant error. The spelling of *inteligente* and the missing accent on *tímida* do not hinder clarity.

Q04(d): **2** marks. The meaning of the sentence is partially communicated. Linguistic structures and vocabulary are mostly accurate. The use of *nado* instead of *nadamos* prevents the award of a higher mark.

Q04(e): **1** mark. Some appropriate words are communicated, *pasado*, *fuimos (a comprar)*, *ciudad*. The overall meaning of the sentence is not communicated due to the use of *año*, *marketo* and the omitted *nuevo*.



Writing down words that are known, even if the complete message is not known, may attract some credit.

4 Traduce las frases siguientes **al español**:

(a) I have a sister.

(2)

hermana

(b) I like my family a lot.

(2)

me gusta me familia

(c) María is intelligent, but shy.

(2)

María es smart pero tímida

(d) At the weekend we swim in the swimming pool.

(3)

en su semana nadamos en piscina de hotel

(e) Last month we went shopping at the new market in town.

(3)

Centamos en el market en la ciudad



Q04(a): **1** mark. The message is partially communicated as the word *hermana* is written.

Q04(b): **1** mark. The meaning of the message is partially communicated. *Mucho* is omitted which prevents meaning being conveyed.

Q04(c): **1** mark. The meaning of the message is partially communicated. The use of the English word "smart" prevents meaning being conveyed.

Q04(d): **1** mark. Some words are communicated, *semana* and *nadamos* but the overall meaning of the sentence is not communicated.

Q04(e): **0** marks. The only recognisable word is *ciudad* which alone is not enough for the award of a mark. The mark scheme requires that some words are communicated for the award of a mark.

Paper Summary

Based on their performance on this paper, candidates are offered the following advice:

- Read every question on the exam paper before you begin to write your answers.
- Look very carefully at the whole question, including the rubric, to make sure that you understand fully what you are being asked to do.
- Look for key words in the bullet points because these will help you to answer each of the bullet points correctly.
- Use vocabulary and language structures that you have learned, which are related to the topic you are writing about.
- Answer each of the bullet points in order, using a new paragraph for each one.
- Leave enough time to check your work carefully at the end of the exam.

Grade boundaries

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