



## Wath Sixth Form Subject Preparation Pack

---

# SPANISH

### **World-class learning**

World-class learning every lesson, every day

### **The highest expectations**

Everyone can be successful; always expect the highest standards

### **No excuses**

Create solutions not excuses; make positive thinking a habit

### **Growth mindset**

Believe you can improve; work hard and value feedback

### **Never give up**

Resilience is essential; be relentless in the pursuit of excellence

### **Everyone is valued**

Diversity is celebrated; see the best in everyone

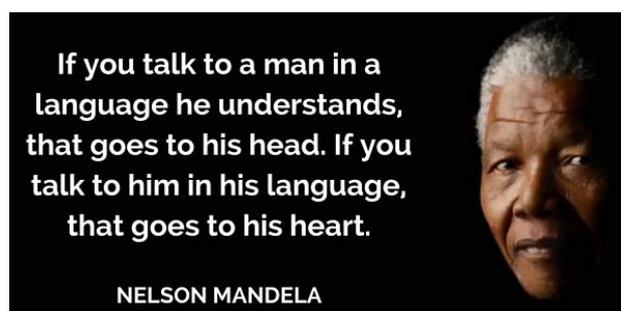
### **Integrity**

Be trustworthy and honest; deliver on promises and walk the talk

# A Level Spanish Transition Pack

## Contents

- What is A Level Spanish?
- Why should I study A Level Spanish?
- What careers could A Level Spanish lead to?
- What will I study?
- How will I be assessed?
- Who will be my teacher?
- Recommended resources
- What can I do to prepare for Spanish A Level?



## What is A Level Spanish?

¡Hola! Many people will say that A Level Spanish is the study of the Spanish language at an advanced level. Well, it is that... and much more! Yes, you will improve your existing language skills and build on the essential skills for speaking, listening, reading and writing the Spanish language. But you will also develop your understanding of the culture and society of the countries where Spanish is spoken. You will look at the multicultural nature of Hispanic society. You will study highlights of Hispanic art, including a focus on Spanish regional identity and the cultural heritage of past civilisations. You will learn about aspects of the diverse political landscape of the Hispanic world. You will study texts and film and you will have the opportunity to carry out independent research on an area of your choice. Above all, the A Level Spanish course helps students to become confident and effective communicators on a variety of current and poignant affairs.

## Why should I study A Level Spanish?

Listen to what Lindsay has to say: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GVcTr4OMKEU>

Did you know that Spanish is the third most widely spoken language in the world? This means that a good command of the basics will be helpful for more than just a sunny holiday in Ibiza. Spanish is very widely spoken; it is the official language of 20 different countries in the American continent. Let's take the United States, for example. Currently, more than 41 million people in the USA speak Spanish as a first language, which means that there are more Spanish speakers in the United States than there are in Spain! In fact, experts predict that by 2050, the United States will overtake Mexico and become the number one Spanish speaking country in the world. Many companies around the world require their employees to speak a good standard of Spanish – meaning a Spanish qualification could help you land your dream job in the future! But it's not all about work or socialising in Benidorm. Spanish is a fun language to study, and you get the chance to learn all about the Spanish speaking countries, their fascinating history, amazing art, and unique customs. The question is not why should you study Spanish, but why not? Studying a language is extremely beneficial and will help you develop a variety of essential skills:

- Critical thinking
- Reasoning and logic
- Communication
- Independent research skills
- Empathy
- Oracy



## What careers could A Level Spanish lead to?

A knowledge of a modern foreign language is useful in a range of different careers. Only a minority of people who study Spanish become language teachers. Students of Spanish find employment in many different sectors. These include law, finance, business administration, sales and marketing, banking, journalism, media, politics, public services, transport, tourism and hospitality, and international aid. Speaking foreign languages is also useful if you want to work abroad. Have a look at some examples of degrees offered by universities to A Level Spanish students:

- International Business with Spanish MBus – Sheffield Hallam, University of Nottingham
- International Tourism Management with Spanish BA (Hons) – Sheffield Hallam
- Languages, Cultures and Business – University of Leeds, Durham University
- Business with Spanish BA (Hons) – University of Liverpool
- English Language and Linguistics and Spanish BA (Hons) – University of Central Lancashire
- Psychology with Spanish BSc (Hons) – University of Buckingham
- Linguistics with Spanish BA (Hons) – Newcastle University
- Law and Spanish LLB (Hons) – University of Bristol
- <https://www.ucas.com/job-subjects/foreign-languages>

## What will I study?

### How will I be assessed?

At Wath Academy we cover the AQA Spanish syllabus which covers a breadth of knowledge split across 3 papers. AQA assesses all content at the end of the course meaning that you will sit all 3 exams in the summer of Y13. As a department, we conduct ongoing assessment throughout the two years which will reflect the full spectrum of skill and question styles assessed by the exam board. This ranges from 1 mark multiple choice questions to 40 mark essay based questions.

### Paper 1

#### Listening, Reading & Writing

2 hours 30 minutes

100 raw marks

50% of the A Level

#### **Topics:**

Modern and traditional values  
Cyberspace  
Equal rights  
Modern day idols  
Spanish regional identity  
Cultural heritage  
Immigration  
Racism  
Today's youth, tomorrow's citizens  
Monarchies and dictatorships  
Popular movements

**Grammar**

### Paper 2

#### Essay writing

2 hours

80 raw marks

20% of the A Level

#### **Essay 1 – one film**

*Ocho apellidos Vascos*  
*Volver*  
*El laberinto del fauno*

#### **Essay 2 – one book**

*Las bicicletas son para el verano*  
*Como agua para chocolate*  
*La casa de Bernarda Alba*

### Paper 3

#### Speaking

21-23 minutes

60 raw marks

30% of the A Level

#### **Topics:**

Modern and traditional values  
Cyberspace  
Equal rights  
Modern day idols  
Spanish regional identity  
Cultural heritage  
Immigration  
Racism  
Today's youth, tomorrow's citizens  
Monarchies and dictatorships  
Popular movements

**Stimulus card**

**Independent Research Project**

## Who will be my teacher?

In Spanish A Level, you will have two teachers.

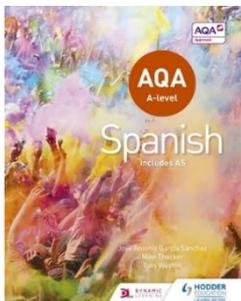
### **Mrs Da Costa (Head of Spanish)**

I love teaching Spanish because it is fun and because it opens a window to a wonderful, diverse and colourful world. I feel immensely proud of being able to speak more than one language and I love to inspire my students to feel the same way, too. I decided I wanted to study foreign languages when I was 12 years old. At secondary school, I learned English and French. I enjoyed my MFL lessons, I received excellent feedback from my teachers and I always jumped at the opportunity of speaking the languages when I had the chance. I studied Spanish and Italian at a later stage. I have taught different languages over the years, but Spanish is still my favourite! The Spanish language sounds great and the Hispanic culture awakens my curiosity: from the language to the music, from the food to the art, from the history to the science. In my opinion, the richness of the Hispanic world is second to none, and that is why I teach Spanish.

### **Mr Davies**

I love teaching Spanish because I want others to experience the wonderful food, cultures and people of the Hispanic world. Learning about different traditions and customs excites me, eating wonderful and delicious food from the kitchens of Spanish grandmas and being able to communicate with people in their mother tongue combines to make learning a language the most enriching and rewarding experience and skill you can have. From Year 7 in secondary school I knew that languages would play a major role in my life. At secondary school I learned French from Year 7 and picked up Spanish when I was in Year 8. I went on my first trip to France when I was 13 to Normandy and I fell in love with being in a foreign country. I went on a French exchange when I was in Sixth Form, an experience and a time I will never forget. Learning languages has given me the opportunity to live in Spain and Russia for a year. Now I have the greatest gift of all, to spread my love and enjoyment of languages with others!

## Recommended resources



### **AQA A Level Spanish – Hodder Education**

This is the textbook predominantly used by school. You may wish to purchase this to help with the tasks in this booklet and to support your learning over the next two years, however, this is not essential. If you are unable to purchase a copy of this, please refer to the wealth of free, high quality online resources listed below.

**Languagesonline** - <https://www.languagesonline.org.uk/Hotpotatoes/spanishindex.html> This website provides an interactive format through which you can practise the language in a variety of exercise styles. You are able to work through units at your own pace and due to the self-marking nature of the exercises, you can have immediate feedback on your progress.

**español eXtra** - <https://www.espanol-extra.co.uk/samples/samples.html> This website requires subscription but there is still a plethora of free activities available to you from the samples section. It provides online and interactive exercises and games to help you mastering the key vocabulary, language and grammar topics in a fun and stimulating way.

**Study Spanish** - <https://studyspanish.com/> This website offers lessons, quizzes and tests on all aspects of Spanish grammar.

## What can I do to prepare for A Level Spanish?

Revise key vocabulary from the topics covered in GCSE.

[http://www.todo-claro.com/e\\_index.php](http://www.todo-claro.com/e_index.php)

Apps such as *memrise* or *Quizlet* are interactive and fun.

<https://www.memrise.com/>; <https://quizlet.com/en-gb>

Look through available GCSE Listening, Reading and Writing practice, especially past papers.

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/>

Revise verbs, tenses and grammar points covered in GCSE.

<https://www.languagesonline.org.uk/Hotpotatoes/spanishindex.html>

Make use of revision sites.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/z4yyjhw>

Read through the Spanish A Level Specification.

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/>

## Transition tasks

**Aim:** The aim of these tasks is to keep your existing knowledge of Spanish active and to ease the transition into the study of Spanish at A Level standard. By completing the tasks below, you will consolidate and/or develop knowledge of important content which will inevitably aid your understanding of the Spanish A Level course.

### **To work on your LISTENING**

It is easier to start with short news bulletins. Video clips are ideal as they are easier to understand. Start with shorter clips and then, when you feel ready, you could choose a radio programme from the radio station websites listed below. Play the clips two or three times and list down the words you understand. As you become more confident, you can write a brief summary of 40-50 words in Spanish.

### **Spanish news**

- [www.euronews.net](http://www.euronews.net) : Select language 'español' and then choose from a wide variety of news videos.
- [www.20minutos.es/](http://www.20minutos.es/)
- [es.news.yahoo.com/](http://es.news.yahoo.com/) : Follow the link to **Video Noticias** for three-minute news clips.
- [www.canalsur.es](http://www.canalsur.es): Click on the link to TV "en directo" (live) and you will be able to watch the channel on streaming video.
- [www.informativos.telecinco.es/reproductor\\_video.htm](http://www.informativos.telecinco.es/reproductor_video.htm)

### **Spanish TV channel websites:**

- [www.antena3tv.com](http://www.antena3tv.com): Choose the topic area you are interested in and then browse for video clips
- [www.broadcast-live.com/television/spanish.html](http://www.broadcast-live.com/television/spanish.html)
- [www.rtve.es](http://www.rtve.es)

### **For celebrity gossip:**

- [es.celebrities.yahoo.com/](http://es.celebrities.yahoo.com/): Click on "Perfiles de Famosos"

### **Spanish radio on-line:**

- [www.rtve.es/rne/envivo.htm](http://www.rtve.es/rne/envivo.htm): Select a radio station from the list.
- [www.topradio.es/](http://www.topradio.es/): Easy listening music radio station for Spanish and English / American pop music
- [www.lyngsat.com/freeradio/Spain.html](http://www.lyngsat.com/freeradio/Spain.html): Selection of the most important radio channels
- <http://radio.garden/live/leeds/fever-fm/>

## Newspapers:

- [www.bbc.co.uk/mundo](http://www.bbc.co.uk/mundo)
- [www.elmundo.es](http://www.elmundo.es)
- [www.20minutos.es](http://www.20minutos.es)
- [www.elpais.es](http://www.elpais.es)

## Podcasts and blogs:

- <http://ssl4you.blogspot.com/>
- <http://andale-profe.blogspot.com/>

## Music :

- <http://www.morkol.com/index.php/artistas/spanish/>: Listen to the song and read the lyrics
- <http://www.musica.com/>

## To work on your reading

You can browse the net (see links below) and select an article which interests you. Read it carefully and select some new pieces of vocabulary to look up. The topic areas are limitless so should avoid picking the same topic all of the time. It is a good idea to vary the topic area and to choose articles related to the syllabus topics so that you encounter a variety of vocabulary.

- [www.bbc.co.uk/languages/spanish/news](http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/spanish/news)
- [www.abc.es/](http://www.abc.es/): On-line Spanish daily news.
- [www.donbalon.es/front/](http://www.donbalon.es/front/): Spanish football website with related articles.
- [www.hola.com](http://www.hola.com): Spanish celebrity gossip magazine. Subscription required to view some of the articles.
- [www.marca.es](http://www.marca.es) (sport)
- [www.estrelladigital.es](http://www.estrelladigital.es)

## Study of a FILM

At Spanish A Level, you will be studying one of the three films listed below.

	<b><i>Ocho apellidos vascos (Spanish affair)</i></b> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hPnoq1vuLu0">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hPnoq1vuLu0</a>	Watch the trailers.  Try to find out more about each film.
	<b><i>Volver</i></b> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9JRvev968Co">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9JRvev968Co</a>	What category of film is it? When was it released? Who are the main actors? Who are the main characters? Who is the director?
	<b><i>El laberinto del fauno (Pan's labyrinth)</i></b> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Evmr2ZCjWc">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Evmr2ZCjWc</a>	Where is the film set? When is the film set? What is the main plot?
Which film would you choose to rent or buy? Why?		

## Study of a BOOK

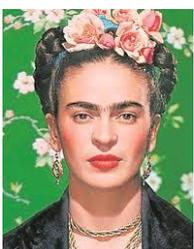
At Spanish A Level, you will be studying one of the three books listed below. Match each book with its author and the correct synopsis.

	<p>Laura Esquivel</p>	<p>La obra se centra en una mujer dominante y bien educada que mantiene a sus cinco hijas adultas y solteras en un control cada vez más estricto al obligarlas a permanecer de luto después de la muerte de su esposo. Un joven pretendiente, Pepe el Romano, entra en esta atmósfera tensa con el objetivo de proponerle matrimonio a la hija mayor, Angustias; la única hija que hereda una dote considerable.</p>
	<p>Federico García Lorca</p>	<p>En Madrid, la familia de Don Luis, su esposa Dolores y sus hijos, Manolita y Luisito, comparten la vida cotidiana de la Guerra Civil con su criada y sus vecinos. La obra muestra cómo se condujo la vida cotidiana durante la guerra. Suceden cosas inesperadas, pero las personas encuentran formas de sobrevivir. Sobre todo, es una historia de supervivencia y adaptación.</p>
	<p>Fernando Fernán-Gómez</p>	<p>Tita y Pedro se enamoran, pero Tita tiene que cuidar a su madre anciana y no se le permite casarse. Pedro termina casándose con la hermana de Tita, solo para estar más cerca de ella. Cuando Tita se ve obligada a hacer el pastel de bodas, los invitados a la boda se sienten tristes ... Tita descubre que puede hacer cosas extrañas con su comida.</p>
<p>Which book seems more interesting to you so far? Why? Would you recommend it to a friend?</p>		

## The independent research project (IRP)

Spanish A Level students are required to give a short presentation on a subject of their own choice that they will have researched during the course. This must focus on the culture of a Spanish speaking country and will last for 2 minutes only. The presentation will be followed by a discussion based on the subject matter introduced in the presentation (10 mins). Deciding on one research topic may be difficult as the Hispanic culture is so rich and colourful. To practise for this, you could conduct a small research on a topic of your choice, prepare a short presentation, and discuss your findings with your family or friends. To give you an idea, previous students have researched topics such as:

- The role of women before and after Franco
- The life and work of Frida Khalo
- The life and work of Salvador Dalí
- The Flamenco dance
- The Galápagos Islands
- The Day of the Dead – how Mexicans perceive death
- Bullfighting: tradition or cruelty?
- Pablo Escobar and the fall of the Medellín cartel
- Machu Picchu
- The Spanish gastronomy
- Why does the singer Rosalía cause so much controversy?



## Verbs, verbs and more verbs!

In order to be able to express your ideas and points of view in any language, you need to have a sound knowledge of vocabulary and grammar. Knowing how to manipulate and recycle language is key. Revise the concept of verb conjugation. You must have a secure understanding of what an infinitive is, what the six subject pronouns are, and the verb endings in different tenses. You can practice this on:

<https://www.languagesonline.org.uk/Hotpotatoes/spanishindex.html>

Then, fill in the verb table with the appropriate verb ending for each tense. This is 'Language maths' at its best!

*regular	Presente	Pretérito	Perfecto	Imperfecto	Futuro	Condicional
<i>Ejemplo: Bailar*</i>	<i>ej) yo bailo</i>	<i>ej) él bailó</i>	<i>ej) vosotros habéis bailado</i>	<i>ej) nosotros bailábamos</i>	<i>ej) ellas bailarán</i>	<i>ej) tú bailarías</i>
<b>Hablar*</b>	1) yo	2) tú	3) él	4) nosotros	5) ellas	6) vosotros
<b>Comer*</b>	7) ella	8) vosotros	9) yo	10) ellos	11) tú	12) nosotros
<b>Vivir*</b>	13) él	14) yo	15) tú	16) vosotros	17) nosotros	18) ellas
<b>Estar</b>	19) tú	20) vosotros	21) ellos	22) yo	23) ella	24) nosotros
<b>Haber</b>	25) nosotros	26) ellas	27) él	28) tú	29) yo	30) vosotros
<b>Hacer</b>	31) ellos	32) tú	33) yo	34) ella	35) vosotros	36) nosotros
<b>Ir</b>	37) yo	38) él	39) vosotros	40) nosotros	41) ellas	42) tú
<b>Ser</b>	43) nosotros	44) yo	45) ella	46) tú	47) ellos	48) vosotros
<b>Poder</b>	49) tú	50) nosotros	51) vosotros	52) yo	53) él	54) ellos
<b>Querer</b>	55) ella	56) ellos	57) nosotros	58) tú	59) vosotros	60) yo



**KEEP CALM AND CONJUGATE VERBS!**

## **Finally, challenge yourself!**

### **Challenge 1** – The Lock down challenge!

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PF3fJD45mSc&list=PLrteM8RtjHekCn\\_juQRwEjh2mY44rcuT&index=4&t=0s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PF3fJD45mSc&list=PLrteM8RtjHekCn_juQRwEjh2mY44rcuT&index=4&t=0s)

Watch the video about the lock down in Spain. Note down the gist of the message. Make a list of some key words that you may not know. Look them up and learn them. Can you use some of them in sentences of your own?

### **Challenge 2** - Spanish Song Version Challenge!

Find a Spanish version of a song you already know on YouTube. Enable (Spanish) subtitles or google the lyrics. Copy out the lyrics. Translate the lyrics into English. How different are they to the official English version? Why?

### **Challenge 3** - Spanish 'Come dine with me' Challenge!

Find the recipe for a national or regional dish from a Spanish-speaking country. A Spanish tortilla (omelette) is easy enough to make! Prepare the dish and eat it with your family and/or friends. Take a photo and write what you thought of it and why.

### **Challenge 4** - Advert Challenge!

Choose any major town or city (or somewhere you've actually been) in a Spanish-speaking country. Make a leaflet or brochure about the area (in English or Spanish) advertising it. You could also do it on the computer. Include sections on transport, food, tourist attractions, accommodation, and anything else you find.

### **Challenge 5** - Casa Batlló Challenge!

Find out information about this amazing building designed by the artist Antoni Gaudí. What other works of art is he famous for? What can you find out about him?

### **Challenge 6** - Artist Challenge!

Research an artist from a Spanish-speaking country. Find a piece of artwork you like by the artist. Write what you think of their artwork and why in Spanish. Recreate the artwork you've found using materials of your choice.

### **Challenge 7** - Sport Challenge!

Research a sport, which is either only played in, or originated in, a Spanish-speaking country. Research the rules, too. Play the game with family and/or friends. Take a photo of you playing this sport then explain which sport you chose, what you thought of it and why.

### **Challenge 8** - Charts Challenge!

Look up the top 10 songs in the Spanish charts this week. List the songs (and artists). Use YouTube to listen to them. Choose your favourite Spanish-language song! Make your own video for your chosen song! Write about the song you chose in Spanish, what you thought of it and why.

### **Challenge 9** - History Challenge!

Research 3 of the most important people in the history of any Spanish-speaking country. Create a poster / fact-file about each one. You can do this on a computer. Present information about one of the people to your family.

### **Challenge 10** – Dance challenge!

<https://youtu.be/C7AtR082vpA>

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=RDTExpP8vNB4k&feature=share&playnext=1>

It doesn't matter if you have two left feet, honest! Listen to the songs sung in Spanish and enjoy dancing to them with your family and/or friends. What are the songs about? Which words do you understand? Can you find the lyrics online and translate them?