

Welcome to A-Level Spanish!

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

1) Grammar task: your first task is to research and learn thoroughly the Present Tense in Spanish and produce a poster or leaflet or set of flashcards.

a) You need to research and learn:

- Regular verb endings (AR, ER and IR verbs following a common pattern). Irregular verbs are verbs which do not follow the common pattern and in Spanish can be grouped into: stem-changing verbs (3 main types e-ie; e-i; o-ue), verbs with an irregular first person (such as salir – salgo) and complete irregulars (such as ser, ir etc). – **IDEALLY, YOU NEED TO BE LEARNING AND PRACTISING THE 20 MOST COMMON IRREGULAR VERBS, THE ‘GO-YO’ VERBS and the ‘STEM CHANGING VERBS’**
- When to use the present tense
- What the subject pronouns mean: yo, tú, él, ella, usted, nosotros, vosotros, ellos, ellas, ustedes.

You will be tested on the Present Tense in September in the second or third lesson in the form of a list of verbs which you will have to conjugate and translate; for example:

estar (nosotros) = estamos we are

b) You also need to produce a poster or leaflet or set of flashcards to show off what you have learnt about the Present Tense.

You have been using the Present Tense since you started learning Spanish (vivo, tengo, soy, me llamo, veo, juego etc.) so you are already familiar with some forms of it. For A-level, you need to know it in much more depth before we progress to several other tenses.

c) There are some fantastic resources online in order for you to learn and practice the Regular and Irregular verbs but I highly recommend that you check out the YouTube tutorials ‘*Senor Jordan*’ as a starting point. In addition, here are a few links to other YouTube videos to help you find out more about it for you to make notes and produce your poster / leaflet / set of flashcards and also to practice them when you have all the notes you need.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PADpJ3rcwa4>

(3 mins 50 seconds) explanation of the subject pronouns – yo, tú, él, ella, vd. etc.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XPuZFvjUeGw>

(5 mins) conjugation of regular AR, ER, IR verbs.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hfWcAgihqVw>

(3 mins 45) conjugation of regular AR, ER and IR verbs plus the irregulars of ‘Ser’ and ‘Ir.’

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GCouOk34gDk>

(5 mins 50 secs) the three types of stem-changing verbs with examples of each type.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xRFoMwrM_08

(4 mins) verbs with an irregular first person.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1bHlqVDrFfw>

(9 mins 45) very irregular verbs in the present tense.

d) There are lots of online resources available for you to practice what you have learnt by simply doing a Google search like 'Spanish present tense verb conjugation practice'. In addition, you can use these links for some conjugation practice.

<http://www.languagesonline.org.uk/Hotpotatoes/Index.htm>

<http://www.spaleon.com/>

<http://studyspanish.com/grammar>

2) Film study preparation task: for your second task, please go to the link below to the AQA A-level Spanish specification where it shows you the choice of A-level films. At the end of Year 12 we will be studying 'El Laberinto del Fauno'. However, over the summer I would like you to choose one (it could be this one or a different one), watch it and make a leaflet / handout in Spanish explaining:

- plot
- setting
- main characters
- themes
- why you like it / don't like it

This needs to be handed to me in your first lesson and will show me your interest in the cultural awareness side of the course.

https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/as-and-a-level/spanish-7692/subject-content/works#Literary_texts_and_films

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 Spanish) 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 French 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, for your first week of study at New College Bradford...

- You have to produce **leaflets/posters/flash cards** on the present tense (which can be in Spanish or in English)
- You have to produce your work in Spanish about the Spanish film that you have watched.
- You have to learn the present tense for a test
- You have to produce the 5-10 facts/statistics/figures etc on **each of** the Topics of Study.

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/languages/as-and-a-level/spanish-7692/specification-at-a-glance>

One last very important thing: I want to support and encourage you throughout your studies and this starts straight away over the summer holidays. If you have any questions, worries, problems or concerns over the summer about the SiL or anything else relating to Spanish at New College Bradford, please do not hesitate in emailing me so that I can help ☺ dave.steventon@nclt.ac.uk

¡Buena suerte y hasta septiembre!