

Welcome to A-Level Spanish!

Please complete the following three tasks, ready for your first day at New College, Pontefract.

- Grammar task:** your first task is to research and learn how to conjugate the following verbs in the 'I/You (singular)/He, She, it / We / You (plural) / They' forms in **several tenses**. You should produce posters, leaflets or sets of flashcards.

Regular 'ar' Verbs

e.g., *Hablar* = to speak/talk

Regular 'er' Verbs

e.g., *Comer* = to eat

Regular 'ir' Verbs

e.g., *Vivir* = to live

IRREGULAR Verbs

Ir = to go

Ser = to be

Estar = to be

Poder = to be able to (can)

Querer = to want

hacer = to do/make

Tener = to have

Task 1a: You need to research and learn:

- All of the above verbs in their full conjugations:

'Yo / Tú / Él, Ella, Usted / Nosotros / Vosotros / Ellos, Ellas, Usteds' forms.

- All of the above verbs in the
 - Present
 - True/Simple Future ('will')
 - Preterite

You will be tested on your knowledge of these verbs and tenses in September, in the second or third lesson. You will be expected to conjugate the verbs into the various tenses appropriately. You will have covered these common and essential verbs and basic tenses already between Year 7 and Year 11. See below for examples of what your test will look like:

Test Question Examples :

- Ayer, *la radio* (*escuchar* = I listened to)
Answer : Ayer,.....**escuché**... *la radio* (*escuchar* = I listened to)
- Normalmente, mis padres *muy ocupados* (*estar* = (they) are)
Answer : Normalmente, mis padres ,.....(ellos) **están**... *muy ocupados* (*estar* = (they) are)

Task 1b: You also need to produce posters, leaflet or sets of flashcards to show off what you have learnt about all the verbs in the different tenses; Present - True/Simple Future ('will') - Preterite.

You have been using these basic tenses since you started learning Spanish so you already have some information about it. For A-level however, you need to know it in much more depth before we progress to several other tenses. I will collect in your flashcards / posters to see the effort which has gone into your learning.

- a) There are some fantastic resources online in order for you to learn and practice the Regular and Irregular verbs in various tenses but I highly recommend that you check out the YouTube tutorials of '*Señor Jordan*' and '*MaestroKaplan*' as a starting point to help you find out more about it for you to make notes and produce your poster / leaflet / set of flashcards and also to practise them when you have all the notes you need.
- b) In addition, there are so many other excellent websites and online resources which you could explore, simply by doing a **Google** search for what you need, e.g., 'Spanish present tense verb practice'.
- c) Here are some links to a great website that has lots of Tutorials and practice exercises for you to test yourself. You can find all sorts of useful things relating to Spanish grammar simply by using the '**Grammar**' tab at the top of the webpage.

[Spanish PRESENT Tense - Learn and PRACTICE \(holaquepasa.com\)](http://holaquepasa.com) (Present Tense)

[Spanish FUTURE Tense - Learn and PRACTICE \(holaquepasa.com\)](http://holaquepasa.com) (Future Tense)

[Spanish PRETERITE Tense - Learn and PRACTICE \(holaquepasa.com\)](http://holaquepasa.com) (Preterite Tense)

- 2) **Useful Recurring A Level Verbs:** During your A Level Spanish studies you will encounter many new verbs which will be extremely useful as they often appear in the texts we do in lessons and also in the exams. They sometimes cause problems for students and can often be specific to topics that you will study.

Task: 2a: From the list of verbs below, select 15 of them and create a sentence in **Spanish** using that particular verb and also translate each sentence into English.

Task: 2b: Learn all these verbs for a written vocabulary test; **Spanish into English. You will also have a short paragraph to translate into English which uses some of these verbs and common regular and irregular verbs in the present, past and future time frames.**

- acabar **con** = to put an end to
- aprobar (la aprobación) = to pass, to sanction
- asistir = **to attend, to go to** / to assist, to help
- conducir a = to lead to
- contar **con** = to count on, to depend on, to rely on / **to have (boast), to feature**
- convertirse **en** = to become, to turn into

- costar = **to find it difficult to, to struggle to** / to cost
- cumplir **con** = to fulfil, to carry out
- denunciar (una denuncia) = to report, to inform on
- derogar = to abolish, to revoke
- destacar / señalar = to highlight, to emphasize, to stand out
- discutir = to discuss, to talk about / to argue, to fight, to quarrel
- enojarse / enfadarse = to get angry, to get annoyed
- entrar en vigor (la entrada en vigor) = to take effect, to come into force
- esperar = to wait (for)
- esperar que (+ subjunctive) = to hope / to expect
- fomentar / promover = to promote
- impactar **en** = to affect, to have an impact on
- importar = **to matter, to be important** / to import
- influir **en** = to influence, to have influence, to affect
- involucrar = to involve
- juntarse / reunirse = to get together, to gather, to assemble
- lograr / conseguir / alcanzar = to achieve, to manage to
- negar = to deny, to reject
- negarse = to refuse
- pedir (**a** alguien) = to ask (somebody) for
- perjudicar / dañar / hacer daño = to harm, to damage
- poner en evidencia = to demonstrate, to show, to reveal
- poner en marcha (la puesta en marcha) / poner en vigor (la puesta en vigor) = to implement, to set in motion
- pretender = to claim / to try
- quejarse (una queja) = to complain, to moan
- realizar / llevar a cabo = to carry out, to do / to achieve, to accomplish
- recurrir a = to resort to, to turn to
- resultar = to be, to become, to turn out to be
- sensibilizar (la sensibilización) / concienciar (la concienciación) = to raise awareness, to make aware
- suponer = to suppose, to imagine, to guess / **to mean, to entail, to signify**

- tratar de = to deal with, to be about / to try to, to attempt to

- volver a (+ infinitive) = to do (infinitive) again = to implement, to launch, to set in motion

3) Preliminary Research of our Topics of Study relating to a Spanish-speaking country

A-level languages are not just about speaking the language to a high level; it is essential to build up cultural, historical and political knowledge about Spanish speaking countries (not just Spain) as well as good research skills. Over the summer, for your third task, I would like you to spend some time on researching the following topics and find out between 5-10 facts (percentages, statistics, dates, names of people, laws, regulations, etc) for each of the topics. *This will be really useful for your Speaking Exams but remember to **note down details in Spanish relating to a Spanish speaking country.***

Please find 5-10 facts for **each of** the following Topics in Spanish about a Spanish speaking country:

- Cómo la familia ha cambiado, el matrimonio y el divorcio, la Iglesia Católica
- La tecnología y las redes sociales
- La igualdad en la sociedad (entre las mujeres y los hombres, la comunidad LGTB+)
- La influencia de las celebridades (la música, el cine, la televisión, los modelos)
- Las tradiciones y costumbres, la gastronomía y las lenguas
- Los sitios históricos, el arte y la arquitectura y la diversidad de la música y el baile

So, to summarize, in preparation for your first Spanish lesson at New College Pontefract:

- You have to learn the verbs and tenses for the initial assessment in the second / third lesson (verb conjugations, meanings of the listed verbs, translation into English of a paragraph).
- You have to produce **leaflets/posters/flash cards** on general **Regular** verbs and those **specific Irregular** verbs in the specified tenses **(to be handed in in the first lesson)**.
- You have to create 15 Spanish sentences using the **Recurring A Level Verbs** and translate them into English **(to be handed in in the first lesson)**.
- You have to produce the 5-10 facts/statistics/figures, etc on **each of** the Topics of Study **(to be handed in in the first lesson)**.

Finally, I would strongly advise you to go on the AQA website and look at the syllabus for A level Spanish so that you know what we are going to study over the next 2 years regarding topics and grammar as well as understanding what you will be examined on (3 exam papers).

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/spanish/a-level/spanish-7692/specification/specification-at-a-glance>

¡Buena suerte y hasta septiembre!

Ruth Inkley (Teacher of Spanish)