



Spanish Level 1

Course description:

Spanish-1 Students develop cultural awareness and communication skills involving reading, writing, listening, and speaking. The emphasis is on comprehension and production of frequently used language. Students will meet the expectations of the communicative functions within the context of familiar vocabulary and structures.

Phonological and grammatical errors are to be expected and are addressed in a way that promotes communication and student confidence. Students practice extensively in oral and written communication using the learned vocabulary and grammar. Classroom activities are related to the real world and include developing an awareness of acceptable behavior in the foreign culture.

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Textbooks:

-Book: ¡En Español Level 1! California edition (McDougal Littell) c. 2004, Gahala, Estella, Hamilton Carlin, Patricia, Heining-Boynton, Audrey L., Otheguy, Ricardo, Rupert, Barbara J.

-Workbook: Más práctica Level 1 ¡En Español! (McDougal Littell) a Houghton Mifflin Company.

Required Materials:

Every student is responsible to have his or her basic class materials in class every day. Basic course materials that must be brought on a daily basis are:

- I. Spanish binder.
- II. Writing instruments.
- III. Spanish book.
- IV. Spanish workbook.
- V. Other material needed for a specific project or in class activity.

Grading Policy:

Grades will be determined by the following criteria: Percentages:

I. Final exam for 1 st and 2 nd semester:	10%
II. Oral and written assessments:	30%
III. Daily assignments (In-class weekly work):	30%
IV. Independence practice (Homework):	10%
V. Class participation, projects and materials:	20%
	= 100%

I. Final exam for 1st & 2nd semesters (Exámenes finales de los semestres) 10%:

There is one final examination at the end of each semester that will incorporate all the knowledge that you have absorbed throughout the entire semester. These final examinations are mandatory to take. Therefore, I advise you to fully learn all the grammar and vocabulary that will be used in class every day.

II. Oral and written assessments (Exámenes, controles y pruebas orales o escritas) 30%:

Oral and written exams or tests will be given at the end of every study unit, for example: The present tense unit = Unit test (Prueba de la unidad). Oral and written quizzes (pruebas) are assigned once or twice per week at the end of each specific lesson (La lección). Several different formats will be used, for instance, essays, multiple choice, short answers and fill-in the blanks for all written assessments. Also, missing assessments due to an absence must be made up within five days of the absence. After five days, make-ups will not be allowed or accepted, and it will count as zero. Missing assessments will not be taken if the absence is not excused. There will be NO EXCEPTIONS! Please do well in every assessment because there are not retakes for unsatisfactory scores.

III. Daily assignments (Actividades semanales) 30%:

Daily assignments will be assigned and completed only during class time. Every student is responsible to turn in all the specified activities for the week in a well-organized package on the assigned due date. Total amount of points for every package of assignments will vary depending on the amount of work given by the teacher weekly. Any missing activity, due to an excused absent, can be completed during lunch time or after school and turned in the following week without any late penalty. All late assignments (packages) will be penalized with minus points. Every specific assignment will be done and corrected (graded) during class session. Therefore, I suggest you to be extremely careful with your written answers. Please, do not copy your weekly work from a classmate. Do it yourself, so you can learn the Spanish material presented every day.

Before you deliver your daily assignments, your work must:

- I. be written in a neat way. (Messy work will not be accepted)
- II. be organized in a package.
- III. have all the work completed and graded by a classmate or teacher.

IV. Independent practice (Homework “La tarea”) 10%:

Homework will be assigned on a daily basis, twice a week or at the teacher’s discretion and will be due the following class meeting or on its assigned due date. All assignments will be recorded every day in a “Homework Log” (All logs will be signed every two weeks by a parent or legal guardian and they will be turned in for 100 points). Late work will be penalized (“x” amount of points will be deducted after the due date) and it can be turned in no later than one class after the assigned date. After one day, the assignment(s) will not be accepted or counted towards your grade. Also work copied from any written sources and presented as student’s own work will not receive credit or any chance of make-up the assignment. Homework is extremely important to your own personal success in the class. “Just do it and do it well” (“Hazla y Hazla bien”).

V. Class participation, projects and materials (Participación, proyectos y materiales de clase) 20%:

Daily and weekly participation will be calculated on the following criteria:

- I. Student’s punctuality (A tardy will be penalized with point not an absent).
- II. Student’s discipline (Outstanding student’s citizenship will receive points).
- III. Oral and written participation in class activities (Subjective assessment of student’s overall performance and improvement throughout the class session).

Students are required to attend all class sessions. All absences must be cleared in the attendance office. Truancies and unclear absences will count against you. If you are absent, participation points can be made up by submitting either a readmit or an excuse note that contains a brief explanation and parent’s signature. Also in class **projects** (Proyectos) will be counted as class participation. There will be mini or major projects to be completed per quarter or semester. Projects’ format will vary depending on the chapter we will be studying. The idea of the projects is to give you the freedom to utilize your acquired knowledge in a more personal and creative way.

Course materials:

Every student is responsible to have his or her basic class materials in class every day. Basic course materials that must be brought in a daily basis are:

- I. Spanish binder: (Una carpeta de español)
- II. Writing instruments: (Pencil, pen and paper (lápiz, pluma y papel))
- III. Spanish textbook: (El libro de ¡En español! 3 California Edition, McDougal Littell-04)
- IV. Spanish workbook: (El cuaderno de “Actividades para todos” 1 McDougal Littell-04)
- V. Other material needed for a specific project or in class activity.

If you are not prepared with the proper material, you will be penalized; some points will be deducted per item missing during class session. Students are not allowed to store (to leave) their classroom material or personal items in the Spanish class. Any lost items or damaged material is not your teacher’s responsibility. Please make sure that you gather all of your belongings at the end of the class.

A Spanish notebook/binder (La carpeta de español) is mandatory. All students are responsible to have a well organized notebook (only for the Spanish class) by the end of the school year. The Spanish notebook should be divided into the following sections:

- Section # 1: Weekly Homework Logs (Tareas Semanales)
- Section # 2: Weekly Activities/Work (Actividades Semanales)
- Section # 3: Class's notes (Apuntes de la clase) and Handouts (Papeles importantes)
- Section # 4: Assessments (Controles)
- Section # 5: Corrected Homework/Projects (Tareas/proyectos corregidos)

All corrected work or completed work must be placed at the end of the specific section behind the new work that we are working on. An unorganized binder will be penalized with an "X" number of minus points. Please bring your binder to class every day!

Course Outline:

The Spanish 1 class will be covering the following topics:

Semester one: Alphabet, numbers, articles, adjectives, regular and irregular verbs, present tense, present progressive tense, reflexive verbs and other grammatical topics.

Semester two: Past and future tenses and other grammatical topics.

Course Objectives:

Students will be able to enrich their Spanish knowledge (listening, reading, writing and speaking) by acquiring vocabulary, grammar and cultural information throughout the academic year.

Academic Expectations:

Reglas básicas de la clase (basic class rules):

- S**-siempre venir preparado para aprender español (come always prepared to learn Spanish).
- r**- respetar a tu maestro y compañeros (respect your teacher and classmates).
- P**- practicar tu español oral y escrito dentro de clase (practice your oral and written Spanish in class).
- e**- estudiar diariamente el material presentado en clase (study daily the topics presented in class).
- n**- nunca te des por vencido (never give up).
- a**-aplica las normas de esta escuela en la clase de AP (apply all school rules in the Spanish class)