



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission

Leaving Certificate 2025

Marking Scheme

Spanish

Higher 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.

LEAVING CERTIFICATE HIGHER LEVEL

MARKING SCHEME

SPANISH 2025

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.

Square brackets [] show a breakdown of marks within the question or give further clarifications for marks to be awarded for certain answers to that question.

Underlined words show an essential element.

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.*

Annotations used in the marking

Not all responses are annotated.

Annotation	Meaning
/	Identifying end of point
[	Beginning of discounted point
]	End of discounted point
-	Omitted point
✓	Material seen by examiner
⋈	Blank page
MMS	Modified Marking Scheme applied

Total Mark: 300

Grade	minimum mark
1	270
2	240
3	210
4	180
5	150
6	120
7	90
8	0

SECTION A (70 MARKS)

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

1. (a) Prescribed literature – *Relato de un naufrago* (50 marks)

Q. 1 3 × 3m = 9 marks

[No marks awarded if extra words are added. Exact transcription required]

(a) *otra vez* (3m)

(b) *vi* (3m)

(c) *breves minutos* (3m)

Q. 2 3 × 3m = 9 marks

(a) ... we used not buy in a different shop to his (3m)

(b) ... the/her face covered by a veil, like the Arabic dancers... (3m)

(c) ... suddenly I jumped (up) in the raft (3m)

Q. 3 4 + 3 + 3 = 10 marks

[First correct answer=4m]

Three of:

- He was Jewish
- Shop assistant in the shop in Mobile
- He had given him/Luis Alejandro the (business) cards
- He served the Colombian sailors
- He spoke Spanish correctly
- He said he had never been in a Spanish speaking country
- He was the happiest of everybody at the open-air café
- He sold fine and cheap clothes to the Colombian sailors

(4+3+3m)

Q. 4 4 + 3 + 3 = 10 marks

[First correct answer=4m]

Three of:

- Yellow
- Enormous
- Striped head
- Fixed and inexpressive eyes
- Eyes like two giant crystal balls
- Monstrous
- Scary, painted head, like from a nightmare
- Measured about four metres (from head to tail)
- He didn't know if it was reality or fantasy

(4+3+3m)

Q. 5 4 + 4 + 4 = 12 marks

Discussion on any **three** relevant points

[No marks awarded for answers supported by reference to the extract]

(12m)

1. (b) Journalistic Text: ¡ESPAÑA ES DIFERENTE! (50 marks)

Q. 1 4 + 4 + 4 + 4 + 4 = 20 marks

- (a) To promote Spain/the country as a new and exotic tourist destination (4m)
- (b) To greet people with two kisses/kiss on each cheek, even if they don't know each other/are strangers (4m)
- (c) They don't open until 1 or 2 (in the morning), in his country/Norway at that time they would already be closed (4m)
- (d) That it is not viewed badly to arrive late to a party with (lifelong) friends, a work meeting or (even) a (romantic) date (4m)
- (e) Because they are what make Spain a unique/welcoming country that continues to attract so many people from abroad (4m)
[It makes Spain unique/welcoming=2m]
[Spain is unique only=1m]

Q. 2 4 + 4 + 4 = 12 marks

[No marks awarded if words are added or omitted. Exact transcription required]

- (a) *todavía existe* (4m)
- (b) *sorprende* (4m)
- (c) *llaman la atención* (4m)

Q. 3 4 + 4 + 4 = 12 marks

- (a) In Germany that would never happen. (4m)
- (b) ... now he is thinking of staying in Spain for ever (4m)
- (c) ... besides, the high-speed trains are the most punctual... (4m)

Q.4 (6 marks)

[Any mark from 0 to 6 may be awarded for this question. **No marks for answers in English**]

2. (a) AND (b) = 20 marks

(a) SAN CRISTÓBOL DE LA LAGUNA, CIUDAD ACCESIBLE 2024

(10 marks)

- (i) Because its public spaces and transport services are inclusive and easy to navigate/get around **(2m)**
- (ii) They have traffic lights (especially) adapted for people with visual impairment **(4m)**
- (iii) (To recognise) its progress in the adaptation of buildings for people with reduced mobility **(4m)**

(b) EI PÁDEL EN IRLANDA, MUCHA AFICIÓN, POCAS PISTAS

(10 marks)

- (i) **One of:** - easy to learn
- you can play in a variety of places **(4m)**
- (ii) We don't have enough courts (to satisfy the demand)/ there are only 50 courts [2m] and we have 6000 players [1m] **(3m)**
- (iii) In Spain padel is (normally) played outdoors but in Ireland everything is more complicated because of the climate/weather **(3m)**

If only answering:

[there is a necessity to build more domes =1m]

SECTION B (100 MARKS)

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

LOS 'INFLUENCERS' DE INTELIGENCIA ARTIFICIAL (IA)

Q. 1 3 + 3 + 3 + 3 + 3 = 15 marks

[No marks awarded if words are added or omitted. Exact transcription required]

- (a) *comienzan a ejercer* (3m)
- (b) *es apasionada de* (3m)
- (c) *una personalidad extrovertida* (3m)
- (d) *da a conocer los problemas* (3m)
- (e) *teniendo en cuenta* (3m)

Q. 2 5 + 5 + 5 = 15 marks

[Correct tense required for full marks]

- (a) She is very pretty, elegant and very nice (5m)
- (b) Alba seems like something from a science fiction film (5m)
- (c) ... they charge about 8,000 euro per post/publication (5m)

Q. 3 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 = 5 marks

[No marks awarded if words are added. Exact transcription required]

- (a) *portavoz* (1m)
- (b) *respeta* (1m)
- (c) *trabajar* (1m)
- (d) *viajar (de un sitio a otro)* (1m)
- (e) *responde* (1m)

Q. 4 (2+2+2) + (2+2+2) + (3) = 15 marks

(a) Three of:

- she has thousands of followers on Instagram
- she's the face of a marketing campaign for Meliá/hotels
- she became the first AI influencer to present *Survivors/Supervivientes*/a programme on (Spanish) television
- she participated in the GenZ (2023) gala awards (2+2+2m)

(b) Three of:

- wardrobe/clothes
- accommodation
- make up
- hairdressing
- other costs associated that (human) influencers have (2+2+2m)

(c) He doesn't see it like that because they are the result of the effort of humans (professionals) like Engineers/digital marketing specialists (3m)

Section B: Question 5**TOTAL MARKS: 50**

Guidelines for Marking Q. 5 (Linked Question)

1. CONTENT/COMMUNICATION**25 marks****TOP**

High level of coherence
Clear argumentation
Communicative intention fulfilled
Little or no irrelevant material

18 – 25 marks**MIDDLE**

Reasonable level of coherence
Comprehensible to Spanish speaker
Communicative intention more or less fulfilled
Some irrelevant material

9 – 17 marks**BOTTOM**

Lack of coherence
Spanish speaker would have difficulty understanding
Communicative intention not fulfilled
A lot of irrelevant material

0 – 8 marks**2. LANGUAGE****25 marks****TOP**

Idiomatic Spanish
Good level of vocabulary
Few grammatical/spelling mistakes
Correct usage of tenses

18 – 25 marks**MIDDLE**

Vocabulary quite good - generally adequate and appropriate
Verbs generally correct
Not too many spelling/grammatical mistakes

9 – 17 marks**BOTTOM**

Problems with vocabulary – limited range of vocabulary
Most verbs incorrect
Many spelling mistakes

0 – 8 marks**Note:**

Where no marks are awarded for Content 1, (i.e. effort totally irrelevant), no marks will be awarded for Language 2.

No marks will be awarded for phrases taken directly from the text.

Guidelines for Section C

- Should a candidate answer parts (a) **and** (b) of Question 1 **or** Question 2, **both** must be marked and marks will be awarded **only** for the higher scoring of the two.
- Minor inaccuracies (i.e. which do not distort 'message') should be ignored.
- Verbs must be correct for full marks.

Question 1: When marking this question – either (a) or (b) – the priorities indicated for Content and Language in Section B, Q.5. should be broadly adhered to.

Allow a maximum of **6** marks each. **(5 x 6m = 30 marks)**

OR

- There are **five** points to be made. (5 x 6m = 30 marks)
- Allow a maximum of **6** marks each
- Note that each point should be *developed* and *expanded*.
- Letter/ email can be **loosely** based on the suggestions given.

TOTAL MARKS: 30 MARKS (Mark each 'turn' individually)

0 marks: No communication of message.

Question 2 (a)**DIARY ENTRY****20 marks**

There are **four** points to be communicated. Allow maximum of **5** marks each. **(4 x 5m = 20 marks)**
Development of points not necessarily essential.

OR

Question 2 (b)**NOTE****20 marks**

There are **four** points to be communicated. Allow maximum of **5** marks each. **(4 x 5m = 20 marks)**
Development of points not necessarily essential.

Criteria for Question 2 (a) DIARY and (b) NOTE

TOTAL MARKS: 20 MARKS (Mark each point individually)

5 marks	Communicative intention fulfilled. Verbs correct.
4 marks	Communicative intention more or less fulfilled. Verbs generally correct.
3 marks	Communicative intention more or less fulfilled. There may be a few grammatical errors & spelling mistakes.
2 marks	Some communicative intention fulfilled. Quite a few grammatical errors & spelling mistakes.
1 mark	Very small amount of message conveyed.
0 marks	Message not communicated.

LISTENING COMPREHENSION (80 MARKS)

All answers must be in English.

If the entire test/section is answered in Spanish: mark as per Marking Scheme and award half of the marks gained.

1. UN DISCO TOUR SILENCIOSO

3 + (2+1) + 3 marks = 9 marks

- (a) The latest fashion in tourism and entertainment (3m)
- (b) Two of: - dance
- laugh
- fun games (2+1m)

[First correct answer =2m]

- (c) Family parties, (celebrate a) birthday, company/business events (3m)

2. ENTREVISTA CON EL CINEASTA PEDRO ALMODOVAR

3+ 3 + 3 + 3 marks = 12 marks

- (a) He doesn't remember the colour (red) in the clothes of his childhood (3m)
[red is/it is his favourite colour =1m if only correct information given]
- (b) Melancholic, (more) insecure, (more) afraid (3m)
- (c) People 40 years younger than him are choosing his films (3m)
[people watch/choose his movies =1m]
[younger people/generations are choosing/watching his movies=2m]
- (d) Less spectators[2m] and (loads of) cinemas have closed [1m] (3m)

3. HABLANDO CON LA PATINADORA ARTÍSTICA PAULA ROMAGUERA

3+ 3 + 4 + (2+1) marks = 13 marks

- (a) (She) looked at the Spanish flag [2m] and cried (a lot) [1m] (3m)
- (b) (It requires) a lot of effort, (in the end) it's worth it (3m)
- (c) Often (have to) cancel training (due to) lack of (adequate) facilities (4m)
- (d) Two of: - great
- we (all) get on (really) well
- work as a team (2+1m)

[First correct answer =2m]

4. EL MES DE NACIMIENTO

3 + 3 + (2+2) + 3 marks = 13 marks

- (a) **One** of: - health
- personality
- height (3m)
- (b) (Tend to get) angry easily (3m)
- (c) **Two** of: -sensitive
- loyal
- loves criticising (2+2m)
- (d) **One** of: - think long term
- (like) jokes
- (usually) lazy (3m)

5. CONCIERTOS EN EL SANTIAGO BERNABEU

4 + 2 + (2+1) + 4 marks = 13 marks

- (a) Complaints about noise, dirt and traffic (4m)
- (b) **One** of: - waste of money
- did nothing to combat (problem of) noise pollution (2m)
- (c) Environmental crime; affects (quality of) life/everybody (2+1m)
- (d) Limit the (duration of the) concert to 2 hours (4m)

6. EL TIEMPO

2 + 3 + 3 marks = 8 marks

- (a) (Lot of) fog, (a little) wind (2m)
- (b) (Yellow) alert, (heavy) rain and storm (3m)
- (c) (Will) increase/reach, max 26 min 14 (3m)

7. UN CLAN MAORÍ DE ESPAÑOLES

4 + 3 + 2 + 3 marks = 12 marks

- (a)** **One** of: - celebrate the 12th of October
 - in sports (they) support Spain **(4m)**
- (b)** Fascinated by the beauty of the women **(3m)**
- (c)** (started) a business selling local products **(2m)**
- (d)** Five wives, nine children, 41 grandchildren **(3m)**

9+12+13+13+13+8+12 = 80 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/Irish there is no special consideration given, as incorrect spelling and grammar are not penalised in the standard marking scheme.

Sections A and B

For questions that are answered in Spanish, incorrect spelling and certain elements of grammar such as verb endings and agreement of adjectives will not be penalised.

Section B Question 5

Content and communication will be marked as standard, but incorrect spelling, such as missing or incorrect accents, and elements of grammar, such as verb endings and agreement of adjectives will not be penalised.

Section C

Content and communication will be marked as standard, but incorrect spelling, such as missing or incorrect accents, and elements of grammar, such as verb endings and agreement of adjectives will not be penalised.

LEAVING CERTIFICATE SPANISH 2025 AURAL TRANSCRIPT

1. ANUNCIO: UN DISCO TOUR SILENCIOSO

¿Alguna vez has visto a un grupo de personas bailando por las calles, pero sin música? Disfrutan de un disco tour silencioso que se ha hecho muy popular en países como Irlanda, Australia o Estados Unidos. Esta nueva experiencia es la última moda de ocio y turismo.

Se trata de un recorrido por el centro de las ciudades, en grupo, donde todos escuchan la misma música. Pero es una aventura silenciosa, porque todos llevan auriculares. Según los participantes, es algo especial porque se puede bailar y reír con juegos divertidos.

Es una actividad que se puede disfrutar con amigos, en pareja o en familia. Esta es una opción perfecta para ocasiones como las fiestas familiares, los cumpleaños y los eventos de empresa. Se recomienda llevar agua, ropa cómoda y gafas de sol.

2. DIÁLOGO: ENTREVISTA CON EL CINEASTA PEDRO ALMODÓVAR

Pedro, el color rojo aparece en todas tus películas, ¿por qué?

Es un elemento esencial en mis películas porque no recuerdo el color rojo en la ropa de mi infancia. Ahora me dicen que repito mucho el verde también. Mis colores favoritos son el verde y el rojo.

¿Ser mayor te ha cambiado como persona?

Sí, ahora que soy mayor, soy alguien melancólico, más inseguro y tengo más miedo. Yo no tengo hijos. Tengo gatos y películas.

PAUSA

¿Tienes planes para jubilarte?

No creo, mi vida no tiene sentido sin el cine. Soy un afortunado porque la gente que tiene cuarenta años menos que yo elige mis películas.

¿Te preocupa el futuro del cine?

Hombre, un poco sí, porque los espectadores son cada vez menos y se han cerrado un montón de cines. Ya veremos.

3. DIÁLOGO: HABLANDO CON PAULA ROMAGUERA, PATINADORA ARTÍSTICA

Paula, háganos de ti.

Tengo diecinueve años y soy madrileña. Acabo de conseguir el título de Campeona del Mundo de Patinaje Artístico en Línea. Durante la ceremonia de las medallas, miré la bandera de España y lloré mucho.

¡Enhorabuena! ¿Entrenas mucho?

Entreno de lunes a viernes, tres horas al día. Los fines de semana, más. Mi padre dice que este deporte requiere mucho esfuerzo, pero al final vale la pena.

PAUSA

¿Es un deporte popular en España?

Todavía no. Al ser un deporte minoritario hay desventajas. Por ejemplo, a menudo cancelamos los entrenamientos por falta de instalaciones adecuadas.

¡Ay, qué pena! ¿Cómo es tu club?

El club es genial, todos nos llevamos súper bien y trabajamos en equipo. Es una disciplina muy deportiva y muy artística. Por eso, fuera del club, hago también clases de teatro, de música y de inglés.

4. DESCRIPTIVO: EL MES DE NACIMIENTO

Según un estudio realizado por la Universidad de Alicante, tu mes de nacimiento puede influir en tu salud, tu personalidad y tu altura.

No da igual venir a este mundo en una estación u otra. Los nacidos en otoño tienden a enfadarse fácilmente, mientras que la característica principal de los nacidos en primavera es el optimismo.

PAUSA

Cada mes tiene sus virtudes y sus defectos. Descubrieron que, si tu cumpleaños cae en febrero, eres sensible y leal, aunque te encanta criticar. Si has nacido en abril, eres simpático y te gusta ayudar a la gente, pero puedes ser estricto.

Los nacidos en junio piensan a largo plazo y les gustan las bromas, pero suelen ser perezosos.

5. DESCRIPTIVO: CONCIERTOS EN EL ESTADIO SANTIAGO BERNABÉU

El Estadio Santiago Bernabéu del Real Madrid quiere convertirse en un epicentro musical. En 2024, hubo dieciocho conciertos durante el verano. Pero han anunciado la suspensión de los conciertos programados para este año debido a las quejas por el ruido, la suciedad y el tráfico.

Los residentes opinan que las últimas obras en el estadio han sido una pérdida de dinero porque no hicieron nada para combatir la contaminación acústica.

PAUSA

El portavoz del ayuntamiento define la situación como un delito medioambiental que afecta la calidad de vida de todos.

Como solución, el Ayuntamiento propone limitar la duración de los conciertos a dos horas como máximo.

6. EL TIEMPO

Pronóstico para hoy, jueves, trece de octubre.

En Galicia, la jornada empezará con mucha niebla y un poco de viento.

Se prevé un día bastante complicado en el sur porque en Andalucía y en Murcia hay una alerta amarilla por fuertes lluvias y tormentas.

En las Islas Baleares, pocos cambios con cielos despejados.

En las Islas Canarias las temperaturas máximas aumentarán hasta los 26 grados, con mínimas de 14 grados.

7. UNA NOTICIA: UN CLAN MAORÍ DE ESPAÑOLES

En un pueblo de la Isla norte de Nueva Zelanda hay un clan maorí conocido como los 'Paniora', cuyo nombre significa 'los españoles' y suma casi 20.000 personas. Se sienten españoles porque festejan el doce de octubre y en los deportes apoyan a España.

El clan fue creado por un segoviano, Manuel José de Frutos, un español que llegó a Nueva Zelanda en 1843. Según la historia, Manuel se quedó allí fascinado por la belleza de las mujeres. Dicen que Manuel era alto, pelirrojo, guapísimo y con los ojos verdes.

PAUSA

Pero Manuel nunca perdió el contacto con los europeos, ya que empezó un negocio vendiéndoles productos locales. Dada la distancia, nunca más volvió a ver Segovia, su tierra natal.

Cuando Manuel murió, su familia ya incluía cinco esposas, 9 hijos y 41 nietos.

