



**A LEVELS**

# **A-LEVEL Spanish** **Transition**

**Transition from GCSE to A-Level Workbook**



Nombre \_\_\_\_\_

Clase \_\_\_\_\_



## **What is transition work?**

Transition work is independent learning to consolidate what you already know and begin to accumulate new knowledge in preparation for the A-level course. The main aim is to keep practising your language regularly – little and often is the key. This way, it won't feel like such a big step up in September.

## **What does independent learning look like?**

There are huge amounts of resources available to you in order to keep your language going, many of which will be referenced in this booklet. As well as preparing you for the A-level, independent learning is a major opportunity to further explore the Spanish language through a range of activities tailored to your own interests:

- You choose what you do, where, when and why
- A chance to make your learning fun by choosing material which really interests you
- You taking responsibility for your own progress and achievements
- Working on the language skills you have identified as a particular area to work on
- Developing your confidence about learning new languages in the future
- Developing your effectiveness as a learner
- Making effective use of free time to find new ways of learning that keep you interested
- An opportunity to work constructively with friends

## **Where should I start?**

This booklet contains a range of different suggestions of activities to complete independently as well as some grammar activities and research tasks to give you some background knowledge to some of the topics on the A-level course.

Remember that A-level builds on what you already know from GCSE (the Spanish language is still the same!) so why not start by working through your GCSE Grammar and Translation book (if you have one) or looking online for the A-level equivalent?

**Watch...****TELEVISION**

- If you have Netflix or Amazon Prime, try searching for “Spanish language films” or “Spanish language TV”. Many English language films/programmes also have a Spanish audio or subtitle option.

Recommended series and films:

La casa de papel (series)

Las chicas del cable (series)

Bienvenidos a Edén (series)

Narcos (series)

Super López (film)

Campeones (film)

Roma (film)

Celda 211 (film)

Torrente (film)

El niño (film)

El día de la bestia (film)

Ocho apellidos vascos (film)

El Laberinto del Fauno (this is the film we will study in Y12)

- <https://www.rtve.es/alacarta> A range of programmes available to view online from the Spanish equivalent (roughly) of the BBC

**Listen...**

- Listening to Spanish radio/music is a great way to expose yourself to more Spanish easily. Have it on in the background while you are doing something else! o Radio Nacional de España <https://www.radio.net/s/rneradionacional>

**SPOTIFY**

Top 50 SPAIN

[www.lyricstraining.com](http://www.lyricstraining.com) Use this website to listen to Spanish music while improving your listening skills. Listen to a song with the accompanying YouTube video and fill in the missing words in the lyrics underneath. There are 4 difficulty levels and two settings – multiple choice mode or typing mode.

Radio Nacional de España <https://www.radio.net/s/rneradionacional>

Cadena SER <https://cadenaser.com>

Europa FM <https://www.radio.net/s/europafm>



**Read...**

## **NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES**

- <https://www.bbc.com/mundo> News stories from around the world in Spanish covering a range of topics
- <http://www.elpais.com> Like many Spanish newspapers, El País is available to read online. You don't have to read the full paper cover to cover, just try to find one article that grabs your attention.
- <https://www.20minutos.es/> <https://www.20minutos.es/videos> This is a more light-hearted newspaper which covers gossip as well as global news stories. There is also a video section.

## **OTHER WAYS TO READ**

- Change the language on your phone to Spanish – eventually you will be reading in Spanish without even realising it (and it's a great way to get a head-start on the technology topic)
- Set your default internet search engine to [www.google.es](http://www.google.es) instead of the English version.
- Use a different search engine such as <http://es.yahoo.com> Setting this as your homepage will make you read Spanish every time you log on and it will become an easy part of your daily routine.
- Keep your own vocabulary log. Have an entire exercise book or notebook dedicated to this that you have with you every time you read, watch or listen to something in Spanish.

## **References**

Here are some websites which may be useful for revising and practising grammar:

- [www.languagesonline.org.uk](http://www.languagesonline.org.uk) general site with an A level section (very good grammar)
- [www.bbc.co.uk/languages](http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages) interesting site, lots of revision materials
- <http://www.languagesresources.co.uk/SpanishALGrammar.html> grammar explanations and activities
- <https://conjuguemos.com/activities/spanish/grammar/1> interactive grammar activities



## Tenses Workout

**Can you identify the tense (or mood) in the sentences below? Use the letters from the list, then translate the sentences into English.**

1. Si **fuera** rico, iría a Nueva York

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2. **Me gustaría** ir a Perú

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3. Juan **tiene** suerte

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4. Me di cuenta de que **había perdido** mi pasaporte

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5. **Llegaré** a casa sobre las once

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6. Es importante que **aprendamos** idiomas

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7. El año pasado **fui** a Ecuador

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8. Ahora mismo **estoy viendo** la tele en casa

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9. **¡Escuchad!**

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10. Ya **he terminado** mis deberes

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11. **Estaba leyendo** cuando llegaste

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12. **Jugaba** al fútbol cuando **era** pequeño

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13. **Van a ver** una película más tarde

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**A** Present   **B** Imperfect   **C** Preterite   **D** Conditional (present)   **E** Near future  
**F** Future   **G** Present continuous   **H** Imperfect continuous   **I** Perfect   **J** Pluperfect  
**K** Present subjunctive   **L** Imperfect subjunctive   **M** Imperative



**Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verb given in brackets.**

1. Si (llover) \_\_\_\_\_, yo (quedarse) \_\_\_\_\_ en casa.
2. Él (acostarse) \_\_\_\_\_ muy pronto.
3. Si yo (tener) \_\_\_\_\_ dinero, yo (visitar) \_\_\_\_\_ Latinoamérica.
4. (abrir) \_\_\_\_\_ vuestros cuadernos y (escribir) \_\_\_\_\_ la fecha.
5. Yo (ir) \_\_\_\_\_ a Francia pero (hacer) \_\_\_\_\_ demasiado frío.
6. Yo (hacer) \_\_\_\_\_ una gira del mundo si (tener) \_\_\_\_\_ suficiente dinero.
7. Yo nunca (aprender) \_\_\_\_\_ el chino ya que (ser) \_\_\_\_\_ muy difícil.
8. Yo (querer) \_\_\_\_\_ que ella (hacer) \_\_\_\_\_ sus deberes esta noche.
9. Yo (ver) \_\_\_\_\_ la tele cuando mi amiga (llegar **C)** \_\_\_\_\_ a la puerta.
10. Yo (leer) \_\_\_\_\_ una novela de amor.
11. Si yo (tener) \_\_\_\_\_ tiempo, (ir) \_\_\_\_\_.
12. Pedro (descargar) \_\_\_\_\_ la nueva canción de Shakira pero a él no le (gustar) \_\_\_\_\_ porque en su opinión (ser) \_\_\_\_\_ aburrida.







## Research Tasks

Below are some suggested tasks to complete in preparation for studying some of the A-level topics. Some of the tasks are aimed at gaining a greater knowledge of Spanish culture in general whereas others are directly linked to one of the modules on the A-level course.

Keep a log of all of the tasks you complete and don't forget to record your sources (e.g. books used, websites visited and the date). It may be useful to set up a folder to record all of the work you complete (see Appendix 2: Setting up an Independent Learning Log).

## IMPORTANT FIGURES What are these people known for?

 Francisco Franco	
 Che Guevara	
 Eva Perón	
 Miguel de Cervantes	
 Clara Campoamor	
 Shakira	



Salvador Dali



Frida Kahlo



Fidel Castro

## **LA IDENTIDAD REGIONAL EN ESPAÑA**

¿Cuántas lenguas minoritarias se habla en España?

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¿Sabes qué es la merienda?

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¿Cuál es tu fiesta hispánica preferida?

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¿Existen estereotipos regionales en España?

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**Haz una investigación sobre la diversidad regional en España.**

**Las tradiciones/ fiestas**

**Las costumbres**

**La gastronomía**

**La geografía**

**Las lenguas**





## FILM CONTEXT RESEARCH

The film (*'El Laberinto del Fauno' – Guillermo del Toro*) that you will study at A-level is set around the Spanish Civil War.

It would therefore be useful to do some research into Spain during this period of history:

- Research the events that led to the Civil War
- What happened to Spain during this time?
- What was life like in Spain during the Civil War?

Use the questions below to guide your research.

1. What was the political situation in Spain during the period 1925-1935?

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2. What were Franco's reasons for wanting to take charge?

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3. What different regions of Spain were Nationalist (pro-Franco) and Republican (opposing Franco)?

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4. What was the outcome of the Civil War?

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5. What were the implications on daily life for Spanish people?

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