

Assessment Schedule – 2024

Spanish: Demonstrate understanding of a variety of written and / or visual Spanish text(s) on familiar matters (91151)

Assessment Criteria

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
<p><i>Demonstrating understanding</i> involves making meaning of relevant information, ideas, and /or opinions in the texts.</p> <p>Responses as a whole show an understanding of the general meaning (gist) of the texts.</p>	<p><i>Demonstrating clear understanding</i> involves selecting relevant information, ideas, and /or opinions from the texts and communicating them unambiguously.</p> <p>Responses as a whole show a clear understanding of the content of the texts. Information is selected and connected to provide responses supported by relevant detailed examples from the texts.</p>	<p><i>Demonstrating thorough understanding</i> involves expanding on relevant information, ideas, and /or opinions, with supporting detail, to show understanding of the meanings or conclusions implied within the texts.</p> <p>Responses as a whole show a comprehensive understanding of the content and underlying meaning of the texts, including nuance and meanings not obviously stated in the texts.</p>

Evidence

N1	N2	A3	A4	M5	M6	E7	E8
Shows very little understanding and does not communicate the general meaning of the text.	Shows little understanding and does not communicate the general meaning of the text.	Demonstrates some understanding and communicates some of the general meaning of the text.	Demonstrates understanding and communicates the general meaning of the text.	Demonstrates clear understanding and unambiguously communicates some of the meaning by selecting and using relevant supporting detail from the text.	Demonstrates clear understanding and unambiguously communicates most of the meaning by selecting and using relevant supporting detail from the text.	Demonstrates thorough understanding and communicates some of the implied meanings by providing supporting detail from the text to justify conclusions.	Demonstrates thorough understanding and communicates most of the implied meanings by providing supporting detail from the text to fully justify conclusions.

N0 = No response; no relevant evidence.

Cut Scores

Not Achieved	Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
0–7	8–12	13–18	19–24

Sample Evidence

What follows is not a complete list of all acceptable responses, nor is it an indication of the exact wording required.

Assessment judgments are based on the level of understanding shown, rather than knowledge of individual lexical items.

Quoting or direct translation alone are not sufficient evidence that the candidate understands the meaning of the text **clearly** or **thoroughly**.

The overall grade for a question must be judged after considering how much of the text as a whole has been understood, and to what depth. Refer to the Evidence statements on page 1.

Question ONE	Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
(a) Why was the oldest post office in the world originally so important? Use information from the text to justify your answer.	<p>Identifies basic information about the importance of the oldest post office in the world.</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It had an important role in communication between South America and Spain. • It was used to send and receive news by families. 	<p>Presents a thorough explanation of why the oldest post office in the world was originally so important.</p> <p>For example:</p> <p>During the Colonial era, Ecuador was an important part of the Spanish Empire. The island containing the post office was very important for communication between Spain and South America.</p>	
(b) Why do you think the oldest post office in the world still exists today? Use information from the text to justify your answer.	<p>Identifies basic information about why the oldest post office in the world still exists today.</p> <p>For example:</p> <p>The oldest post office in the world used to be functional but is now a tourist attraction. It used to be a necessity, but now it is a novelty.</p>	<p>Explains why the oldest post office in the world still exists today. Makes links, provides a comparison.</p> <p>For example:</p> <p>Sailors traveling by sea from South America to Spain needed places like Post Office Island to send and receive news to / from their loved ones. Here, they left their messages in a small red building, which is now the oldest post office in the world. Today, visitors from all over the world come to this small island to experience a part of this history in person.</p>	<p>Presents a thorough explanation of why the oldest post office in the world still exists today. Draws conclusions and provides justifications.</p> <p>For example:</p> <p>In a world without cell phones or emails, sailors traveling by sea from South America to Spain needed places like Post Office Island to send and receive news to / from their loved ones. The oldest post office in the world provided this opportunity by having other travellers going to those destinations take and deliver the mail. Today, with our technology advancing much faster and our more reliable communication methods, Post Office Island has become more of a tourist attraction, with visitors being able to experience a piece of history with the novelty of being able to post a postcard there and the local people making sure these postcards reach their destination, by using travellers from all over the world.</p>

Question TWO	Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
(a) Explain how a relationship with a dog can improve a person's life. Use information from the text to justify your answer.	<p>Identifies basic information about how a relationship with a dog can improve a person's life.</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They offer unconditional love. • They are there when we wake up in the morning and are excited when we get home from work. • Dogs are important for our mental and emotional health. 	<p>Explains how a relationship with a dog can improve a person's life. Gives reasons, makes links.</p> <p>For example:</p> <p>Dogs are members of our family; they live very well and can become the kings of the house. Dogs offer unconditional love and companionship. They are there when we wake up every morning, they are excited when we get home from work, and they help us through difficult times. They brighten our days.</p> <p>Our pets are important for our mental and emotional health. Animal therapy, for example, is a common practice for relieving stress, anxiety, and depression. Exercising daily with a dog increases energy, can help people get in better shape or lose weight, and reduces blood pressure.</p>	<p>Presents a thorough explanation of how a relationship with a dog can improve a person's life. Draws conclusions and provides justifications.</p> <p>For example:</p> <p>In recent years our dogs have become more than just pets, they are members of our family and live as well as, or even better than, many people. In return, our dogs offer unconditional love and companionship. They are constantly with us and around us and through this companionship they help us through difficult times, and they brighten our days. With their constant love and companionship, our dogs can be very important for our mental and emotional health. Due to this, the idea of a dog as an “emotional helper” is a reality for many people, and animal therapy, for example, is a common practice for relieving stress, anxiety, and depression.</p>
(b) Explain why pets have become fashionable. Use information from the text to justify your answer.	<p>Identifies basic information as to why pets have become fashionable.</p> <p>For example:</p> <p>Social media, celebrities, and influencers have aided the idea that owning an exotic pet, a purebred dog, or a designer cat is a status symbol. Photos of well-groomed and stylish pets fill our social media feeds.</p>	<p>Explains why pets have become fashionable. Gives reasons, makes links.</p> <p>For example:</p> <p>Social media has helped create the idea that owning a pure breed is a symbol of status. Pets being viewed as symbols of luxury creates a lot of pressure to have a fashionable pet instead of adopting an abandoned pet.</p>	<p>Presents a thorough explanation as to why pets have become fashionable. Draws conclusions and provides justifications.</p> <p>For example:</p> <p>Social status is a driving factor behind the trend to own pets as a symbol of luxury. An expensive pet portrays the owner as wealthy and therefore of a higher social status than others. Social media has also helped with the idea that owning a pure breed is a symbol of status. The instant and global reach of social media has driven this phenomenon with pets that even become celebrities on social networks with their videos singing, going to the supermarket, and helping at home with housework.</p>

Question THREE	Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
<p>(a) According to the text, what are some difficulties that teenagers face when looking for their first job?</p>	<p>Identifies some basic difficulties that teenagers face when looking for their first job.</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teenagers don't have enough experience. • It is difficult to compete with adults. • Some places limit the hours a teenager can work. 	<p>Explains some difficulties that teenagers face when looking for their first job. Gives reasons, makes links.</p> <p>For example:</p> <p>Many companies prefer to give jobs to people with experience, which disadvantages teenagers as they typically do not have much work experience. This makes it more difficult for them to compete with adults who have worked before. Also, some workplaces limit the hours teenagers can work, which results in them only offering a few hours of work each week to ensure teenagers have time to study and rest.</p>	<p>Presents a thorough explanation of some difficulties that teenagers face when looking for their first job. Draws conclusions and provides justifications.</p> <p>For example:</p> <p>In a highly competitive job market, people with experience are regularly hired before those with little or none. Seeing as teenagers are much younger than much of the workforce, they are placed at a disadvantage. Also, some workplaces limit the hours teenagers can work. This is due to a typical teenager needing to attend school, while still having time to study and rest. Whilst these limitations are to protect young people, it does mean employers prefer hiring one person who can work eight hours rather than two teenagers who work four hours each. Related to this, the economic situation is also important. In times of economic crisis, there is less employment and more competition. Companies therefore tend to be more selective and often prefer to hire older people who need the job to support their families.</p>

<p>(b) Explain how teenagers can improve their chances of getting their first job. Use information from the text to justify your answer.</p>	<p>Identifies basic information on how teenagers can improve their chances of getting their first job.</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write a good resume. • Mention volunteer work and extracurricular activities. • Practise for an interview. 	<p>Explains how teenagers can improve their chances of getting their first job. Makes links.</p> <p>For example:</p> <p>Write a good resume. Even if you don't have work experience, you can include your education, skills, and extracurricular activities. Also, it is advisable to mention any volunteer work or school projects. Practising for interviews is a good tip, as doing this will help to prepare you and make you more confident in interviews. Practise with a friend or family member.</p>	<p>Presents a thorough explanation of how teenagers can improve their chances of getting their first job. Draws conclusions and provides justifications.</p> <p>For example:</p> <p>Writing a good resume is good advice as first impressions count and getting the attention of an employer is essential. Within the resume it is good to ensure that you include your education, skills, and extracurricular activities. Mention any volunteer work or school projects as well, as all of this could be as valuable as work experience. Practising for an interview is also essential. Practising will alleviate nervousness and allow you to be more confident and relaxed. Practising can be done with family or friends. Being realistic is important, as your first job will be one that has little requirement for prior experience. Service and retail are good starts, and flexibility is key. Being flexible will be of value to your employer as they will see you as responsible, hardworking, and willing to try new things.</p>
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