

# Year 12 A Level Spanish

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Watch...

### Television

RTVE is the state-owned corporation (like the BBC). Go to <http://www.rtve.es/alcarta> to see all the available TV channels and radio stations.

Watch the latest news in Spanish:  
<http://www.rtve.es/alcarta/videos/telediario>

Or even just the weather forecast: <http://www.rtve.es/eltiempo/>

Take in some culinary delights with *Spanish Masterchef* (!):  
<http://www.rtve.es/television/masterchef/>

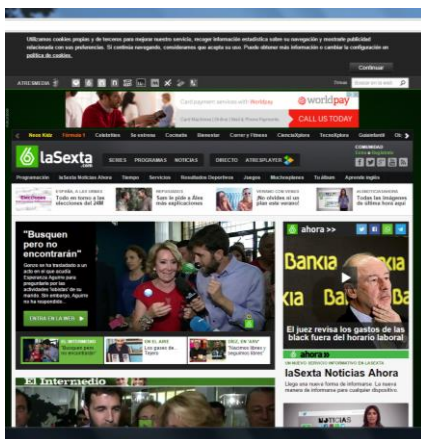
Or some football: <http://rtve.es/deportes/futbol/>

Watch some cartoons in Spanish: <http://rtve.es/infantil/>

You can also look at <http://www.broadcast-live.com/television/spanish.html> This website gives you access to the Spanish stations that are streaming TV.

Another TV station is <http://www.antena3.com/> - this gives you access to loads of soaps and dramas - watch *Game of Thrones* or *Downton Abbey* in Spanish!

One of the most popular stations is <http://www.lasexta.com/programas> - the emphasis on this channel is on entertainment and humour with a large quantity of American and sports programming.



La Sexta  
online

Listen...

## Radio

The great thing about listening to the radio is that you can get on with something else at the same time. Listen live using the *Escuchar Ahora* or the *En directo* button. It sometimes takes a while to buffer, so be patient.

Radio Nacional de España (RNE) is Spain's national public radio service. It has 6 themed channels and they can be accessed on <http://www.rtve.es/alcarta/rne/> Below is a list of the types of stations available and their content:

- Radio Nacional (previously Radio 1) - Generalist channel with a broad spectrum of mostly speech-based programming.
- Radio Clásica (previously Radio 2) - Concerts and classical music in general.
- Radio 3 - RNE's "youth station", concentrating on pop, rock, world music, folk, and allied cultural events.
- Ràdio 4 - Regional broadcasting in the Catalan language.
- Radio 5 - 24-hour news.
- Radio Exterior de España - International broadcasting service on short wave, with an audience of 80 million listeners (surpassed only by the BBC and Vatican Radio). This station is also transmitted via DAB.

The screenshot displays the RTVE.es website interface. At the top, there is a navigation menu with categories like 'A la carta', 'TV EN DIRECTO', 'GANLEES', 'SERIES', 'INFORMATIVOS', 'DOCUMENTALES', 'PROGRAMAS', 'RADIO EN DIRECTO', 'GADNÉS', 'MÚSICA', and 'PROGRAMAS'. The 'Radio' tab is highlighted. Below the navigation, there is a search bar and a 'Regístrate' button. The main content area features a live broadcast player for 'Mundial de Taekwondo, en directo: Semifinales y finales' with a '16:36' timestamp and a 'Seguir la retransmisión del Mundial de Taekwondo que se disputa en Rusia' link. Below the player, there is a section for 'AHORA EN DIRECTO' featuring 'Este me suena. Las tardes del Ciudadano García' with a '19:00' timestamp and an 'ESCUCHAR AHORA' button. To the right, there is a 'A CONTINUACIÓN' section with 'EL OJO CRÍTICO' and '24 HORAS'. The 'rne' section includes a 'Radio Nacional de España' logo and several program highlights with 'Escuchar ahora' buttons. At the bottom, there is a 'Radio Nacional en directo' player with a 'Reproducir' button and a list of channels: Radio Nacional, Radio Clásica, Radio 3, Ràdio 4, Radio 5, and Radio Exterior, each with an 'En directo...' link. There is also a 'Ver a Podcasts' button and a 'Ventana' button.

## TOP TIP 1: Listen to “los 40 principales”

Los 40 principales (the Top 40 in Spanish) is one of the most popular stations in Spain and is the one that young people listen to.



Click on “Escuchar Radio”, then choose “Radio en directo” to listen live

La Cadena SER is one of the most important radio station in Spain. It has all types of programmes: debates, news, sports, music etc. Listen on <http://cadenaser.com>



Click on Play SER to listen

## TOP TIP 2: Sign up to Twitter



Un tuit = a tweet            tuitear - to tweet

Sign up to Twitter for authentic text you can quickly flick through. I follow all of these (and more!) and recommend you do the same. They will help you pick up the language even when simply browsing twitter on your phone. Some good ideas are:

@Spain - the official Twitter account for tourism in Spain

@lafrasedeldía - tweets Spanish sayings each day

@spanishlanguage - tweets expressions, phrases, words and articles in Spanish

@spanishaddicts - typical spoken Spanish (el español de la calle). Phrases, vocab articles and more

@spanishxxx2 - vocab, articles and quizzes

### Register to a feed that tweets a word or so a day

A word a day is a fantastic way of building your vocabulary. Here are some to choose from:

@SpanishDict - tweets a random Spanish word frequently with the translation

@VamosSpanish - tweets words and phrases and translates them, as well as other facts and grammar

@EduLearnSpanish - learn 3 new words a day on Twitter!

@SpanishWords4U - tweets a new Spanish word everyday with example sentences

@LL\_Spanish - tweets Spanish phrases, words, articles and more

@WoodwardSpanish - free Spanish grammar and vocabulary games and notes

@myspanishword - fun Spanish phrase everyday

Twitter is also a fantastic, quick way of reading the main news of the day in Spanish. Take a look at these:

@20m - online news

@el\_pais - the most important newspaper in Spain

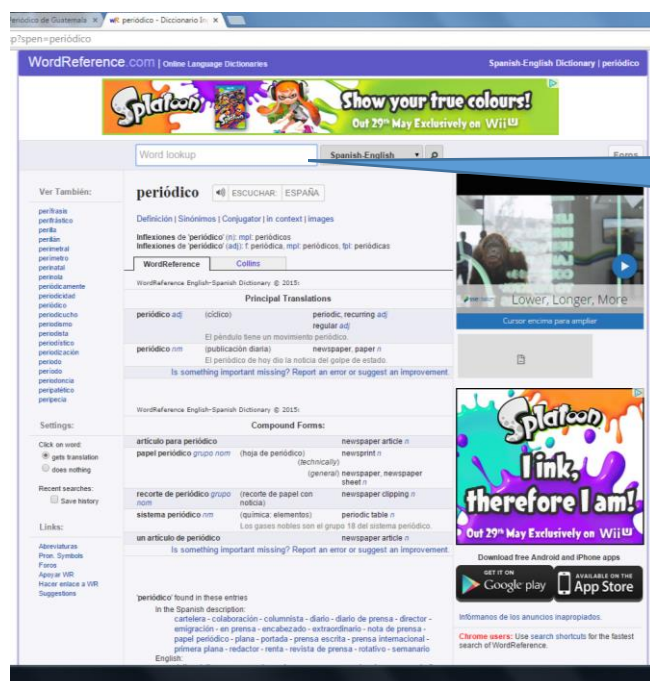
@bbcmundo - the BBC in Spanish

@EFEnoticias - major newsagency in Spanish

@elperiodico - newspaper based in Cataluña

## On-line dictionary

You will need access to a dictionary to help you understand what you are reading. The best on-line dictionary is: <http://www.wordreference.com>



The screenshot shows the WordReference.com website with the search term 'periódico' entered. The page displays the definition of 'periódico' in Spanish, including its pronunciation, synonyms, and translations. A blue callout bubble points to the search bar with the text 'Type the word you want to find out here'.

Type the word  
you want to  
find out here

Read...

### TOP TIP 3: Keep your own vocabulary book!

Keep your own vocabulary book for new words, phrases and expressions that you come across. You could order it alphabetically, by topic or just use it as a diary,

When you are reading articles etc, particularly at the start of the course, try not to look up every word because it will take you forever. Skim and scan the text to get the gist. Remember to use the context of the article, cognates and common sense to figure out what the article is saying. Pick out a couple of words that you feel you need to know to get the idea of the text. Look up them up and put them in your **vocabulary book**. The aim at the start of the course is to get the gist of the article, not to be able to translate it completely.

### Newspapers and magazines

Read a newspaper in Spanish! Get in the habit of reading an article online each week. You do not need to read the paper cover to cover. To begin with, just read the headlines and the first paragraph. Look for news items that you have already read in English. Here are some examples of what you can use:

<http://www.elpais.com/> - the best newspaper in Spain.

<http://www.20minutos.es/> - a more light-hearted newspaper that covers the news as well as gossip!

<http://www.diariosur.es/> - a newspaper from the south of Spain. In addition to articles, it contains a number of clips and links to other news stories

<http://www.primerasnoticias.com/> - a news website for young people

<http://www.hola.com> - catch up on the latest celebrity gossip!! This is the equivalent of Hello! Magazine.

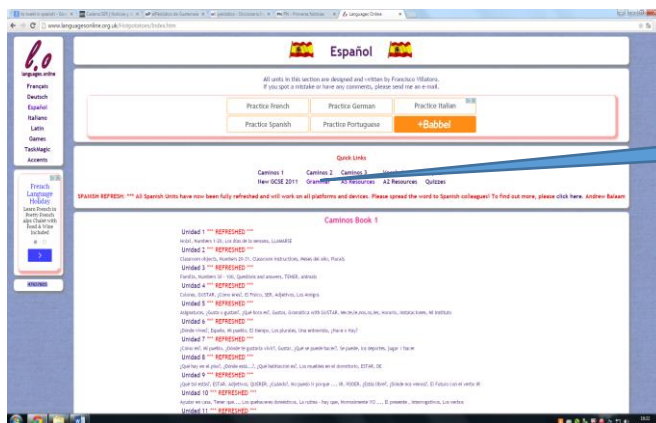
<http://www.marca.es> - Spanish football daily newspaper

## Grammar practice

What should you know by now? After GCSE, you should have a good understanding of the key points in the table below. We will provide you with a grammar booklet to help you to revise and practise.

TOPIC	CONTENT
Recognise and use a range of tenses with <b>regular</b> verbs.	<u>Regular -ar, -er &amp; -ir verbs</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Present</li> <li>• Preterite</li> <li>• Imperfect</li> <li>• Near future (ir + a + inf)</li> <li>• Some future tenses</li> <li>• Some conditional tenses</li> </ul>
Recognise and use a range of tenses with <b>irregular</b> verbs.	Common irregular verbs: <b>ser, estar, tener, hacer &amp; ir</b>  Tenses as above for regular verbs
Give opinions with reasons.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A range of opinion expressions</li> <li>• Positive and negative reasons for opinions</li> <li>• Be able to agree and disagree</li> </ul>

The website below is extremely useful for looking up and practising a key grammar point. It has interactive exercises with clear explanations. It can be found at: <http://www.languagesonline.org.uk>



Click on grammar