



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission

Leaving Certificate 2026

Marking Scheme

Spanish

Ordinary Level

Note to teachers and students on the use of published marking schemes

Marking schemes published by the State Examinations Commission are not intended to be standalone documents. They are an essential resource for examiners who receive training in the correct interpretation and application of the scheme. This training involves, among other things, marking samples of student work and discussing the marks awarded, so as to clarify the correct application of the scheme. The work of examiners is subsequently monitored by Advising Examiners to ensure consistent and accurate application of the marking scheme. This process is overseen by the Chief Examiner, usually assisted by a Chief Advising Examiner. The Chief Examiner is the final authority regarding whether or not the marking scheme has been correctly applied to any piece of candidate work.

Marking schemes are working documents. While a draft marking scheme is prepared in advance of the examination, the scheme is not finalised until examiners have applied it to candidates' work and the feedback from all examiners has been collated and considered in light of the full range of responses of candidates, the overall level of difficulty of the examination and the need to maintain consistency in standards from year to year. This published document contains the finalised scheme, as it was applied to all candidates' work.

In the case of marking schemes that include model solutions or answers, it should be noted that these are not intended to be exhaustive. Variations and alternatives may also be acceptable. Examiners must consider all answers on their merits, and will have consulted with their Advising Examiners when in doubt.

Future Marking Schemes

Assumptions about future marking schemes on the basis of past schemes should be avoided. While the underlying assessment principles remain the same, the details of the marking of a particular type of question may change in the context of the contribution of that question to the overall examination in a given year. The Chief Examiner in any given year has the responsibility to determine how best to ensure the fair and accurate assessment of candidates' work and to ensure consistency in the standard of the assessment from year to year. Accordingly, aspects of the structure, detail and application of the marking scheme for a particular examination are subject to change from one year to the next without notice.

Annotations used in the marking

Not all responses are annotated.

Annotation	Meaning
-	Omitted point
⌘	Blank page
MMS	Modified Marking Scheme applied
√	Material seen by Examiner

GRADING

Grade	Minimum mark
O1	288
O2	256
O3	224
O4	192
O5	160
O6	128
O7	96
O8	0

**LEAVING CERTIFICATE
ORDINARY LEVEL
SPANISH 2026
MARKING SCHEME**

Reasonable Accommodations: See Appendix One on page 11.

PLEASE NOTE:

In reading this marking scheme, the following points should be noted:

A forward slash / before an answer indicates that the answer is synonymous with that which preceded it or is an alternative answer. Answers separated by a forward slash cannot therefore be taken as different answers.

A dash - before an answer indicates that the answer is a separate answer, which may be considered as independent of any other suggested answers to the question.

Rounded brackets () indicate material which is not considered to be essential in order to gain full marks.

N.B. In all Sections of the examination the answers given on the marking scheme should not be considered as the only possible answers that may be accepted. Answers which are synonymous with or equivalent to those on the published marking scheme are also acceptable.

In developing the marking scheme the following should be noted:

- *In many cases only key phrases are given which contain information and ideas that must appear in the candidate's answer in order to merit the assigned marks*
- *The descriptions, methods and definitions in the scheme are not exhaustive and alternative valid answers are acceptable*
- *The detail required in any answer is determined by the context and the manner in which the question is asked, and by the number of marks assigned to the answer in the examination paper. Requirements and mark allocations may, therefore, vary from year to year.*
- *Words, expressions or phrases must be correctly used in context and not contradicted, and where there is evidence of incorrect use or contradiction, the marks may not be awarded.*

SECTION A (160 MARKS)

Questions must be answered in the language indicated on the examination paper.

In Section A where a candidate answers in the incorrect language (i.e. Spanish instead of English/or vice versa), the following penalties will apply:

- If the entire question is answered in the incorrect language, mark as per marking scheme and award 50% of the marks achieved.*
- Where one or more sub-parts of a question, but fewer than all are answered in the incorrect language award 0m for the ones answered in the wrong language.*
- If questions are answered in both languages, marks should be awarded for the correct language as per the marking scheme and ignore the incorrect language.*

Question 1. EL TREN DEL FIN DEL MUNDO

(50 marks)

All answers must be in **Spanish**.

Transcription (**relevant** and within reasonable limits) is acceptable.

Language manipulation is not tested.

No penalties for spelling inaccuracies. Words in brackets are accepted for full marks but are not essential for correct answer. Marks will be deducted for extra irrelevant words.

- | | | |
|-----|--|------|
| (a) | a ocho kilómetros del centro de la ciudad de Ushuaia | (5m) |
| (b) | los trescientos sesenta y cinco (días del año) | (5m) |
| (c) | construyó un ferrocarril conectando Ushuaia con Tierra del Fuego | (5m) |
| (d) | rocas, arena y leña | (5m) |
| (e) | las vistas y la belleza del parque natural | (5m) |
| (f) | español, portugués e inglés | (5m) |
| (g) | comida, bebida y un regalo | (5m) |
| (h) | por la nieve | (5m) |
| (i) | en la estación o en Internet | (5m) |
| (j) | para ciudadanos argentinos y jubilados | (5m) |

Question 2. EL TORO DE ESPAÑA	(25 marks)
(a) Recognise the Spanish bull as a symbol of the country	(5m)
(b) More than 100 Spanish towns have not celebrated bullfighting	(5m)
(c) One of: - it is going to attract thousands of tourists - it is going to generate local employment	(6m)
(d) Bullfighting museum; souvenir shop; a play area for children	(3+3+3m)
 Question 3. LA TIENDA DE CAJAS SORPRESA	 (20 marks)
(a) When a customer buys a parcel there, they do not know what it contains	(5m)
(b) One of: - twenty-four euros per kilo - it is calculated according to the weight	(6m)
(c) He never buys them because they can have something broken inside	(5m)
(d) Two of: - a smartwatch - a designer bag - a bottle of shampoo	(2+2m)
 Question 4. LOS BOMBEROS RESCATAN A UNA CABRA	 (25 marks)
(a) One of: - on the balcony of a 5th floor apartment - in an apartment where nobody lives	(4m)
(b) Two of: - adult - brown - with a white stripe on its head	(3+3m)
(c) It was very nervous and very frightened [First correct answer = 3m]	(3 +2m)
(d) Two of: - an apple - lettuce - a carrot	(3+3m)
(e) To observe the animal and identify possible illnesses	(2+2m)

Question 5. DE VACACIONES EN AUTOCARAVANA

(40 marks)

- (a)** In the last ten years and especially during the pandemic **(3+3m)**
- (b)** Water; electricity; toilets; showers **(1+1+1+1m)**
- (c)** There is more freedom and you can go from one place to the other easily **(3+3m)**
- (d)** Because of the flexibility they offer and because you can bring pets **(3+3m)**
- (e)** They are looking for adventure and it is a cheaper way to travel **(3+3m)**
- (f)** They can explore different destinations and spend many weeks away from home **(3+3m)**
- (g)** The high cost of buying/renting and the lack of space in the vehicle **(3+3m)**

SECTION B (60 MARKS)

All answers must be in Spanish.

Candidates must attempt:

1. LETTER / E-MAIL and either 2. (a) NOTE or 2 (b) DIARY ENTRY.

Q. 1. LETTER: (40 marks)

There are **five** points to be communicated. Allow a maximum of **8** marks for each of these. (0 – 8 marks may be awarded for each point). If more than five points are answered, mark all and award the marks for the **five** highest scoring points.

(5 x 8m = 40 marks)

Communicative intention fulfilled. Good level of vocabulary. Verb(s) correct.	7 - 8 marks
Communicative intention more or less fulfilled. Quite good level of vocabulary. Verb(s) generally correct.	5 - 6 marks
Some communicative intention fulfilled. There may be a few errors.	3 - 4 marks
Possible to extract some communicative intention.	1 -2 marks
No communicative intention fulfilled.	0 marks

Q.2. (a) NOTE Q.2. (b) DIARY ENTRY (20 marks)

Identical allocation in each case.

There are **four** points to be communicated. Allow a maximum of **5** marks for each of these. (0 to 5 marks may be awarded for each point). If more than four points are answered, mark all and award the marks for the **four** highest scoring points.

(4 x 5m = 20 marks)

Message fully conveyed, no grammatical errors.	5 marks
Message more or less conveyed, some grammatical errors.	4 marks
Message partly comprehensible.	3 marks
Possible to extract some sense of message.	2 marks
Very small amount of message conveyed.	1 mark
No communication of message.	0 marks

LISTENING COMPREHENSION**(100 MARKS)**

All answers must be in English. If the entire listening comprehension test is answered in Spanish: mark as per Marking Scheme and award half of the marks gained.

1. UNA NUEVA ASIGNATURA SOBRE LAS EMERGENCIAS
(2+2+2) + 4 + 4 marks = 14 marks

- (a)** Maths; English; Geography **(2+2+2m)**
- (b)** Two hours of class per week with videos and games **(4m)**
- (c)** A new school in Malaga **(4m)**

2. ENTREVISTA CON LA BAILARINA, MARIANELA NUÑEZ
4 + (2+2) + 4 marks = 12 marks

- (a)** Not very well **(4m)**
- (b)** Three (older) brothers/siblings; mother **(2+2m)**
- (c)** (v) a house to rent **(4m)**

3. HABLANDO CON EL ORGANIZADOR DE LA FÓRMULA 1, LUIS GARCÍA
4 + 4 + (3+3) marks = 14 marks

- (a)** Middle of September next year **(4m)**
- (b)** Northeast **(4m)**
- (c)** Metro; bus **(3+3m)**
[airport = 3m]

4. 25 AÑOS DEL PERIÓDICO '20 MINUTOS'
3 + 4 + (2+2+2) marks = 13 marks

- (a)** (v) mobiles in class **(3m)**
- (b)** Almost three million **(4m)**
- (c)** Colombia; Mexico; United States **(2+2+2m)**

5. UN EVENTO CULTURAL

(2+2) + (2+2+2) + 4 marks = 14 marks

- (a) **Two of:** - museums
- churches
- libraries (2+2m)
- (b) Concerts; poetry; theatre (2+2+2m)
- (c) (v) local artists (4m)

6. EL TIEMPO

(2+4) + 4 + (2+2) marks = 14 marks

- (a) **Day:** Friday **Date:** 19th June (2+4m)
- (b) Cloudy all day (4m)
- (c) **Max:** 27 **Min:** 18 (2+2m)

7. LOS EFECTOS DE ATRASAR LA HORA

4 + (2+2+2) + (3+3) + 3 marks = 19 marks

- (a) Last week of October (4m)
- (b) Children, elderly, people with illnesses (2+2+2m)
- (c) **Two of:** - bananas
- oranges
- grapes
- apples (3+3m)
- (d) (v) be outdoors (3m)

14 + 12 + 14 + 13 + 14 + 14 + 19

= 100 marks

APPENDIX ONE

REASONABLE ACCOMODATIONS & MODIFIED MARKING SCHEME

A modified marking scheme is applied to the work submitted by candidates who have been granted one or a combination of the following arrangements:

- *A recorded version of written work.*
- *Use of a computer with the spell-check facility enabled.*
- *Use of a scribe.*
- *Waiver in relation to spelling and grammar.*

For those candidates who are granted a spelling and grammar waiver, errors in certain grammatical areas are not penalised. In assessing the work of these candidates, a modified marking scheme will apply.

Aural

As this part of the examination is answered in English there is no special consideration given, as incorrect spelling and grammar are not penalised in the standard marking scheme.

Section A

For Question 1, answered in Spanish, spelling and grammatical errors will not be penalised.

Section B

Content and communication will be marked as standard but incorrect spelling and grammatical errors will not be penalised.

LEAVING CERTIFICATE SPANISH 2026 AURAL TRANSCRIPT

1. ANUNCIO: UNA NUEVA ASIGNATURA SOBRE LAS EMERGENCIAS

Los colegios españoles tendrán una nueva asignatura. Además de estudiar asignaturas tradicionales como Matemáticas, Inglés o Geografía, los alumnos también estudiarán cómo actuar en las situaciones de emergencia. Los profesores están contentos de enseñar esta asignatura porque ayudará a evitar la preocupación y el estrés.

La asignatura explica cómo reaccionar ante emergencias como inundaciones, incendios y terremotos. En las escuelas primarias habrá dos horas de clase a la semana con vídeos y juegos.

Ayer, el presidente del gobierno, Pedro Sánchez, visitó un colegio nuevo en Málaga. Dijo que durante las emergencias hay que seguir los consejos de las autoridades.

2. DIÁLOGO: ENTREVISTA CON LA BAILARINA MARIANELA NUÑEZ

Hola Marianela, ¿cómo estás?

Bueno, a decir verdad, ¡no estoy muy bien hoy! Anoche, me hice daño en el tobillo izquierdo en el escenario.

¡Qué pena! Háblanos más de ti.

Nací en Argentina y soy una de las bailarinas principales en el Royal Ballet de Londres. Tengo tres hermanos mayores y estoy muy mimada. A mi madre le hacía ilusión llevarme a clases de baile en vez de a partidos de fútbol.

PAUSA

¿Desde cuándo vives en Londres?

Hace 28 años que vivo en Londres. Al principio fue muy difícil encontrar una casa para alquilar y acostumbrarme a la niebla. Ahora me gusta la vida inglesa.

¿Qué haces en tu tiempo libre?

Me encanta salir cuando puedo, pero lo que más me gusta es leer porque me olvido de mi vida y pienso en el personaje.

3. DIÁLOGO: HABLANDO CON LUIS GARCÍA, ORGANIZADOR DE LA FÓRMULA 1

Luis, ¡cuéntanos todo!

Vale. La Fórmula 1 se celebrará en IFEMA en Madrid a mediados de septiembre del año que viene. Se me ocurrió la idea de traerla a Madrid en 2017 cuando asistí a una de las carreras italianas.

¿Qué es IFEMA?

IFEMA es el mayor centro de eventos de España, situado al noreste de Madrid. Estoy muy orgulloso de poder traer la Fórmula 1 a la capital de nuevo.

PAUSA

El transporte público es fundamental, ¿no?

Por supuesto, será la Fórmula 1 mejor conectada del campeonato gracias a su proximidad con el aeropuerto y su acceso a una amplia red de transporte público. Se cree que el 90% de los aficionados llegarán en metro o en autobús y así, causarán menos atascos.

¿Cómo beneficiará a Madrid económicamente?

Bueno, económicamente, se estima que el evento generará 450 millones de euros con la creación de 8.200 empleos. Todos tenemos ganas de empezar ya.

4. DESCRIPTIVO: 25 AÑOS DEL PERIÓDICO '20 MINUTOS'

El periódico '20 minutos' celebra su primer cuarto de siglo. Es un diario que se lee muy rápido, de hecho, ¡en veinte minutos! La idea es muy sencilla porque es un periódico gratuito, en la calle, a la hora punta. En el año 2000, el mundo no era tan diferente. En su primer día los titulares del periódico hablaron sobre el uso del móvil en clase y el precio de las hipotecas.

PAUSA

El periódico ha sido todo un éxito siendo el diario más leído del país con casi tres millones de lectores al día. También tiene presencia en Internet. En 2012, aparecieron las ediciones digitales para Colombia, México y Estados Unidos.

Los artículos en forma de blog son muy populares. Los blogueros escriben sobre temas cotidianos como la ciencia, el deporte y la igualdad social.

5. DESCRIPTIVO: UN EVENTO CULTURAL

Cada otoño, se celebra un evento cultural de forma simultánea en las quince ciudades Patrimonio de la Humanidad de España. El objetivo principal es concienciar sobre la cultura que debemos apreciar. Durante el evento, en los cascos históricos, por una sola noche hay visitas a museos, iglesias, y bibliotecas. Según la Ministra de Cultura será una cita inolvidable.

PAUSA

Hay actividades gratuitas para todas las edades, por ejemplo, conciertos, poesía y teatro. En Úbeda la programación incluye un taller de artesanía y una observación del cielo. En Cáceres, hay una exposición de artistas locales. Mientras, en Ávila hay una ruta gastronómica con especialidades como la sopa de ajo, la carne asada y las verduras de temporada.

6. EL TIEMPO

Pronóstico para hoy, viernes, 19 de junio.

En Cantabria se esperan chubascos con la posibilidad de granizo.

En el País Vasco, estará nublado durante todo el día.

En la costa mediterránea se prevé tiempo estable con vientos flojos del oeste.

Las temperaturas para el fin de semana no experimentarán grandes cambios, con máximas de 27 grados y mínimas de 18 grados.

La pregunta clave es, ¿cómo será este verano? A finales de mes, se espera la primera ola de calor.

7. UNA NOTICIA: LOS EFECTOS DE ATRASAR LA HORA

Cada vez que llega la última semana de octubre las personas que viven en España repiten la misma operación. Atrasan la hora del reloj para aprovechar mejor la luz del día y ahorrar energía.

Entre las personas más afectadas están incluidos los niños, los ancianos y las personas con enfermedades, ya que este ajuste puede alterar nuestro 'reloj biológico' afectando el sueño, el apetito y el bienestar.

PAUSA

Para reducir el impacto, hay algunos consejos. Primero, se debe comer más fruta como plátanos, naranjas, uvas y manzanas. Los expertos recomiendan acostarse más temprano los días previos al cambio.

Según un estudio reciente, para los adolescentes en particular, es importante pasar tiempo al aire libre o por lo menos, acercarse a una ventana.

