



STEP UP TO 6TH FORM

KIMBERLEY SCHOOL TRANSITION INFORMATION

Spanish A Level AQA

COURSE DETAILS

Overview

A Level Spanish students will enjoy a wide range of opportunities both in employment and Higher Education. Success in this qualification makes prospective employers take note; they know they will have before them a disciplined, hardworking and skilled applicant with that very handy extra dimension of proficiency in a second language. A modern foreign language like Spanish can be studied on its own – in terms of language, linguistics, literature etc – or be combined with a range of other subjects, for example when reading for a joint honours degree in Spanish and Economics (to name but one). Spanish A level students develop strong problem-solving, communication and teamwork skills, much valued in a variety of workplaces and when applying for HE courses.



Aims & Themes

At Kimberley we continue to work with the AQA exam board for Spanish A level (the same board that we use for GCSE). A level study further develops those GCSE skills, and students have the time and space to become more confident, fluent and creative with the language. As your knowledge and skills expand, and your horizons broaden, you will explore social themes in the Spanish-speaking world, such as Youth Culture (including fashion and music), Art and Architecture, Multiculturalism (including immigration, integration, racism), and Politics (monarchies and dictatorships, youth politics). For a separate paper, we study in depth a Spanish film (El Laberinto del Fauno) and a Spanish play (La Casa de Bernarda Alba). For the main part of your speaking test, you have the opportunity to research a topic of your choice – this can be almost anything or anyone related to the Spanish-speaking World.

Focus

Classes tend to be small, with supportive teachers who will know you well and guide you to become an increasingly independent user of Spanish. Spanish A level can act as a stepping stone to other disciplines at university or open doors in the world of work. Spanish graduates can enter careers in interpreting, translating, teaching and lecturing, journalism, tourism, diplomacy and many more.

EXAMS



Paper 1 - Listening, Reading, Writing
2hrs30min
Paper 2 - Writing 2hrs
Paper 3 - Speaking 23min

LINK TO THE SPECIFICATION

See a detailed document of what we will cover in this course:
www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/as-and-a-level/spanish-7692



STEP UP TO 6TH FORM

KIMBERLEY SCHOOL TRANSITION INFORMATION

Spanish A Level AQA



Work you can do to prepare for A Level study

Active Use

- Retain what you have learned already, as it is a considerable amount and 100% useful for A level. Keep GCSE vocabulary and grammar alive. Know how to form the different tenses. Try to read a little bit of Spanish every day.
- Use GCSE revision guides to keep practising. Record yourself and listen back – challenge yourself to speak for 1 minute about yourself and your family (for example).
- Listen to the news in Spanish– just 2 minutes per day. It will be hard at first but you can expect to understand it near perfectly by the end of Year 13. www.elpais.es, www.elmundo.es, www.abc.es, bbc.com/mundo, www.20minutos.es www.rtve.es/ with access to news articles, videos, etc. to keep up to date with current affairs.
- Specific research tasks and resources on La Casa de Bernarda Alba and El Laberinto del Fauno will be set. General knowledge of Spain in the 20th century, including the Civil War and Franco's Dictatorship, is helpful. Several important names to research are: Frida Kahlo, Antoni Gaudí, Salvador Dalí, Pablo Picasso or Juan Carlos I.

FILM & TV



Ocho Apellidos Vascos (Spanish Affair)
Volver by Pedro Almodóvar
Las 13 Rosas
María, llena eres de gracia (Maria, full of grace)
Mar adentro (The sea Inside)
Abel

BOOKS



A brief History of Spain - Jeremy Black
El otro árbol de Guernica - Luis de Castresana
Como agua para chocolate - Laura Esquivel

USEFUL RESOURCE LINKS



www.kerboodle.com (Kimberley GCSE Spanish students currently have access to A level resources)
www.memrise.com (includes A level Spanish vocabulary and verbs)
www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z4dqxnb (useful revision of GCSE course)
www.duolingo.com
www.spanishrevision.co.uk/a_level/ (Based on Edexcel specs so not all the topics are relevant but there's some good practice here as well as news articles and vocabulary)
<http://paralleltext.io/> - gives you a range of literary texts to read the Spanish and click to reveal the English)
www.dualtexts.com/ and www.espanolavanzado.com/ (bilingual articles which show English and Spanish texts side-by-side)
<https://lyricstraining.com/es> - fill in the lyrics of the song – varying levels of difficulty and a good way to find out more about Spanish music!
<http://www.languagesonline.org.uk/> - lots of interactive grammar activities & some AS/A2 resources relevant to the new specification
<http://languagesresources.co.uk/home/spanish/> - range of activities, resources on topics & grammar points