

# Spanish: Content Knowledge (0191)

## Test at a Glance

Test Name	Spanish: Content Knowledge			
Test Code	0191			
Time	2 hours (total test): four sections			
Pacing	Suggested time: Section II—35 minutes; Section III—35 minutes; Section IV—20 minutes			
Number of Questions	140			
Format	Multiple-choice questions based on tape-recorded and printed materials in Spanish; some questions (on language analysis and cultural knowledge) in English			
	Content Categories (Knowledge and Skills Tested)	Approximate Number of Questions	Approximate Percentage of Examination	Time (in Minutes)
	I. Listening Comprehension (in Spanish)	40	29%	30 (approximate)
	II. Structure of the Language (in Spanish and in English)	40	29%	35 (suggested)
	III. Reading Comprehension (in Spanish)	35	25%	35 (suggested)
	IV. Culture (in Spanish and in English)	25	17%	20 (suggested)

## Advice to Test-Takers

Before taking the test, you should have acquired the knowledge and skills described under “Knowledge and Skills Tested”.

Below is additional advice specific to taking the **Spanish: Content Knowledge (0191)** test.

### Taped Portion: Section I and Section II, Part A

- The questions in Section I (Listening Comprehension) and Section II, Part A (Speech Analysis) are recorded on tape. The tape will be played **only** once. Some of the taped material is **not** printed in the test book; pay special attention to whether the test material is presented on tape, printed in the test book, or both.

## Spanish: Content Knowledge (0191)

- The speech samples in Section I (Listening Comprehension) are recorded by native speakers of Spanish at a normal rate of conversation. Therefore, before taking the test, you should practice by listening to recordings of native speakers.
- The questions in Section II, Part A (Speech Analysis) are based on speech samples recorded by students of Spanish who are not native speakers; you will be asked to identify errors in the students' speech. Therefore, before taking the test, you should be familiar with the speech of non-native speakers who are learning Spanish.
- At the beginning of the taped portion, the test supervisor will play an introductory statement to check the volume. Be sure to notify the supervisor if the volume needs to be adjusted or if there is any other problem with the tape.
- Take notes, where appropriate, to help you focus your listening and remember key details.
- Between questions, there will be a 12-second pause for you to choose and mark your answer. Be prepared to answer within the time provided.
- The questions in Section II, Part B (Writing Analysis), are based on writing samples produced by students of Spanish who are not native speakers; you will be asked to identify errors in the students' writing. Therefore, before taking the test, you should be familiar with the writing of non-native speakers who are learning Spanish.
- Pace your activities. Although there is a suggested time for each section, you will be able to work at your own pace. If you finish the test before time is called, use any extra time to check your answers to any questions in Section II, Part B, through Section V.

### Test Description

The **Spanish: Content Knowledge** test is designed to assess the knowledge and skills necessary for a beginning teacher of Spanish in grades K-12. The 140 multiple-choice questions measure the test-takers' competence in various language skills and their knowledge of the cultures of Spanish-speaking countries and regions.

In the first and third sections, all questions and answer choices are in Spanish. The first three parts of the Structure of the Language section are in English. Approximately half of the questions in the Culture section are in Spanish and half are in English.

All the questions in the Listening Comprehension section, as well as the first part of the Structure of the Language section, are based on tape-recorded material.

#### Section II, Part B, to Section V

- Be familiar with the following: the structure of the Spanish language; terminology used to describe grammar, syntax, and phonology; a variety of sources for authentic reading material, such as periodicals, literature, and advertisements; the cultures of Spanish-speaking countries and regions.

## Knowledge and Skills Tested

Representative descriptions of knowledge and skill tested in each category are provided below.

### I. Listening Comprehension

- Test-takers listen to: taped recordings of native Spanish speakers that consist of short conversations, each followed by one or two questions; brief narrations, each followed by one or more questions; and longer narrations or dialogues, each followed by several questions.
- From the four choices in the test book, the test-taker selects the best response.
- Questions are designed to test phonemic discrimination, understanding of idiomatic expressions, familiarity with vocabulary and structures typical of conversational Spanish, and comprehension of important facts or ideas contained in the spoken material.
- All spoken and written questions in this section are in Spanish.

### II. Structure of the Language

- Test-takers analyze errors in spoken and written Spanish.
- Speech Analysis: Test-takers analyze errors in taped material spoken by non-native speakers of Spanish; the errors include grammatical errors, pronunciation errors, and inappropriate word choice. Speech analysis questions are in English.
- Writing Analysis: Test-takers analyze errors in writing samples from non-native speakers of Spanish. The errors include errors in grammar, mechanics, and word choice. Writing Analysis questions are in English.
- Language Analysis: Test-takers demonstrate knowledge of the structure of the Spanish language. The questions focus on morphology, phonology, syntax, and word choice. Language Analysis questions are in English.
- Grammar: Test-takers select the most appropriate completions for Spanish sentences and paragraphs in which words or phrases have been omitted.

### III. Reading Comprehension

- Reading selections are on a variety of topics at various levels of difficulty, from sources such as periodicals, printed announcements, and literary excerpts.
- Questions focus on content and organization, implied content, and use of language.
- Test-takers answer questions in Spanish based on what has been stated or implied in the selections.

### IV. Culture

- Test-takers demonstrate knowledge of the cultures of Spanish-speaking countries and regions.
- Questions focus on geography, history, lifestyles and societies, literature and fine arts, and sociolinguistic elements of Spanish.
- Approximately half the culture questions are in English and half are in Spanish.

Sample Test Questions **Spanish: Content Knowledge (0191)**

The sample questions that follow illustrate the kinds of questions in the test. They are not representative of the entire scope of the test in either content or difficulty. Answers with explanations follow the questions.

**I. Listening Comprehension**

Approximate time – 30 minutes

Section I is designed to measure how well you understand spoken Spanish.

Part A – Short Conversations

**Directions:** In Part A, you will hear short tape-recorded conversations between two people. After each conversation, you will hear one or two questions. The conversations and questions are not printed in the test book.

During the pause after each question, read the four answer choices printed in your test book and choose the one most appropriate answer. Indicate your choice on your answer sheet.

You may take notes, but only in your test book.

1. (You will hear)

(Narrator) *La pregunta número uno se refiere al diálogo siguiente.*

(Man) *A ver si me puede ayudar, señorita. Quiero hacer una llamada de larga distancia a Bogotá.*

(Woman) *Cómo no. Primero tiene que marcar el número internacional, cero-uno-uno y luego el código cincuenta y dos de Colombia. No hace falta marcar el de la ciudad. Luego marque el número de la persona.*

(Narrator) *¿Con quién está hablando el hombre?*

(In your test book you will read)

- (A) Con la oficina de turismo.
- (B) Con la operadora de teléfono.
- (C) Con un agente de viajes.
- (D) Con el ayuntamiento de Bogotá.

Part B – Short Narrations

**Directions:** In Part B, you will hear short narrations. The narrations are not printed in your test book. After each narration, you will hear one or more questions, which are printed in your test book.

During the pause after each question, read the four answer choices printed in your test book and choose the one most appropriate answer. Indicate your choice on your answer sheet.

You may take notes, but only in your test book.

(You will hear)

(Narrator) *Las preguntas 2 y 3 se refieren a un anuncio en la radio.*

(Woman) *Un anuncio en la radio*

(Man) *¡Señoras y señores! ¡Aprovechen esta oferta inicial! Durante el mes de marzo únicamente estaremos ofreciendo precios especiales en nuestras facilidades recién construidas, con sabor antiguo. Recámaras a todo lujo, servicio completo veinticuatro horas al día, con piscina cubierta, facilidades atléticas y dos restaurantes fabulosos. ¡Hagan sus reservaciones antes del quince de febrero y reciban un bono especial!*

(Narrator) *¿De qué se habla en el anuncio?*

(In your test book you will read)

2. *¿De qué se habla en el anuncio?*

- (A) De un viaje.
- (B) De un concurso.
- (C) De una tienda.
- (D) De un hotel.

## Sample Test Questions

(Then you will hear)

(Narrator) *¿Que le ofrecen al público?*

(In your test book you will read)

3. ¿Qué le ofrecen al público?

- (A) Un descuento durante el mes de marzo.
- (B) Habitaciones muy anticuadas a precios razonables.
- (C) Un precio especial por hacerse miembro del gimnasio.
- (D) Rebajas en los restaurantes antes del 15 de febrero.

Part C – Long Conversations and Long Narrations

**Directions:** In Part C, you will hear conversations or narrations that are longer than those in Parts A and B. The conversations or narrations are not printed in your test book. After each conversation or narration, you will hear several questions, which are printed in your test book.

During the pause after each question, read the four answer choices printed in your test book and choose the one most appropriate answer. Indicate your choice on your answer sheet.

There is no sample question for this part.

You may take notes, but only in your test book.

## II. Structure of the Language

Section II is designed to measure your knowledge of the structure of the Spanish language.

Approximate time – 35 minutes:

Part A (taped portion) – 5 minutes

Parts B, C, and D (Suggested time – 30 minutes)

Part A – Speech Analysis

**Directions:** In Part A, you will hear selections **spoken by students who are learning Spanish** and who make errors in their speech. The selections are not printed in your test book. After hearing a selection, you will hear one or more excerpts from the selection. Each excerpt contains only one error. You will be asked to identify, correct, or describe the type of error in the excerpt. When answering each question, consider the error in the context of the entire selection. The questions are printed in your test book.

During the pause after each question, read the four answer choices printed in your test book and choose the one most appropriate answer. Indicate your choice on your answer sheet.

You may take notes, but only in your test book.

4. (You will hear)

(Narrator) *The question refers to the following greetings.*

(Student) *¡Hola, Andrea! Hace mucho tiempo que no te vea. ¿Cómo estás?*

(Narrator) *Identify the error in the excerpt.*

(Then you will hear again)

*Hace mucho tiempo que no te vea.*

(In your test book you will read)

Identify the error in the excerpt.

- (A) *Hace*
- (B) *tiempo*
- (C) *te*
- (D) *vea*

Part B – Writing Analysis

**Directions:** In Part B, you will read paragraphs **written by students who are learning Spanish**. Each paragraph contains errors. You will be asked to identify, correct, or describe the type of error in some of the sentences from each paragraph; each of these sentences contains only one error. When answering each question, consider the error in the context of the entire paragraph.

For each question, choose the one most appropriate answer from the four answer choices printed in your test book. Indicate your choice on your answer sheet.

You may take notes, but only in your test book.

Questions 5-7 refer to the following note left for a friend.

*¡Apúrate, Juan! (5) Deje el trabajo para más tarde.  
¡Acuérdate! (6) La última vez que fuimos, no cabimos  
en el auditorio. (7) Todos los asientos estaban ocupadas.*

5. Identify the error in sentence 5.

- (A) *Deje*
- (B) *el trabajo*
- (C) *para*
- (D) *más tarde*

Go on to the next page.

Sample Test Questions **Spanish: Content Knowledge (0191)**

6. In sentence 6, the word *cabimos* is used incorrectly. Which of the following is correct in the context of the passage?

- (A) *quepamos*
- (B) *cupimos*
- (C) *cabemos*
- (D) *cabríamos*

7. Identify the error in sentence 7.

- (A) Incorrect word order
- (B) Incorrect verb tense
- (C) Lack of agreement between subject and adjective
- (D) Lack of agreement between subject and verb

Part C – Language Analysis

Directions: In Part C, you will read questions about the structure of the Spanish language. For each question, choose the one most appropriate answer from the four answer choices printed in your test book. Indicate your choice on your answer sheet.

You may take notes, but only in your test book.

8. Which of the following is a noun suffix that indicates a place where business or work is performed?

- (A) *-ero*
- (B) *-ista*
- (C) *-ismo*
- (D) *-ería*

Part D – Grammar

Directions: In Part D, you will read sentences or paragraphs from which words or phrases have been omitted. Each sentence is followed by four possibilities for completing the sentence. For each blank, choose the one answer that results in the best sentence or paragraph in written Spanish. When choosing your answer, consider it in the context of the entire sentence or paragraph. Indicate your choice on your answer sheet.

You may take notes, but only in your test book.

¡Qué suerte tuvimos! Compramos el carro nuevo por menos \_\_\_\_\_ pensábamos.

9. (A) de que  
(B) de lo que  
(C) de  
(D) del que

III. Reading Comprehension

(Suggested time – 35 minutes)

Section III is designed to measure how well you can understand written Spanish.

Directions: In Section III, you will read several selections in Spanish. Each selection is followed by questions. For each question, choose the one most appropriate answer from the four answer choices printed in your test book. Indicate your choice on your answer sheet.

When answering the questions, consider them in the context of the entire passage. Base each answer only on what is stated or implied in the passage.

You may take notes, but only in your test book.

Las preguntas 10 y 11 se refieren al pasaje siguiente.

La historia de la astronomía está íntimamente vinculada con la de la fotografía. Después de milenios de estudiar el cielo a simple vista y siglos de hacerlo con el telescopio, los astrónomos *Línea*  
(5) comenzaron a valerse de la placa fotográfica durante el siglo pasado.

Las primeras aplicaciones de la fotografía en la astronomía se remontan al año 1839. A partir de entonces, muchos de los grandes descubrimientos astronómicos se realizaron con la ayuda de la placa fotográfica. (10)

La astronomía mexicana comenzó a utilizar muy pronto la fotografía. En 1874, después de una expedición casi heroica, una comisión mexicana, encabezada por don Francisco Díaz Covarrubias, llegó al Japón para fotografiar el tránsito de Venus por el disco solar. Dicha misión cumplió exitosamente su cometido y publicó sus resultados en 1875, antes que los otros grupos de diversos países que también habían ido a fotografiar el evento. (15)

10. ¿Cuál es la idea central de este pasaje?

- (A) El desarrollo de la astronomía ha sido fomentado por el uso de equipo fotográfico.
- (B) Los telescopios poderosos de hoy en día han reemplazado las placas fotográficas de antaño.
- (C) Los japoneses fueron los primeros en utilizar placas fotográficas para estudiar el cielo.
- (D) Al final del siglo pasado, los astrónomos mexicanos le dieron más importancia al telescopio que a la fotografía.

11. Según el pasaje, se puede deducir que el tránsito de Venus por el disco solar fue fotografiado por
- (A) sólo México
  - (B) muchos países
  - (C) sólo el Japón
  - (D) únicamente el Japón y México

#### IV. Culture

(Suggested time – 20 minutes)

Section IV is designed to measure your knowledge of the cultures of Spanish-speaking countries and regions.

Directions: For each question in Section IV, choose the one most appropriate answer from the four answer choices printed in your test book. Indicate your choice on your answer sheet.

There are two parts to this section: Part A, in which the questions are in English, and Part B, in which the questions are in Spanish.

You may take notes, but only in your test book.

##### Part A

12. Victoria de Los Ángeles and Plácido Domingo are well-known Spanish
- (A) dancers
  - (B) painters
  - (C) poets
  - (D) singers

##### Part B

13. ¿Cuál de las siguientes expresiones NO sería apropiada para llamar la atención de un mesero en un restaurante español?
- (A) ¡Perdón!
  - (B) ¡Oiga!
  - (C) ¡Oye!
  - (D) ¡Usted!

## Answers

1. The correct answer is B, because it is evident from the context that the man is talking to a telephone operator.
2. The correct answer is D, because the announcement refers to hotel facilities.
3. The correct answer is A, because the announcement states a special rate during the month of March.
4. The correct answer is D, because the speaker should have used the indicative mood (e.g., *veo*) and not the subjunctive (*vea*).
5. The correct answer is A, because given the context of the text and in particular the initial use of the informal command, the consistent use of the informal is required, i.e., *Deja*.
6. The correct answer is B, because the correct formation of the preterit tense is *cupimos*.
7. The correct answer is C, because the predicate adjective *ocupados* must agree in number and gender with the noun it modifies, i.e., *asientos*.
8. The correct answer is choice D; *zapatería* is a shoe store, *panadería* is a bakery, etc.
9. The correct answer is B, because comparison of a whole idea followed by an inflected verb is expressed by *de lo que*.
10. The correct answer is A. In lines 1 and 2, and throughout the passage, reference is made to the important role photography has had in the development of astronomy.
11. The correct answer is B. In lines 17-20, reference is made to the fact that the Mexicans were able to complete their work and publish their findings before other groups that were representing various countries.
12. The correct answer is D. Victoria de Los Ángeles and Plácido Domingo, both born in Spain, are internationally renowned singers.
13. The correct answer is D. The personal pronoun *usted* cannot be used in this context.