



Spanish FAQs

How do I prepare for GCSE Spanish?

It is important that you leave year 9 with great knowledge of the KS3 vocabulary and mastering the following tenses: present, preterite, imperfect, immediate future, simple future and conditional.

Using past papers is probably the most effective way of preparing for your GCSE Spanish exam. Becoming familiar with the content of past papers helps you mentally prepare yourself for the reading and writing elements of your examination. You can go on the AQA GCSE Spanish website to check resources.

Nevertheless, the best way to practise the language is by listening to Spanish songs and watching TV series and/or films in Spanish with English subtitles on platforms such as Netflix. It is also advisable to practise reading Spanish articles and speaking Spanish out loud when alone.

How hard is GCSE Spanish?

Spanish is not hard if you commit yourself to revising for 15 minutes on a daily basis. If you are on track with the grammar, learning the tenses and the vocabulary, you will find it easy and more enjoyable.

Is Spanish GCSE harder than French?

Spanish is much easier to spell than French. However, Spanish grammar is overall harder than French grammar for an English speaker. It is easier than French to construct basic sentences, but it is harder when more complicated structures are introduced.

I think I prefer Spanish but I get better results in French, what should I do?

Regardless of your results in year 9, you should choose the language that you like the most. Modern Foreign Language GCSEs involve hard work and commitment so you want to make sure that you enjoy spending time on the language that you choose.

I really like both languages the same way. I do not know which one to choose.

If you are talented in languages and would like to pursue languages in the future, remember that it is possible to choose both Spanish and French for GCSE.

Do I need to study a language if I do a GCSE in a community language such as Polish?

If you decide to do a GCSE in your community language you don't need to choose Spanish and/or French to meet EBacc requirements but you can if you want to.

Will I be taught in ability sets?

No. All classes are mixed ability. Students will be put in new, mixed groups.

Will there be a trip to Spain in GCSE?

It has been tradition to take our GCSE students to Spain. We have visited many Spanish cities such as Málaga, Sevilla, Córdoba, Madrid and Cantabria. Unfortunately, we were unable to run a trip to Spain last year and we will not be able to organise a residential trip until Covid-19 rules allow and it is safe to travel abroad with students.