

Specification Content

The following should be used as guidance on the content of Asset Languages Spanish Advanced External Assessment and Teacher Assessment materials.

Language Purposes and Functions

At the Advanced stage, the realisation of these functions

- build on the specifications at the Intermediate stage by adding length and complexity to the language used;
- occur in a wider range of areas and contexts.

- maintaining and managing communication (e.g. asking for repetition, monitoring comprehension)
- using conversational techniques (e.g. turn taking, hesitating, handling interruptions)
- giving information (detailed and general)
- describing
- managing ideas (e.g. ordering, presenting, connecting and summarising)
- asking for and giving opinions
- justifying opinions
- responding to opinions
- agreeing / disagreeing
- evaluating options
- adapting performance to context
- asking for and giving reasons
- comparing, contrasting
- highlighting information
- persuading
- making and responding to suggestions
- expressing obligation and lack of obligation
- expressing and responding to attitudes and emotions
- talking about the present
- talking about the future
- predicting / offering
- expressing intention
- talking about the past
- handling narrative
- expressing degrees of certainty and doubt
- talking about ability
- talking about (im)probability, (im)possibility and hypothesis
- talk about conditions and consequences
- giving advice

Grammar and Linguistic Structures

All grammar and linguistic structures listed at Intermediate, plus:

- Adjectives
 - apocopation
 - exclamatory (*¡qué..!*)
- Verbs
 - impersonal verbs
 - verbs followed by an infinitive (with or without preposition)
 - perfect infinitive
 - reflexive constructions (*se vende, se nos dice que* etc.)
- Tenses
 - future perfect
 - conditional perfect
 - passive voice: all tenses
 - continuous tenses
 - past anterior (*hube hablado*) (R)
- Time and aspect
 - constructions with *hace*
- Subjunctive mood
 - present (all uses)
 - perfect
 - imperfect
 - pluperfect

Vocabulary Areas

The vocabulary used in Advanced stage includes a wide range of common items of everyday communication and some high frequency idiom, plus a gradually increasing element of vocabulary more specific to the topic of each task. Additionally, in the receptive skills tasks, there will be some sections which may require the application of inferential strategies, such as guessing unknown vocabulary. Occasionally, some items may be glossed in the reading tasks to aid candidates.