



King's College
The British School of Murcia

AS and A2 Level Spanish

A-LEVELS SPANISH

- AS provides a logical progression from GCSE offering:
 - discrete skill-specific testing
 - focus on language.
- A2 provides a realistic progression from AS that:
 - rewards advanced research/reading skills
 - features integrated skills assessment
 - acknowledges importance of knowledge and understanding of the target-language culture
 - facilitates literary study.

The course will be assessed by examination only and will be externally assessed by Edexcel (though teachers may continue to conduct oral examinations).

Tasks % of AS / A2 % of Advanced GCSE Time

Unit 1 Spoken expression and response in target language

- Responding to set questions
- Discussion

30% of AS 15% 8-10 mins

Unit 2 Understanding and written response in target language

- Listening and understanding
- Reading and understanding
- Writing task

70% of AS 35% 2a hrs

Unit 3 Understanding and spoken response in target language

5 mins speaking on chosen issue, adopting a stance and justifying opinions

Discussion

35% of A2 17.5% 11-13 mins

Unit 4 Research, understanding and written response in target language Translation into target language

Target language essay

Research-based essay

65% of A2 32.5% 2a hrs

General topic areas

There are now seven General Topic Areas for students to explore, four at AS and an additional three at A2. This section details these and provides some examples of how students with different needs and interests might choose to select within them.

AS students will explore the following General Topic Areas:

Youth culture and concerns

- Music and fashion
- Technology (e.g. MP3/blogs/mobile phones/internet/games)
- Relationships (family/friendships and peer pressure)
- Drink, drugs, sex

Lifestyle, health and fitness

- Sport and exercise
- Food and diet
- Health issues (e.g. smoking, skin cancer, health services)

The world around us: travel, tourism, environmental issues and the target-language speaking world

- Tourist information, travel and transport
- Weather (e.g. natural disasters, climate change)
- Pollution and recycling

Education and employment

- Education (schooling and higher education)
- Education policy and student issues
- The world of work (e.g. the changing work scene, job opportunities and unemployment)

A2 students will explore the same General Topic Areas, plus the following:

Customs, traditions, beliefs and religions

National and international events: past, present and future

Literature and the arts

These new overarching General Topic Areas are designed to give students maximum flexibility and choice, to suit their own needs, for example:

- Business-minded students might choose a business topic for Unit 3.
- Students interested in a career working for international organizations or in the travel industry might choose to discuss a related issue in Unit 3 and then write a discursive essay with an international dimension in Unit 4.
- Students interested in a career in media might choose a media topic for Unit 3, then write a journalistic piece as a creative essay in Unit 4, followed by an in-depth study of a significant target-language film.