

# Spanish

## 2019 Senior External Examination — Subject notice 1

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### Information about the 2019 examination

The examination will be based on the *Spanish Senior External Syllabus 2008 (amended 2012)*.

It will consist of an oral examination (that will assess speaking skills) and a written examination (that will assess listening, reading and writing skills).

**Candidates must sit both examination components.** No alternative arrangements will be made if a candidate fails to attend a scheduled examination for any reason. There are no opportunities to resit examinations. No level of achievement can be awarded unless the candidate sits all examinations.

### Oral examination

The oral examination may be conducted at a different examination centre from the written component. Details of the time, date and venue will be emailed by the end of September.

The oral examination is designed primarily to assess a candidate's knowledge and skill in using spoken Spanish. It has two sections:

- Section 1: Conversation
- Section 2: Discussion.

The conversation and the discussion may be supported by objects such as photographs, diagrams, pictures and maps. **Notes and cue cards are not permitted.**

#### Section 1: Conversation

The oral examination will begin with a general conversation between the candidate and the marker.

The conversation will be about the candidate's personal world, e.g. school and home life, family and friends, interests and aspirations.

The conversation will last for approximately 7 minutes.

#### Section 2: Discussion

After the conversation, the candidate will tell the marker the subtopic chosen for detailed study.

Information on the detailed study is in Section 6.2.4 of the syllabus.

The marker will engage the student in a discussion. During the discussion, the candidate will be expected to explore aspects of the language and culture of Spanish-speaking communities and to refer to the texts studied. They may also refer to personal experiences related to the subject of the detailed study.

The discussion will last for approximately 8 minutes.

# Recording evidence of learning

As a condition of candidate enrolment, the QCAA will record oral examinations to gather evidence of learning and for quality assurance purposes.

## Written examination

The written examination has three sections. Detailed information on the written examination can be found in Section 8.1.3 of the syllabus.

### Section 1: Listening and responding

This section is designed primarily to assess a candidate's knowledge and skill in analysing and responding to information from spoken texts.

### Section 2: Reading and responding

This section is designed primarily to assess a candidate's knowledge and skill in analysing and responding to information from written texts.

### Section 3: Writing in Spanish

This section is designed primarily to assess a candidate's ability to express ideas through the creation of original text in Spanish.

## Dictionaries

Monolingual and/or bilingual printed dictionaries are permitted in the written examination.

## Level of achievement

Candidate responses to questions in each paper will be judged against the two syllabus exit criteria:

- *Comprehension*
- *Conveying meaning.*

Each candidate's level of achievement will be determined by applying the syllabus standards to an overall assessment of responses across the oral and written components of the examination.

## Enquiries

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