

# *Spanish as a second language*

## *Español lengua extranjera*

*First assessment 2020*

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<http://www.saberesbreve.com/geografia/mapas/mapa-con-los-paises-que-hablan-espanol-de-manera-oficial/>



<http://liceo2miranda.blogspot.com/2018/02/examen-idioma-espanol.html>

### **- What is the course about and what will I learn?**

Language B is a language acquisition course designed for students with previous experience in the target language: Spanish. In the Language B course, students further improve their ability to communicate in Spanish through the study of language, themes and texts. At the same time, they also will learn about cultural aspects and they will develop conceptual understandings of how language works, according to the level of the course. It is divided into: Higher Level (HL), Standard Level (SL) and Ab Initio. This last one is a language acquisition course for students with little or no knowledge of Spanish.

### **- Language B and Theory of Knowledge (TOK)**

Spanish B collaborates with two interdisciplinary and complementary subjects: TOK and CAS. Theory of knowledge or TOK has an essential function in the programme by encouraging the students to think about the big questions of how they know what they know, reflecting on different ways of knowing. Here 2 examples to illustrate this:

- How is the idiosyncrasy of a country affected by language?
- Does globalization have an influence on the language?

### **- Language B and Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS)**

On the other hand, Creativity Activity Service or CAS and language acquisition can complement each other in a variety of ways. Students will be able to enhance their intercultural understanding through the active and purposeful use of their acquired language within the specific real-life contexts provided by their CAS experiences.

Here 2 examples to illustrate this:

- introducing the Mexican tradition of the “El dia de Muertos” to their school colleagues, to approach this tradition through the projection of animated films, makeup workshop or costumes.
- Organizing and celebrating a “Fiesta de la comida”, learning and sharing recipes from Spanish-speaking countries and from all over the world.

### **- Language B and Extended Essay (EE)**

The EE is an independent research work directed by the student himself, ending in a 4,000 word essay.

It is one of the core components of the IB and is mandatory for all students. The EE constitutes: “a practical preparation for university research projects, as well an opportunity for students to investigate a topic that interests them especially, and that is related to one of the six subjects of the Diploma that are studying” according to the IB.

One of these subjects can be Language B, writing in Spanish a 4,000 word essay about a cultural or linguistic topic related to Spanish-speaking countries, for example, an IB student at BISC prepared an excellent work on Mafalda and how that well known comic worked as a vehicle for social denunciation and in defense of feminism in times of Argentine censorship.

### **- Distinction between SL and HL**

At both levels of language B (SL and HL), students learn to communicate in Spanish in different contexts. They describe situations, narrate events, make comparisons, explain problems, and state and support their personal opinions on a variety of topics relating to course content. The study of at least two literary works originally written in the target language is required only at Language B HL. The distinction between language B SL and HL can also be seen in the level of competency the student is expected to develop in the receptive, productive and interactive skills.

	IB1		IB2	
	SL	HL	SL	HL
Term 1	Paper 1* and 2*, S Topic: <b>Identities</b>	Paper 1/2/S	Paper 1* and 2*, S Topic: <b>Social organisation</b>	Paper 1/2/S
Term 2	Paper 1* and 2*, S Topic: <b>Experiences</b>	Paper 1/2/S	Paper 1* and 2*, S Topic: <b>Sharing the planet</b>	Paper 1/2/S
Term 3	Paper 1* and 2*, S Topic: <b>Human ingenuity</b>	Paper 1/2/S	IB examination	IB examination

\*Paper 1: Productive skills—writing

\*Paper 2: Receptive skills—listening and reading

S: speaking

### - How is the course structured?

The IB prescribed themes are:

- ✓ **Identities** (lifestyles, health and well-being, beliefs, language and identity)
- ✓ **Experiences** (leisure activities, holidays and travel, life stories, rites, customs and traditions, migration)
- ✓ **Human ingenuity** (entertainment, artistic expressions, media, technology, scientific innovation)
- ✓ **Social organisation** (social relationships and engagement, community, education, the working world, law and order)
- ✓ **Sharing the planet** (human rights, peace and conflict, equality, globalisation, urban and rural environment)

The study of two literary works originally written in the target language is a requirement at HL in language B.

### - Are there any requirements?

Yes, they are for HL and SL:

-Grade A/A+ at IGCSE level for HL

-Grade A/B/C at IGCSE level for SL

There are not any requirements for Ab Initio, except a positive willingness to learn, hard and constant work.

### - What materials will I need?

-Spanish B for the IB Diploma Programme – textbook (SL and HL)

-Palabra por palabra (vocabulary booklet for SL and HL)

-Intermediary and advanced grammar exercise workbook

-Developing Skills for text types, A guide for Students of Spanish. (SL and HL)

-2 books originally written in Spanish (only for HL)

-¡Mira! (Ab Initio)

-Basic vocabulary booklet

-Beginner grammar exercise workbook

### **- What career paths are open to me?**

In our increasingly globalized world, more open and communicated, the mastery of a single language becomes not sufficient. Because of this, the B languages appear to give the opportunity to approach and communicate with other millions of people. This is the case of Spanish, one of the most spoken languages in the world after Chinese and English, giving access to numerous countries and a melting pot of cultures. Effective communication and intercultural understanding are essentials in language learning. These contribute to the development of positive attitudes and respect between peoples and cultures, which are integral to the IB philosophy. IB foreign language programme is accepted by universities and employers as proof of linguistic ability and understanding. The course encourages learners to develop lifelong skills, including:

- The ability to use a foreign language as a means of practical and real communication.
- Insight into the culture and civilisation of countries where the language is spoken.
- A positive attitude towards language learning, towards the speakers of other languages, and towards other cultures and civilisations.
- Techniques which can be applied to other areas of learning, such as analysis and memory skills.
- A sound foundation for progression to employment or further study.

### **- Where can I find more information about the course?**

Language B Guide, First assessment 2020, is available on electronic file.

For further information, please contact me:

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