

AP Spanish Summer, 2019

¡Felicitaciones! It is commendable that you have chosen to continue your study of Spanish through the AP level. As you know, the purpose of this course is to have you ready to excel on the AP Spanish Language Exam, which will be administered in May of 2020.

The AP Spanish Language and Culture Exam is designed to test your skills in order to see how well they meet the skill levels that one would expect to find in a third year college class. The exam will test all of the major language skills: reading comprehension, writing skills, speaking ability, and listening comprehension, in addition to general cultural knowledge of the Hispanic world.

Success on the AP Spanish Exam

The AP Spanish Language Exam is a 4-5 hour skill-based exam testing your abilities and proficiency in Spanish. It is **not** a knowledge-based exam like most other AP exams. You will be expected to integrate all four of your skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing. The exam assumes and demands critical, integrated expression in Spanish.

In addition to reading comprehension, interpreting graphic information, listening to authentic auditory sources for listening comprehension, responding to an email, writing a persuasive essay and participating in an impromptu recorded conversation on the AP Spanish Language exam, you must record an improvised two-minute formal oral presentation. You will be given a topic on which you must make a cultural comparison between your community and some aspect of Hispanic culture. You will be given no other information and this will be a test of your accumulated knowledge concerning the Spanish speaking culture. You are given 4 minutes to organize your thoughts, then you **speak** for 2 minutes. You must show a *high level of analysis, synthesis and evaluation* in this presentation to receive a 4 or 5.

The AP Spanish Language class is a demanding course. The goal is for you to receive a 3 or above on the exam. Now that you have decided to take the course, here are some recommendations for things to do over the summer and during the school year to help prepare you. Take every opportunity to immerse yourself in Spanish!

1. Subscribe to or borrow a Spanish publication and read it as much as possible. Some possible choices include People Magazine en Español, Reader's Digest en Español, Hola, or other such publications. I often see these at Walmart or the grocery store and are available at local bookstores/magazine shops, and, of course, libraries. Car magazines, fashion magazines, etc. are all good alternatives. It is essential to do some reading and to be exposed to Spanish publications. You *cannot* read enough!
2. You can also go on the internet and read articles in Spanish such as on-line newspapers (elpais.com), magazines, and web sites. Google on videos in Spanish or go to Youtube and see what interests you. Spanishnewyork.com has a link to newspapers from all over the Spanish-speaking world.
3. Have some regular contact with Univisión or other Spanish programming on television or video. I recommend watching news programs such as "Primer Impacto," or "Noticiero." You will see and hear speakers from all of the Spanish-speaking countries. "Tu Desayuno Alegre," is a morning talk show with music videos. There are soap operas, "Telenovelas," if that interests you. Additionally, there are many different game shows. You will need frequent contact over the summer with Spanish language and cultures.
4. Videos and DVDs are excellent resources, too, for listening to Spanish. While watching your favorite DVD this summer, select to hear or watch your DVD in the Spanish language. Watch the program and jot down some words or things you don't understand or want to learn then. You probably will not understand everything, but over time your understanding will increase. Another option is to tape a show, then pick a 3-5 minute segment and keep rewinding it, working with it until you get most of what is going on. You might like working with music videos or commercials when you do this at first. Disney might be especially good, because you already know the stories and will follow the dialogue more easily.
5. Seek out opportunities to listen to "live" Spanish. There are community cultural events and local churches that have activities and services in Spanish and local service organizations that provide services to the Spanish-speaking community. You can help others while helping yourself. Speak Spanish with family, friends, and co-workers. You may be surprised at how many people in this area speak Spanish.

6. Listen to Spanish music. Visit local music shops, department stores or download songs from the internet. Download songs from the internet. When you search for songs, put in the word “letra” and you may get the song with lyrics, too. You may even want to consider podcasts available in Spanish. **Have fun... y ¡buena suerte!**

7. Get a Duolingo app account to help you with the finer points of grammar. Take the placement test and do 10 min./day. **Have fun...¡y buena suerte!**

Grammar Practice

An AP Spanish student should be familiar with the tenses listed below. He/she should know how to form each tense as well as when to use each one. The following web site may be helpful to practice these grammar points. This is not a required assignment. Go to www.phschool.com and enter the web-code for the following grammar points.

Grammar Point	Web-code
1. Present Tense	1. jkd-0002
2. Preterit Tense	2. jkd-0003
3. Imperfect Tense	3. jkd-0006
4. Present Perfect/Pluperfect	4. jkd-0007
5. Ser vs. Estar	5. jkd-0008
6. Progressive Tenses (Present/Imperfect/Future)	6. jkd-0027
7. Present Subjunctive	7. jkd-0014
8. Present Perfect Subjunctive	8. jkd-0015
9. Imperfect Subjunctive	9. jkd-0021
10. Pluperfect Subjunctive	10. jkd-0022
11. Commands	11. jkd-0024
12. Other Uses of Subjunctive	12. jkd-0025, jkd-0033
13. Future/Future Perfect	13. jkd-0017
14. Conditional/Conditional Perfect	14. jkd-0018
15. Por vs. Para	15. jkd-0029
16. Words that Confuse	16. jkd-0031

General Grammar Sites

www.studyspanish.com

www.conjuguemos.com

www.spanishnewyork.com

www.spanishdict.com

Other Helpful Websites

These first three sites are easily accessed from each other. They provide direct links to television, radio, and newspapers from many locations throughout the Spanish-speaking world.

www.bbcmundo.com

<http://broadcast-live.com/television/spanish.html>

<http://broadcast-live.com/latinamerica.html>

This site offers great support for writing in Spanish. Rules for punctuation, capitalization, etc. are included here along with helpful vocabulary lists.

http://spanish.about.com/od/writtenspanish/Write_in_Spanish.htm