Spanish AQA A-level Bridging Unit

Your Bridging Unit for Spanish has two parts to it:

1. Complete the preterite and imperfect grammar activities to help you prepare for the first unit you will study at A-level
2. Expand your cultural knowledge of the Hispanic world by picking any two (or more!) of the activities on the list below and bring in evidence to show you’re a-level teachers (a photo, a reflective piece of writing, something you have produced etc.)

1. Watch these two videos about Frida Khalo: <https://www.facebook.com/bbcnews/videos/1756091271141745/>

 and <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=446254082583055> and create an infograph about her

2. Read about Yalitza Aparicio <https://remezcla.com/lists/culture/yalitza-aparicio-broke-barriers/> and watch these videos <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=513023639424861> and <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=243444813237777> then write about why you think she’s a role model for Mexican women and indigenous groups in Mexico. Bonus: You could also watch the film she stars in, Roma, on Netflix.

3. Watch this documentary from 2014 called the War on Democracy. <https://vimeo.com/16724719> Look at the US’ involvement in politics in Latin America

4. Pick one of the following Spanish festivals and find out more about how it’s celebrated: Las fallas, La Tomatina, Castellers de Tarragona,

5. Read about bullfighting in Spain and the San Fermín festival. Should it be legal? Create a for and against poster.

6. Look up a recipe for tortilla española or patatas bravas (in Spanish) and try making them at home. They’re both veggie friendly ☺

7. Watch this video which combines flamenco dancing and tourism in Madrid and note down your thoughts on it: <https://www.facebook.com/madridcultura/videos/513201902422738/?v=513201902422738>

8. “Racism is a big problem in the Spanish football league” – research this statement and write your answer saying how far you agree with the statement. You could look at an incident involving Dani Alves and a hashtag that became used on social media called #todossomosmacacos.

9. Watch this All 4 film about Diego Maradona, an Argentinean footballer. Is he considered a good role model? Why/why not? <https://www.channel4.com/programmes/diego-maradona>

10. Research the rivalry between Barcelona FC and Real Madrid – why do you think it exists?

11. Why does Cataluña want independence from Spain? In your opinion, do you think they should get it?

14. What happened in Chile on September 11th 1973? What consequences did this have?

15. Who was Gabriel García Márquez? What is “magic realism”?

16. Come up with a factfile (in Spanish) about a UNESCO World Hertiage site from a Spanish speaking country such as: Galapagos Islands, Macchu Pichu, The Alhambra, Rapa Nui – Easter Island.

17. Read up about the International Women’s Day parade in Mexico and in Chile (sometimes known as #8M) – what happened, what did people do, why is it so necessary there?

18. Read about the 68 Hearts and 68 Voices project from Mexico here: <https://68voces.mx/>. Choose one of their stories, read it, watch it and write a summary of it in Spanish.

19. Find a news article in the Spanish news today (elpais.com, bbcmundo.com) read it and try to summarise it in Spanish and English.

20. Check out the singer Camilo and write a paragraph in Spanish about why he could be considered a good role model for young people.

The Preterite Tense – Regular Verbs

A guide

The preterite tense is used to talk about completed actions in the past.

***Comí un pastel*** I ate a cake ***Ayer visité a mi abuela*** Yesterday I visited my grandma

The preterite tense is **not** used for descriptions of things in the past or for repeated actions in the past. For these you use the Imperfect tense.

To form the different forms of regular verbs in the preterite tense, remove the **-ar**, **-er** or **-ir** to find the stem and then add the following endings.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Hablar | Comer | Vivir |
| I (yo) | **Hablé** | **Comí** | **Viví** |
| You Sing. (tú) | **Hablaste** | **Comiste** | **Viviste** |
| He/She/It (él, ella, usted) | **Habló** | **Comió** | **Vivió** |
| We (nosotros/nosotras) | **Hablamos** | **Comimos** | **Vivimos** |
| You Pl. (vosotros/vosotras) | **Hablasteis** | **Comisteis** | **Vivisteis** |
| They (Ellos/ ellas / ustedes) | **Hablaron** | **Comieron** | **Vivieron** |

* Note that the endings for -er and -ir verbs are same.
* Be careful that you use accents correctly as using them incorrectly can change the meaning of the verb.
* There are many verbs which have an irregular form in the preterite. You will find more detail on these verbs in the Irregular Preterit reference guides.

The Preterite Tense – Regular Verbs

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Hablar | Comer | Vivir |
| I (yo) | Hablé | Comí | Viví |
| You Sing. (tú) | Hablaste | Comiste | Viviste |
| He/She/It (él, ella, usted) | Habló | Comió | Vivió |
| We (nosotros/nosotras) | Hablamos | Comimos | Vivimos |
| You Pl. (vosotros/vosotras) | Hablasteis | Comisteis | Vivisteis |
| They (Ellos/ ellas / ustedes) | Hablaron | Comieron | Vivieron |

**Give the correct form of the verb in brackets Translate the Spanish verbs in to English**

1. I visited (visitar) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 1. comieron \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. He spoke (hablar) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 2. bebiste \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. They wrote (escribir) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 3. vivió \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. She danced (bailar) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 4. Lavé \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
5. He ate (comer) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 5. necesitaron \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
6. You visit (visitar) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 6. compramos \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
7. I received (recibir) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 7. entraron \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
8. We worked (trabajar) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 8. cocinó \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
9. He surfed (navegar) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 9. terminaste \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
10. They helped (ayudar) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 10. tocamos \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
11. They arrived (llegar) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 11. escribió \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
12. My friends ate (comer)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 12. visitasteis \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
13. I read (leer) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 13. vivimos \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
14. We sold (vender) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 14. cenaron \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
15. They called (llamar) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 15. No funcionó \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Using the imperfect tense

Describing what your school used to be like

The imperfect tense is another way of talking about the past. It is used in Spanish for:

* Descriptions in the past (what something was like or was doing)

*Mi escuela primaria era bastante pequeña.*

* Repeated actions in the past.

*Las clases empezaban a las nueve.*

* What people used to do and what things used to be like.

**Conjugation**

Take the infinitive of the verb, remove the endings (-ar, -er, -ir) and then add the following endings.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Hablar | Comer | Vivir |
| I  | Hablaba | Comía | Vivía |
| You Sing.  | Hablabas | Comías | Vivía |
| He/She/It  | Hablaba | Comía | Vivía |
| We | Hablábamos | Comíamos | Vivía |
| You Pl.  | Hablabais | Comíais | Vivía |
| They  | Hablaban | Comían | Vivía |

**There are only 3 irregular verbs in the preterite tense.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Ser | Ir | Ver |
| I | Era | Iba | Veía |
| You Sing. | Eras | Ibas | Veías |
| He/She/It | Era | Iba | Veía |
| We | Éramos | Íbamos | Veíamos |
| You Pl. | Erais | Ibais | Veíais |
| They | Eran | Iban | Veían |

**Exercise 1**

1. Antes mi colegio no **tenía/tiene** un gimnasio.
2. En el pasado mi colegio **es/era** un colegio masculino.
3. En mi escuela primaria lo malo **eran / son / era** que **había / habíamos /habían** poco espacio para jugar.
4. Yo **estudiabas / estudiaba / estudiaban** la historia pero la dejé.
5. Mi hermana **iba / ibais / ibas** a colegio a pie.

**Exercise 2**

**Translate the sentences above into English**

1. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
2. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
3. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
4. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
5. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Preterite or Imperfect

**Exercise 1**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Infinitive** | **Preterite** | **Imperfect** |
| 1 | Ir | Fui | I went | Iba | I was going |
| 2 | Ser |  | He was | Eran |  |
| 3 | Tener | Tuve |  |  | It had |
| 4 | Hacer |  | He/she did | Hacíamos |  |
| 5 | Jugar | Jugué |  |  | I was playing |
| 6 | Descansar |  | I relaxed | Descansabas |  |
| 7 | Comprar | Compraste |  |  | We were buying |
| 8 | Comer  |  | Did you all eat? | Comían |  |

**Exercise 2 - Imperfect or preterite? Circle the correct form of the verb**

|  |
| --- |
| Hace dos años **(1) Iba / fui** a Marbella en la Costa Del Sol. Generalmente **(2) hizo / hacía** sol, pero un día **(3) llovió / llovía** por eso **(4) teníamos / tuvimos** que cambiar nuestros planes y **(5) decidimos / decidíamos** ir al cine y ver una película.**(6) Nos quedábamos / quedamos** en un hotel que **(7) estaba / estuvo** en el centro del pueblo. En general el hotel **(8) era / fue** muy acogedor y cómodo. Sin embargo, una noche **(9) hubo / había** una fiesta en el bar y **(10) tuve / tenía** que quejarme al gerente del ruido. El pueblo **(11) era / fue** muy animado y siempre **(12) había / hubo** mucha gente en los bares y discotecas. El sábado por la noche **(13) conocí / conocía** a unas chicas que **(14) fueron / eran** muy simpáticas en un bar que **(14) tenía / tuvo** música muy moderna.El domingo por la mañana **(15) hacía / hizo** mucho sol y **(16) decidimos / decidíamos** ir a la playa y tomar el sol. ¡Me los **(17) pasé / pasaba** fenomenal en Marbella ! |
|  |

**Exercise 3**

**Fill in the gaps in the sentences below with the correct form of the preterite or imperfect tense.**

1. El año pasado yo (ir) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ de vacaciones a Argentina.
2. Nosotros (llegar) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ tarde al aeropuerto porque (haber) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ mucho tráfico.
3. (Hacer) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ mucho calor, pero en el primer día (llover) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ y mis hermanas no (poder) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ tomar el sol.
4. Todos los días Juan (jugar) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ voleibol en la playa.
5. (Ir) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ de compras y (comprar) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ unos recuerdos para mi familia.
6. La pensión (estar) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ muy sucia y los empleos (ser) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ muy groseros.

**Exercise 4**

**Translate the following paragraph into Spanish**

Last summer I went on holiday to the south of France. We travelled by car and during the journey I listened to music and uploaded photos on to Instagram. We rented a villa which was on the coast and it had a big swimming pool. Generally, it was sunny and hot but one day it rained so we decided to go to the shopping centre where I bought lots of souvenirs for my school friends.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_