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Edexcel

Examiners' Report

Principal Examiner Feedback

Summer 2018

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE

In Spanish (4SP0) Paper 01

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Publications Code 4SP0_01_1806_ER

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International GCSE Spanish 4SP0 01

General Comments

2018 is last year for the legacy International GCSE Spanish. The 2018 paper proved to be accessible to all candidates and clearly tested their knowledge and understanding of spoken Spanish.

Most candidates demonstrated clearly that they had understood the rubrics and were familiar with the format of the examination. It was also evident that they had practiced well in preparation for the examination.

All questions set were answered as predicted and in particular, in the final section, questions 17,18 and 19 which targeted grades B, A and A* only the highest performing candidates demonstrated a full and clear understanding of the more extended extracts of language heard.

Spelling

The spelling of some words in Questions 17 and 19 proved problematic for some candidates. However, examiners were sympathetic in their responses and where spelling was phonically recognisable versions of required words were credited positively.

Questions 1 to 3

There were only very few candidates who did not achieve full marks in questions 1-3.

Question 4 to 6

There were only very few candidates who did not achieve full marks in questions 4-6.

Questions 7 to 12

Most candidates responded well and scored full marks for these questions.

Question 13

This was well attempted by most candidates with the majority scoring 4 or 5 out of the 6 marks available for this question.

The most frequently wrong responses were:

13 (iv) ¿Cuándo? viernes

13(v) ¿Material? piel /cuero

Question 14

This question proved to be a good discriminator. Most candidates scored 4 of the 6 marks available for this question.

The most frequently wrong responses were: 14(i) and 14(ii)

Question 15

Most candidates scored 3 out of the 3 marks available for this question demonstrating their ability to follow slightly longer extracts of dialogue which contain some unfamiliar items.

Question 16

Most typically the score here was 2 or 3 marks out of the 4 marks available for this question. The most frequent wrong responses were:

16(i) where candidates missed the link between 'tres de cada cuatro casas españolas separan el papel y el plástico' with 'En España la *mayoría* de la gente separa la basura'

16 (iv) where candidates missed the link between 'Los hombres se preocupan más por el reciclaje' with 'Los más interesados en reciclar son los *hombres*'.

Question 17

Although, this question proved challenging and only the high end of the entry scored more than 4 marks out of the 6 marks available, this year's entry candidates achieved higher marks on this question than the 2017 entry candidates.

The following key points are worthy of note;

Q17 (i) around 48% of the candidates answered this question correctly.

Q17 (ii) around 63% of the candidates answered this question correctly.

Q17 (iii) around 63% of the candidates answered this question correctly.

Q17 (iv) around 68% of the candidates answered this question correctly.

Q17 (v) around 73% of the candidates answered this question correctly.

Q17 (vi) around 91% of the candidates answered this question correctly.

Question 18

This question targeted Grade A. Most typically 'Grade A' candidates scored 4/5 out of the 6 marks available for this question demonstrating their ability to follow longer extracts of dialogue which contain some unfamiliar items relating to a job interview.

Question 19

The final question in this examination targets Grade A*. This question proved to be very challenging and a good discriminator. This passage contains some complicated lexis and structures, as is appropriate for a question at this level.

Most typically 'Grade A' candidates scored 4 or 5 out of the 7 marks available, however, if we consider all the entries, the 2018 entry candidates performed better in this question than the 2017 entry candidates.

Q19 (Home schooling)

Positive aspects:

The most likely correct answer was 'flexible'.

Many candidates wrote 'pasan más tiempo' 'hacen más actividades' but some omitted to write "con su familia" and so failed to score.

Negative aspects:

'Tienen menos dinero' was a very common correct response.

Some candidates recognised 'socializar' but were not sure of the whole idea of 'they have less opportunities to socialize'. Also, to express the idea of opportunities for socialising there was a myriad of different spellings for "socializar" and "oportunidades". Our examiners were sympathetic in their responses and where spelling was phonically recognisable versions of these words candidates were credited positively.

Conclusion

The outcome of the examination of this paper this summer was pleasing. The majority of centres had prepared their candidates thoroughly, so they had a good understanding of the requirements of this unit. This allowed candidates to respond well to its demands.

Advice and Guidance

- Candidates need to read the questions properly.
- Candidates should ensure that they listen carefully and understand the passages and base their answers on the actual content of the passage rather than impose their own speculations.
- Their responses should be written clearly.
- A good knowledge of vocabulary items is required.
- Candidates aiming at a higher grade require a good knowledge of more complicated lexis and structures.

Grade Boundaries

Grade boundaries for this, and all other papers, can be found on the website on this link:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/support/support-topics/results-certification/grade-boundaries.html>

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