

AP Spanish Language and Culture

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Why Spanish?

Very useful (many countries speak Spanish or have large Spanish-speaking communities)

Numerous resources online

Relatively easier to learn

Rich variety in culture



Format overview of the test

Multiple Choice — 65 Questions | ~ 1 Hour, 35 Minutes | 50% of Exam Score

- **Part A** — 30 questions; 40 minutes
 - Interpretive Communication: Print Texts
- **Part B** — 35 Questions; ~55 minutes
 - Interpretive Communication: Print and Audio Texts (combined)
 - Interpretive Communication: Audio Texts

Free Response — 4 Tasks | ~ 1 Hour, 28 Minutes | 50% of Exam Score

- **Part A** — Written Tasks; ~70 minutes
 - **Interpersonal Writing:** Email reply (1 prompt; 15 minutes)
 - **Presentational Writing:** Persuasive essay (1 prompt; ~ 55 minutes total: 15 minutes to review materials plus 40 minutes to write)
- **Part B** — Spoken Responses; ~ 18 minutes
 - **Interpersonal Speaking:** Conversation (5 prompts; 20 seconds for each response)
 - **Presentational Speaking:** Cultural comparison (1 prompt; 4 minutes to prepare, 2 minutes to respond)

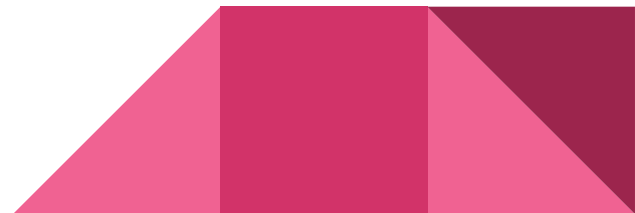
Multiple choice: Print texts

30 multiple choice questions, 40 min

Questions will ask about short passages

Practice reading news sources (lanic.utexas.edu, BBC Mundo, CNN Español)

Practice vocabulary (Quizlet.com, StudySpanish.com)



Multiple choice: Audio texts

35 questions, ~55 minutes

Two parts: audio only, and audio with print (audio track with related print article)

Practice listening:

- Rtve.es (Spanish radio)
- NotesInSpanish.com (podcast-type conversations)
- Concierto Siniestro (audio story)
- Latin American music (radio, Spotify, YouTube)
- Watch telenovelas (Spanish-language soap operas)-- more difficult

*Practice listening to different accents

Free response: Email response

1 prompt, 15 min

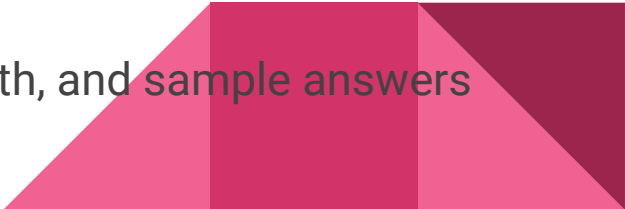
Similar to AP Chinese email response, but handwritten

Practice writing in Spanish

Get familiar with formal/informal salutations and closings

- Ex. formal words: estimado, atentamente
- Can be memorized, so you can focus more on the real content of the email

Collegeboard.org has free response questions to practice with, and sample answers to compare with



Free response: Persuasive essay

1 prompt, 15 minutes to review materials, 40 minutes to write

Materials include article, audio, and table/graphic

Practice writing!

- Journaling
- Practice vocabulary, commonly used transitions/phrases, idioms; know grammar really well (different tenses --> more points, if correctly used)
 - [Studyspanish.com](http://studyspanish.com), bowdoin.edu/hispanic-studies/tools/newgr/ats/
- Past exam prompts
 - As with email portion, collegeboard.org has persuasive essay samples

Free response: Conversation

5 prompts, 20 seconds per response

Similar to AP Chinese; will be recorded on a computer, but will be provided outline

Practice: speak with native speakers or other students; *speak in class

Listening to a lot of Spanish can help with pronunciation as well

Collegeboard.org has sample conversations from past years, and scores/feedback for each



Free response: Cultural comparison

1 prompt, 4 minutes to prepare, 2 minutes to present

Recorded on computer

Compare culture of a Spanish-speaking place to your own community

Familiarize yourself with Spanish/Latin American culture (food, music, literature, art, technology, family life, religion, architecture, education, workplace, clothing)

Collegeboard.org has past samples, and scores/feedback for each

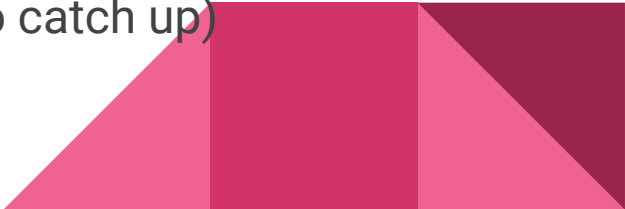


Themes

1. Global Challenges
2. Science and Technology
3. Contemporary Life
4. Personal and Public Identities
5. Families and Communities
6. Beauty and Aesthetics



In general

- Practice tests (collegeboard.org)
 - School textbook: *Triángulo Aprobado* by Barbara Gatski (Wayside Publishing)
 - There are a variety of test prep books as well (Barron's is usually a good test prep book)
 - Take every opportunity, in class and outside of class, to practice and immerse yourself in the culture
 - Start early! Cannot cram-- start writing, reading, listening, speaking early; 7th, 8th, 9th grade is a good time to start (if starting later, don't worry, but your student will have to do more work outside of class to catch up)
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A few notes

Tutor? If your student is in a good class at school, that should be enough. If self-studying, a tutor can provide confidence and immediate feedback/help (*One tutoring session a week will not help you fully grasp the language-- self-studying means a lot of independent work)

Time: even 5+ min/day (more if self-studying) can put you at higher level-- reading, writing, speaking, and listening



AP Spanish Literature and Culture

AP Spanish Literature is more focused on important Spanish literature, rather than general culture or specific vocabulary/grammar

65 multiple choice (reading, listening comprehension), 2 short answers, 2 essays

While the tests are different, it's definitely possible to do both Spanish AP tests

Usually 4th year of Spanish is AP Spanish Language, 5th year is AP Spanish Literature; can speed up if put in more effort outside of class



Q&A

Any questions?

