School life in Spain

La vida escolar en España

School life in Spain

Módulo 5
¡A clase!
Zona de cultura

Higher Tier
Schools, facilities and strong opinions



Knowledge organiser: school life in Spain

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School stages and types

la educación primaria = primary education
la ESO = compulsory secondary education
el bachillerato = post-compulsory academic stage
la Formación Profesional = vocational education
un instituto público = a state secondary school
un centro privado = a private school
un centro concertado = a privately run subsidised school

Clothes and colours

una camisa blanca = a white shirt
una falda gris = a grey skirt
unos zapatos negros = black shoes
una camiseta roja = a red T-shirt
un jersey azul = a blue jumper
unas zapatillas verdes = green trainers
ropa deportiva = sportswear

Facilities and people

las instalaciones = facilities
un laboratorio = a laboratory
una biblioteca = a library
un gimnasio = a gym
los campos deportivos = sports pitches
los alumnos = pupils
la directora = the headteacher

Descriptions and strong opinions

moderno/a = modern
modernísimo/a = extremely modern
cómodo/a = comfortable
comodísimo/a = extremely comfortable
caro/a = expensive
carísimo/a = extremely expensive
tiene buen sentido del humor = has a good sense of humour

Culture: the school stages

Read the verified facts, then answer the checks.

School stages in Spain

Primary education normally has six school years, from ages 6 to 12.

ESO means Educación Secundaria Obligatoria. It has four school years, normally ages 12 to 16. It is compulsory and free.

Bachillerato is a post-compulsory academic stage organised over two school years. Formación Profesional offers vocational routes.

Checks and answers

1 How many years are there in primary education?
2 What does the O in ESO mean?
3 What are the usual ESO ages?
4 Is Bachillerato compulsory?

1 Six.
2 Obligatoria: compulsory.
3 12 to 16.
4 No, it is post-compulsory.

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A typical school day

Un día en el insti

A day at secondary school

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¡A clase!
Unidad 1

Higher Tier
Routines, clubs and connected sentences



Knowledge organiser: a typical school day

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Travel and time

voy a pie = I walk / go on foot
tomo el autobús = I take the bus
cuando llueve = when it rains
salgo de casa = I leave home
las clases empiezan = lessons start
cada clase dura = each lesson lasts
hay un descanso = there is a break

Lunch and clubs

la hora de comer = lunchtime
traigo un bocadillo = I bring a sandwich
salgo al patio = I go out to the playground
el club de teatro = drama club
el equipo de natación = swimming team
toco en la orquesta = I play in the orchestra
ayudo con la radio escolar = I help with school radio

Connected sentences

que = that / which / who
donde = where
cuando = when
un club que me gusta = a club that I like
el patio donde juego = the playground where I play
el día cuando tengo música = the day when I have music
porque me ayuda a… = because it helps me to…

Duration and achievement

llevo dos años jugando = I have been playing for two years
llevamos seis meses tocando = we have been playing for six months
hacer nuevos amigos = to make new friends
aprender cosas nuevas = to learn new things
ser creativo/a = to be creative
conseguimos un premio = we won an award
me da más confianza = it gives me more confidence

Vocabulary workshop: travel and the school day

Build a routine using a travel phrase, time and reason.

Bilingual phrases

voy en bici = I go by bike
voy en coche = I go by car
voy en tren = I go by train
voy a pie = I walk / go on foot
tomo el autobús = I take the bus
salgo de casa = I leave home
las clases terminan = lessons finish
vuelvo a casa = I return home

Try and check

1 I leave home at eight.
2 Lessons start at half past eight.
3 Each lesson lasts an hour.
4 There is a break at eleven.

1 Salgo de casa a las ocho.
2 Las clases empiezan a las ocho y media.
3 Cada clase dura una hora.
4 Hay un descanso a las once.

Invent your own times and travel details.

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Subjects, opinions and progress

¿Qué tal tus estudios?

How are your studies going?

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¡A clase!
Unidad 2

Higher Tier
What I enjoy and how I will improve



Knowledge organiser: studies and opinions

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Subjects

el dibujo = art / drawing
la informática = computing
la literatura = literature
la educación física = PE
las ciencias = science
las matemáticas = maths
los idiomas / las lenguas = languages

My opinions and ability

me gusta / me gustan = I like
me interesa / me interesan = I am interested in
se me da bien = I am good at it
se me dan mal = I am bad at them
me cuesta recordar = I find it hard to remember
lo que más me gusta = what I like most
lo que menos me gusta = what I like least

Other people's opinions

a Ana le gusta = Ana likes
a mis amigos les gustan = my friends like
a él le encanta = he loves
a ellas les interesan = they are interested in
mi profesor dice que… = my teacher says that…
porque / ya que = because / since
sin embargo = however

Plans to improve

aprobar mis exámenes = to pass my exams
sacar mejores notas = to get better grades
aprenderé de mis errores = I will learn from my mistakes
participaré más = I will take part more
preguntaré al profesor = I will ask the teacher
asistiré a clases de repaso = I will attend revision classes
mejorar mi nivel = to improve my level

Vocabulary workshop: school subjects

Sort singular and plural subject names.

Bilingual vocabulary

el español / el inglés = Spanish / English
la geografía / la historia = geography / history
la informática / la tecnología = computing / technology
la música / la religión = music / religious studies
el teatro / el dibujo = drama / art
la literatura = literature
la educación física = PE
las ciencias / las matemáticas = science / maths
los idiomas = languages

Try and check

1 Find three grammatically plural subjects.
2 Translate: practical subjects.
3 Use me gusta with a singular subject.
4 Use me gustan with a plural subject.

1 Las ciencias / las matemáticas / los idiomas.
2 Las asignaturas prácticas.
3 Me gusta la historia.
4 Me gustan los idiomas.
Accept other accurate examples.

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School improvements and rules

¿Cómo cambiarías tu instituto?

How would you change your school?

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Unidad 3

Higher Tier
The conditional and impersonal rules



Knowledge organiser: a better school

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Problems and opinions

las instalaciones = facilities
están en mal estado = they are in poor condition
las reglas son estrictas = the rules are strict
el uniforme es caro = the uniform is expensive
hay pocas opciones = there are few options
lo malo es que = the bad thing is that
no estoy de acuerdo = I do not agree

Conditional: I would…

cambiaría = I would change
mejoraría = I would improve
reduciría = I would reduce
permitiría = I would allow
ofrecería = I would offer
construiría = I would build
pondría / haría = I would put / do

Rules: impersonal + infinitive

hay que respetar = you have to respect
se debe llegar a tiempo = one should arrive on time
no se debe gritar = one should not shout
se permite beber agua = drinking water is allowed
no se permite comer = eating is not allowed
está prohibido tirar basura = littering is forbidden
mantener limpio el patio = to keep the yard clean
pedir permiso = to ask permission

Improvements and links

la calidad de la comida = food quality
la variedad = variety
actividades extraescolares = after-school activities
contra el acoso = against bullying
primero / luego = first / then
finalmente = finally
porque / ya que = because / since
sin embargo = however

School problems: what needs to change?

Connect each problem to a specific feature of the school.

Bilingual models

Las instalaciones están en mal estado. = The facilities are in poor condition.
El uniforme es demasiado caro. = The uniform is too expensive.
Hay pocas opciones vegetarianas. = There are few vegetarian options.
Las reglas son demasiado estrictas. = The rules are too strict.

Apply and personalise

1 Name a fictional school problem.
2 Add a detail that makes it specific.
3 Explain why it matters to pupils.
4 Suggest a related improvement.

Useful opening: Lo malo de mi instituto es que…
Meaning: The bad thing about my school is that…

Challenge: include a positive feature too.

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People and relationships

La gente de mi insti

The people at my school

Módulo 5
¡A clase!
Unidad 4

Higher Tier
Negatives, questions and ideal people



Knowledge organiser: people at school

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Pupils and routines

responsable = responsible
trabajador/a = hardworking
independiente = independent
perezoso/a = lazy
preparo mi mochila = I pack my bag
llego a tiempo = I arrive on time
entrego los deberes = I hand in homework

Negatives

no… nada = not… anything / nothing
no… nadie = not… anyone / nobody
no… ni… ni… = neither… nor…
no… ningún / ninguna = not any
nunca / jamás = never
tampoco = not either / neither
No llego nunca tarde. = I never arrive late.

Questions

qué = what
quién = who
cómo = how / what… like
cuándo = when
dónde = where
por qué = why
cuánto tiempo = how long

Ideal teacher or pupil

sería comprensivo/a = would be understanding
tendría buen humor = would be good-humoured
no gritaría = would not shout
crearía un buen ambiente = would create a good atmosphere
nos ayudaría = would help us
entregaría a tiempo = would hand it in on time
haría un esfuerzo = would make an effort

Vocabulary workshop: what kind of pupil?

Describe behaviour with a concrete example.

Bilingual vocabulary

responsable = responsible
trabajador/a = hardworking
independiente = independent
un buen estudiante = a good student
una buena estudiante = a good student
perezoso/a = lazy
tengo ganas de aprender = I am keen to learn
quiero tener éxito = I want to succeed
hago un esfuerzo = I make an effort

Build and check

1 She is a hardworking pupil.
2 I want to learn.
3 We are responsible.
4 I am quite independent.

1 Es una alumna trabajadora.
2 Quiero aprender.
3 Somos responsables.
4 Soy bastante independiente.

Challenge: add porque and an example.

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A school trip in the past

El viaje de fin de curso

The end-of-year school trip

Módulo 5
¡A clase!
Unidad 5

Higher Tier
Past events, descriptions and adverbs



Knowledge organiser: the school trip

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Trip activities

fuimos a Valencia = we went to Valencia
hicimos un viaje = we went on a trip
visitamos un museo = we visited a museum
dimos un paseo = we went for a walk
asistimos a una clase = we attended a class
comimos paella = we ate paella
me encantó = I loved it

Past events and background

fue emocionante = it was exciting
la ciudad era bonita = the city was pretty
hacía calor = it was hot
hizo buen tiempo = the weather was good
llovió todo el día = it rained all day
perdí mi mochila = I lost my bag
me gustaría volver = I would like to return

Adverbs and false friends

rápidamente = quickly
especialmente = especially
afortunadamente = fortunately
desafortunadamente = unfortunately
actualmente = currently
recientemente = recently
normalmente = normally

Adjectives and word position

un buen viaje = a good trip
el primer día = the first day
el tercer día = the third day
ningún problema = no problem
un gran viaje = a great trip
un hotel grande = a large hotel
el único problema = the only problem
una experiencia única = a unique experience

Vocabulary workshop: trip activities

Combine a time marker, a past action and a detail.

Bilingual phrases

hicimos un viaje de fin de curso = we went on an end-of-year school trip
visitamos un parque nacional = we visited a national park
fuimos a un parque temático = we went to a theme park
dimos un paseo en barco = we went for a boat ride
asistimos a una clase de cocina = we attended a cooking class
hicimos actividades distintas = we did different activities

Try and check

1 We went to a theme park.
2 We attended a cooking class.
3 We went for a boat ride.
4 We visited a national park.

1 Fuimos a un parque temático.
2 Asistimos a una clase de cocina.
3 Dimos un paseo en barco.
4 Visitamos un parque nacional.

Challenge: add el segundo día.

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School grammar in context

Gramática 1 & 2

Grammar practice and revision

Módulo 5
¡A clase!

Higher Tier
School life, opinions and ideal changes



Knowledge organiser: Grammar 1 & 2

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Grammar 1: descriptions and links

modernísimo/a = extremely modern
riquísimo/a = delicious / extremely tasty
que = who / which / that
donde = where
cuando = when
lo que más me gusta = what I like most
me interesan las ciencias = science interests me

Grammar 1: ongoing duration

Llevo dos años estudiando. = I have been studying for two years.
Lleva una hora leyendo. = He/she has been reading for an hour.
jugando = playing
más de cinco años = more than five years
casi una hora = almost an hour

Grammar 2: ideal changes and negatives

habría = there would be
sería = would be
tendría = would have
haría = would do / make
podría = could / would be able to
nunca = never
no… nada = not… anything
no… nadie = not… anyone

Grammar 2: adverbs and adjectives

rápidamente = quickly
fácilmente = easily
a menudo = often
bien / mal = well / badly
un buen profesor = a good teacher
un gran instituto = a great school
un gimnasio grande = a large gym
el único problema = the only problem

Grammar 1: absolute superlatives

Add -ísimo and match the noun's gender and number.

Bilingual forms

moderno / modernísimo = extremely modern
caro / carísimo = extremely expensive
largo / larguísimo = extremely long
rico / riquísimo = extremely tasty
simpático / simpatiquísimo = extremely friendly
útil / utilísimo = extremely useful
bueno / buenísimo = extremely good
malo / malísimo = extremely bad

Try and check

1 Una biblioteca ___. (moderno)
2 Unos zapatos ___. (caro)
3 Unas actividades ___. (divertido)
4 Una comida ___. (rico)

1 Modernísima. **2** Carísimos.
3 Divertidísimas. **4** Riquísima.

Check spelling: largo / larguísimo,
rico / riquísimo, simpático / simpatiquísimo.