

Transition from GCSE to A level Spanish

First of all, why study a language? Let us see what employers say about the usefulness of languages at work.

“In an increasingly competitive job market, it is clear that foreign language proficiency adds significant value to a candidate’s portfolio of skills, and gives them a real competitive edge when applying for jobs.”

CBI Education and Skills Survey, 2019

Well done for realising that languages are an essential part of your professional success. Here are a few tips to get you ready for your A Level course whilst you have plenty of time.

You can

- explore Kerboodle to find out which topics you will be studying next year.
- look out for Vocabulary builder on Kerboodle to practise the vocabulary related to each topic.
- revise grammar on languagesonline.org or [quizlet](http://quizlet.com): just type [chall37 quizlet/ A level Spanish](http://quizlet.com/subject/A-level-Spanish) or [Y11 Spanish](http://quizlet.com/subject/Y11-Spanish) to revise key tenses, especially the preterite in all its forms and direct and indirect object pronouns. The best grammar book at this level is *Acción Gramática*.
- listen to the news www.20minutes.es
Read an online paper: [ABC.es/](http://ABC.es) [El Pais.es/](http://ElPais.es) [La Vanguardia.es/](http://LaVanguardia.es) [El Diario Montañes](http://ElDiarioMontaños.es)

Montañes

- listen to podcasts about worldwide history and famous historical figures with their transcription: [www.playcadenaser.com/seccion/ la ventana acontece que no es poco](http://www.playcadenaser.com/seccion/la-ventana-acontece-que-no-es-poco)
- cook with a famous Spanish chef: hogamania.com/cocina/cocineros/karlos-arguiñano
- don’t forget to sing covers to popular songs on [you tube/](http://you-tube.com) [kerlatrics lyrics](http://kerlatrics.com)
- watch some cartoons on you tube such as:

Mafalda

Cerebro Dividido

Cuerdas: 2014 winner of the Goya award for the best Spanish short film animation.

Don Quijote de la Mancha

- watch famous fairy tales in Spanish on you tube; just type fairy tales in Spanish.
- carry out a personal research into any aspect of hispanic life eg: la jota (a traditional Spanish dance), los Alfileres de San Antonio (a cultural tradition in Madrid to do with sewing needles), a controversial recent Spanish law: la Ley Mordaza; a female bullfighter: Cristina Sanchez or a famous flamenco dancer: Joaquin Cortés.
- take a look at the monthly programme of the Instituto Cervantes and join a zoom session.
- read some bilingual versions of famous novels/plays such as Federico García Lorca, *Bodas de Sangre* or Miguel de Cervantes, *Don Quijote de la Mancha* etc

Do any of these above that appeal to you and have fun!