

# **National Certificate of Educational Achievement**

## **2011 Assessment Report**

### **Spanish Level 1**

- 90988 Demonstrate understanding of a variety of spoken Spanish texts on areas of most immediate relevance**
- 90911 Demonstrate understanding of a variety of Spanish texts on areas of most immediate relevance**

## **STANDARD REPORTS**

### **90988 Demonstrate understanding of a variety of spoken Spanish texts on areas of most immediate relevance**

#### **ACHIEVEMENT**

**Candidates who were awarded Achievement for this standard demonstrated the required skills and knowledge. They typically:**

- provided basic information regarding the first two voicemail messages
- decoded simple phrases and words but did not link information back to the question
- provided answers either in English or Spanish, but not usually in a blend of both languages
- provided basic correct answers, not always under the correct headings
- identified the bank, the shops, and often the tourist information office in the map question.

#### **NOT ACHIEVED**

**Candidates who were assessed as Not Achieved for this standard lacked some or all of the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement. They typically:**

- did not identify key information
- understood only fragments of information
- provided responses to some questions
- wrote 'verbatim' the Spanish they heard, without showing evidence of having understood it.

#### **ACHIEVEMENT WITH MERIT**

**In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Merit typically:**

- provided clear responses with the key facts under the relevant question
- showed understanding of a range of vocabulary
- answered the question in coherent English (and sometimes Spanish) and wrote about somebody in the third person rather than simply decoding and translating what the speaker had said in the first person
- identified about half of the places in the map question.

#### **ACHIEVEMENT WITH EXCELLENCE**

**In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement with Merit, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Excellence typically:**

- provided thorough information in their answers e.g. were able to link information that showed causation of a situation, with correct details
- answered one or two problems or solutions thoroughly
- displayed knowledge of a wider range of vocabulary
- showed evidence of having recognised unfamiliar cognates through knowledge of the relationship between Spanish sound and Spanish spelling
- identified more than half of the places in the map question.

## **90911 Demonstrate understanding of a variety of Spanish texts on areas of most immediate relevance**

### **ACHIEVEMENT**

**Candidates who were awarded Achievement for this standard demonstrated the required skills and knowledge. They typically:**

- provided basic information relating to the question
- wrote answers in a mixture of Spanish and English
- wrote extra information that was not relevant to the question
- translated the text rather than answering the question.

### **NOT ACHIEVED**

**Candidates who were assessed as Not Achieved for this standard lacked some or all of the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement. They typically:**

- identified words but not sentences or groups of words
- answered few of the questions
- copied the text in Spanish without adapting the language to make it relevant to the question (e.g. changing the i form to he/she).

### **ACHIEVEMENT WITH MERIT**

**In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Merit typically:**

- selected the correct information
- clearly communicated their answer
- answered in Spanish or English, not a mixture of both
- selected relevant information from the texts and did not simply translate it.

### **ACHIEVEMENT WITH EXCELLENCE**

**In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement with Merit, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Excellence typically:**

- showed understanding of the text and drew conclusions
- justified their conclusions with information from the text.

### **OTHER COMMENTS**

The higher achieving candidates read the questions carefully and answered what was asked. They 'selected relevant' information as is required in the standards, and avoided translation, transcription, or writing responses in a mixture of languages.

Some candidates provided excellent answers in Spanish and achieved at the highest level; others wrote in a mixture of Spanish and English. Their understanding was significantly poorer, as was reflected in their grades.

A number of candidates simply translated the entire text, and so did not actually answer the questions; they could, therefore, be awarded only Achievement. Similarly, those who merely copied Spanish texts without adapting to the specifics of the question did not provide evidence of understanding at all.