



# La transición al español para el año 12



# How to prepare for Spanish at A-Level

You have a few weeks in which to really prepare for you're A-Level course in Spanish. This booklet contains links to a huge range of media, most of which is available for free online as well as tasks to complete before the start of term. In order to keep pace, it is very helpful that you work through the tasks. Little and often... you don't have to complete everything!

## Watch...

### NEWS

Click on [www.rtve.es/noticias](http://www.rtve.es/noticias) and then click on Telediario en 4 to watch four minute version of the news. Alternatively, you can watch the entire news show which lasts 50 minutes.

### MOVIES

- El Laberinto del Fauno (Guillermo del Toro, 2006)
- Volver (Pedro Almodóvar, 2006)
- Ocho Apellidos Vascos (Emilio Martínez-Lázaro, 2014)
- María, llena eres de gracia (Joshua Marston, 2004)
- Abel (Diego Luna, 2010)
- Las 13 Rosas (Emilio Martínez-Lázaro, 2007)

### LISTEN TO THE RADIO

The great thing about listening to the radio is that you can get on with something else at the same time. Listen live to any of the stations below, or find others you like! It can sometimes take a while to buffer so be patient.

- Cadena Dial ((<https://www.cadenadial.com/>)
- Los 40 (<https://los40.com/>)
- Radio Nacional (<https://www.rtve.es/radio/radio-nacional/directo/>)
- Radio 5 (Todos noticias) (<https://www.rtve.es/radio/radio-5/directo/>)

# Read...

Keep your own vocabulary book for new expressions you come across. You could order it alphabetically, by topic area based on what we are going to study or just use it as a diary and scribble away your Spanish development in it.

## NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES

Read a foreign language newspaper – El País has its own website <http://www.elpais.com/> so that you can read the paper online. You do not have to read the paper cover to cover, just scan the headlines and pick out one article that grabs your attention.

This website is a more light-hearted newspaper which covers global stories as well as gossip. <https://www.20minutos.es/>

For sports updates and news, go to <https://www.marca.com/>

## WEBSITES

Switch to Spanish browsers such as and <http://es.yahoo.com/> Or Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.as Well as Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.This way, you will read Spanish every time you log on and it will become part of your everyday activity.

Look at the [www.bbc.com/mundo](http://www.bbc.com/mundo) for BBC reporting in Spanish. Click on Videos for clips and reports in Spanish.

For Daily News:

News.yahoo.com/

[www.abc.es](http://www.abc.es)

[www.terra.es](http://www.terra.es)

Go to [www.donbalon.com](http://www.donbalon.com) for football news and related articles.

Go to [www.hola.com](http://www.hola.com) for a Spanish celebrity gossip magazine (note that some content requires subscription). This also has short clips in Spanish.

## Websites for research

Once you actually start you're A-Level in September, you will realise that you are almost completing a Sociology A-Level in Spanish. It is fascinating and you will learn all about the history and culture of Spanish speakers across the world, not just in Spain.

If you are searching for information, try switching to the Spanish [www.es.wikipedia](http://www.es.wikipedia). Remember that anyone can write on Wikipedia so you must validate your research elsewhere and never quote from it! It is a good place to start though.

## On-line dictionary

A good on-line dictionary is: <http://www.wordreference.com/> or <http://www.spanishdict.com/>

**TIP** When you look up a verb, click the Conjugation tab to see how the verb is conjugated in EVERY tense.

### **TOP TIP: Don't look up every word you are not sure of when reading an article/ book**

Yes... you read that right. When you are reading articles etc, try not to look up every word as it will take you forever. Skim and scan the text to get the gist. Remember to use the context or the article, cognates and common sense to figure out what the article is saying. Pick out a couple of words that you like the look of, that you feel may be real hurdles to getting the idea of the text, look them up carefully and add them to your vocab booklet. The aim at this stage is to get the gist of the article, not be able to translate it completely. Translation is a whole different ball game and you will learn it soon enough.

You will be surprised how much more enjoyable reading will be if you really pay attention to this tip.

# What should I know by now?

This is a common question asked by students about to start their A-level. From your GCSE course you may feel confident with some of the grammar below, however don't worry if you are unsure about any of this, there will be plenty of time for explanations and recapping during the course!

TOPIC	CONTENT
Recognise and use a range of tenses with <b>regular</b> verbs.	Regular –AR, -ER and -IR verbs: Tenses: Present Preterite Imperfect Near Future (form of ir + infinitive) Future (eg. Será) Conditional (eg. sería)
Recognise and use a range of tenses with <b>irregular</b> verbs.	Common irregular verbs: <b>ser, estar, ir, tener, hacer</b> Tenses: Present Preterite Imperfect Near Future (form of ir + infinitive) Future (eg. Será) Conditional (eg. sería)
Give opinions with reasons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A range of opinion expressions</li><li>• Positive and negative reasons for opinions</li><li>• To be able to agree and disagree</li></ul>

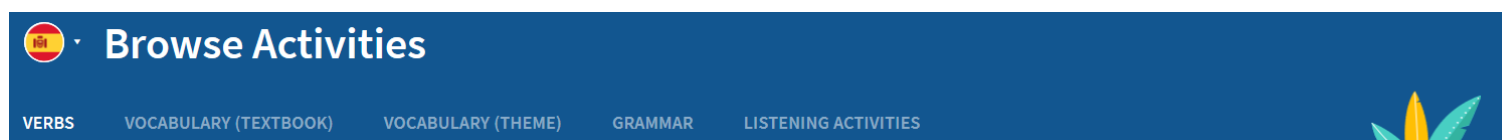
# Links to Grammar Practice Exercises

- Languages online: The Grammar Revision resources on [www.languagesonline.org.uk](http://www.languagesonline.org.uk) are great as you can then select what tense you want to revise, read the explanations and complete the exercises. You can do these as often as you like and it gives you a percentage. Another useful tactic is to translate the examples and exercises into English to ensure you understand the meaning of each tense.



The screenshot shows the top part of a website for Spanish learning. At the top, there are two Spanish flags and the word 'Español' in a large, bold font. Below this is a search bar with the text 'love learning language' and 'ENHANCED BY Google'. A 'Quick Links' menu is visible, with options: Caminos 1, Caminos 2, Caminos 3, Vocabulary, Topics, Grammar, A5 Resources, A2 Resources, and Quizzes. A blue callout bubble points to the 'A5 Resources' link, containing the text: 'Either choose to practise your grammar or work through some of the AS resources'.

- Conjuguemos: a great website for practicing your verb conjugations. Find it here: <https://conjuguemos.com/>



The screenshot shows the 'Browse Activities' section of the Conjuguemos website. It features a dark blue header with a Spanish flag icon and the text 'Browse Activities'. Below the header are several navigation tabs: VERBS, VOCABULARY (TEXTBOOK), VOCABULARY (THEME), GRAMMAR, and LISTENING ACTIVITIES. The 'VERBS' tab is currently selected and highlighted in pink.

## Tenses & Moods

### ALL TENSES AND MOODS

INDICATIVE MOOD: SIMPLE TENSES

INDICATIVE MOOD: COMPOUND TENSES

SUBJUNCTIVE MOOD

IMPERATIVE MOOD



Check our Verb Tense Reference Guide  
Use this guide to learn before you practice.

[Verb Tense Reference Guide](#)

### ALL TENSES AND MOODS

1. [All spanish tenses conjugation practice](#)



# TASKS

Complete the task log, or make your own one up but you will need to go through it with your Spanish teacher so make sure that it is clear and useful to you. Don't worry if you can't do everything – the idea is to have a good go and keep practising/progressing your skills in this long period between lessons.

When you look at a website/ link on here, highlight it and note the date and what you thought about it. You can then put a couple of notes in your task log.

1. Write an account of your summer in Spanish, please aim to write approximately 200 – 300 words.
2. Create a Memrise account if you don't already have one – your name or something that is very recognisable as you. Look up the course **AQA Spanish Year 1** (<https://www.memrise.com/course/1152196/aqa-spanish-year-1/>).
3. Summarise, in Spanish, 2 articles (that were in Spanish!) that you have read from one of the websites/ papers above and say why they interested you. If you cannot print the article, make a note of the website. Try and make these related to one of the topics we will study (listed below).
  - **Aspects of Hispanic Society:** Modern and traditional values (changes in family, marriage and divorce, influence of the Catholic Church); Cyberspace (influence of the internet, risks and benefits of the internet, smart technology in our society); Equal rights (women at work, Machismo and feminism, LGBT rights)
  - **Multiculturalism in Hispanic Society:** Immigration; Racism; Integration
  - **Artistic Culture in the Hispanic World:** Modern Day Idols; Spanish regional identity; Cultural Heritage
4. Choose a Hispanic country and prepare a short presentation on an aspect of culture – this should last no longer than 5 mins. You can create a PPT if you want, but try and use headings rather than too much prose on the slide. This will be good practice for your IRP (Independent Research Project).
5. Look out for any items in the English or Spanish media relating to topics we will study – as above so that you have points to make in a discussion and opinions to give.

6. Go onto [www.languagesonline.org.uk](http://www.languagesonline.org.uk) . Complete 10 exercises. Each exercise takes less than 5 minutes. Note down the exercise you did and your score.
7. Complete the grammar review (Appendix 1) so that you can target any areas you feel less confident with and feel good about the areas you know. We certainly wouldn't expect you to know and understand all of this! But it's useful to see which areas you are already confident with.
8. Complete the tense worksheet (Appendix 2) to practice your tenses.
9. Read through the AQA A-Level Spanish course overview so that you have an idea of what we will be studying. This will also help you with task 4 above.
10. If you find any other websites/ links/ twitter feeds that you think are worth sharing, note them down too.



# Task Log

Date	Website / source	Comments

# Appendix 1: Grammar self-assessment

	I DO NOT KNOW	NEED TO LEARN	QUITE CONFIDENT	FULLY CONFIDENT	My notes/comments
<b>Nouns:</b> gender, singular and plural forms					
<b>Articles:</b> definite (el, la...), indefinite (un, una)					
<b>Adjectives:</b> agreements (fem, pl...)					
Position/word order					
comparative and superlative (más, menos, el más.)					
comparative and superlative irregular (mejor...)					
indefinite ( <i>cada, algunos, algunas</i> )					
possessive (mi ti...)					
interrogative ( <i>¿qué?, ¿cuál?, ¿cuáles?...</i> )					
<b>Adverbs:</b> comparative and superlative					
interrogative ( <i>¿cómo? ¿cuándo?</i> )					
<b>Quantifiers/intensifiers</b> ( <i>muy, bastante...</i> )					
<b>Pronouns:</b> Subject (yo, tú...)					
object: direct and indirect (lo, las, les...)					
position and order (te veo)					
reflexive (me, te...)					
relative ( <i>que,</i> )					
relative: <i>lo que, la que</i> (R)					
<b>object:</b> direct and indirect					
indefinite ( <i>alguien</i> )					
possessive ( <i>el mío, la mía...</i> ) (R)					
interrogative ( <i>¿Quién? ¿quiénes?</i> )					
interrogative ( <i>¿qué?</i> ) (R)					
<b>Verbs:</b> modes of address ( <i>tú, vosotros, usted</i> )					
verbs + infinitive					
verbs + infinitive + preposition					
Verbs + - me gusta/me interesa etc					
Verbs + de ( <i>acabo de</i> )					
negatives (no, nunca, jamás...)					
Present (regular)					
Present (irregular)					
Perfect					
Perfect with <b>reflexives</b>					
Imperfect					
Near Future (voy a + infinitive)					
Future					
Conditional					
Future perfect ( <i>habrá hecho...</i> ) (R)					
Conditional perfect ( <i>habría salido...</i> ) (R)					
Pluperfect ( <i>había llegado..</i> )					
Present participle ( <i>comiendo...</i> )					
Subjunctive mood (how to form it)					
Subjunctive mood (which expressions trigger it?)					

	I DO NOT	NEED TO LEARN	QUITE CONFIDENT	FULLY CONFIDENT	<b>My notes/comments</b>
<b>Indirect speech</b>					
<b>Inversion after speech (R)</b>					
<b>Prepositions: a/al/ a la...</b>					
with countries, towns, places					
with month, dates, time					
Desde hace, acabar de					
<b>Number, quantity and time</b>					
<b>Conjunctions</b>					

## REFERENCES:

### Internet

[www.languagesonline.org.uk](http://www.languagesonline.org.uk)

general site with an A Level section & GCSE revision (grammar very good)

<http://www.languagesresources.co.uk/SpanishALGrammar.html>

good site for grammar

<https://conjuguemos.com/>

a good website to practise grammar and verb conjugation

### Reference books

**Palabra por palabra  
Practice in Spanish  
grammar**

Hodder  
Nelson Thomas

(R) recognise only

# Appendix 2: Grammar workout

## Ejercicio 1

1. Cuando llegué a casa, mi prima había \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) salir      b) salido      c) saliendo      d) salía
2. ¡Qué tiempo maravilloso! ¡Está \_\_\_\_\_!  
a) nevar      b) nevando      c) nevado      d) nevó
3. ¿Qué quiere \_\_\_\_\_ este niño?  
a) dice      b) decir      c) diciendo      d) dicho
4. Álvaro, ¿cuándo vas a \_\_\_\_\_ el ruido?  
a) terminar      b) terminando      c) terminas      d) terminado
5. No quiero \_\_\_\_\_ porque está lloviendo.  
a) salgo      b) salir      c) saliendo      d) sale
6. ¿Quién ha \_\_\_\_\_ el premio?  
a) ganado      b) ganando      c) gana      d) ganó
7. Este profesor me habla como si \_\_\_\_\_ un niño.  
a) soy      b) fuera      c) fui      d) fue
8. Sí, sí. Yo he \_\_\_\_\_ con ella.  
a) hablando      b) hablado      c) hablo      d) hablé
9. Yo se lo explicada a Juan para que lo \_\_\_\_\_.  
a) comprender      b) comprende      c) comprenderá      d) comprendiera
10. ¡Ojalá que \_\_\_\_\_ los niños mañana!  
a) vienen      b) vendrán      c) vengan      d) vendrían

## Ejercicio 2: Change the following Present tense verbs into the Preterit.

1. (Yo) hablo = \_\_\_\_\_
2. (Yo) voy a casa = \_\_\_\_\_
3. María y José comen = \_\_\_\_\_
4. (Yo) oigo la música = \_\_\_\_\_
5. El perro muerde = \_\_\_\_\_
6. Juana juega = \_\_\_\_\_
7. (Ellos) piensan = \_\_\_\_\_
8. (Yo) estoy en casa = \_\_\_\_\_
9. Cristiana viene = \_\_\_\_\_
10. (Tú) tocas el piano = \_\_\_\_\_

## Ejercicio 3

Find the meanings of the following verbs.

1. pedir = \_\_\_\_\_
2. gozar de algo = \_\_\_\_\_
3. fiarse de alguien = \_\_\_\_\_
4. quejarse de = \_\_\_\_\_
5. tropezar con = \_\_\_\_\_
6. carecer de = \_\_\_\_\_
7. rebajar = \_\_\_\_\_
8. acrecer = \_\_\_\_\_
9. denegar = \_\_\_\_\_
10. concebir = \_\_\_\_\_

#### Ejercicio 4

Change the verbs from the Future Tense into the Conditional Tense.

1. (Tú) beberás = \_\_\_\_\_
2. (Yo) me lavaré = \_\_\_\_\_
3. (Ellos) pondrán = \_\_\_\_\_
4. (Ud.) tendrá = \_\_\_\_\_
5. María querrá = \_\_\_\_\_
6. (Yo) estudiaré = \_\_\_\_\_
7. Los chicos comerán = \_\_\_\_\_
8. (Nosotros) seremos = \_\_\_\_\_
9. Alfonso leerá = \_\_\_\_\_
10. (Ella) cantará = \_\_\_\_\_

#### Ejercicio 5:

Change the verbs in the following sentences to the Present Continuous.

1. El hombre vende manzanas en el parqu岸.  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Corremos a la parada de autobuses.  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Yo leo el libro de inglés.  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. ¿Regresas a casa?  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. ¿Quién bebe gaseosa en el jardín?  
\_\_\_\_\_

#### Ejercicio: 6

Make the adjectives in the following agree with the noun...

1. La hermana de Enrique es muy \_\_\_\_\_. (simpático)
2. Hay un estanque \_\_\_\_\_ en el Retiro. (famoso)
3. El profesor tiene muchos amigos \_\_\_\_\_. (inglés)
4. Compramos manzanas en un puesto \_\_\_\_\_. (azul)
5. Estamos estudiando unos libros muy \_\_\_\_\_. (fácil)
6. El padre de Manuel tiene árboles \_\_\_\_\_ en el jardín. (espléndido)
7. Hay \_\_\_\_\_ botella de gaseosa en la sala. (otro)
8. La madre de Mercedes compra flores \_\_\_\_\_ en la calle. (bonito)

#### What I need to revise

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