



Rewarding Learning

SPANISH STUDENT STUDY CARD #1

SPEAKING - STEPS TO SUCCESS

Introduction

The AS Speaking Test consists of two parts:

Question 1 is a presentation related to an aspect of a Spanish-speaking country/community [approximately three minutes].

Question 2 is a conversation which is based on an AS theme lasting 8 minutes.

The A2 Speaking Test consists of two parts:

In Question 1 you will introduce [one minute] and discuss [five minutes] with your visiting examiner one individual research project [culture, historical period or region].

Question 2 is the Conversation on A2 themes [and AS as appropriate] lasting nine minutes.

Assessment

An external visiting examiner carries out your speaking test and it is recorded.

In Speaking you will be assessed on your ability to express information, facts, ideas and justify opinions.





Assessment Objectives

You will be assessed according to the following criteria:

- A01: Understand and respond to spoken language;
- A03: Manipulate the language accurately and appropriately.

Familiarise yourself with the requirements of each criterion and guidance on how to achieve the top bands:

A01 assesses:

- your degree of comprehension;
- the fluency of your responses;
- your initiative to develop answers and your ability to argue points of view;
- your pronunciation and intonation.

A03 assesses:

- your command of idiom and vocabulary;
- your knowledge and application of grammar.

Skills

Here are some suggestions to help you prepare for this skills area.

- Practise reading aloud at home to gain confidence and fluency;
- Memorise poems and songs to improve intonation and pronunciation;
- Repeat your presentations/discussions/projects in a loud voice;
- Record yourself on a regular basis and track your progress;
- Use every opportunity in class to improve your speaking skills by engaging in free conversation with your classmates and teachers;
- Participate actively in oral exercises, discussion activities and debates;
- Interact in role playing with classmates in pairs or small groups;
- Engage with native speakers locally or via Skype;
- Watch Spanish news, films and TV programmes regularly and focus on the rhythm and intonation patterns of native speakers;
- Use Voki to record and listen to your speech and practise speaking to an audience;
- Use Spanish language podcasts and webcasts to listen to native speakers of Spanish.