

AP Spanish 4 – Language and Culture

Con el Sr. García

¡Felicitaciones y bienvenidos!

I am glad that you have chosen to continue your study of Spanish through the AP level. This will help you to be as well prepared as you possibly can for Spanish courses when you enroll in college or any other college level courses.

La presentación para comenzar el curso

For your summer coursework, you will create an 8 to 10-minute presentation incorporating cultural music, film and television of Spain and/or Latin American, and important current events that occurred in Spain or Latin America that you observed over the summer. Your presentation should also have a PowerPoint/Google Slides (or other form of slideshow) that you will use to organize and display presentation. Your presentation should follow the 10 /10 /30 rule:

- 10** – a maximum of *ten slides* for your entire presentation
- 10** – a maximum of *ten minutes* speaking through your presentation
- 30** – a minimum of *30 size font* in your presentation, anything written smaller should be said, not written down.

Your presentation should be record and submitted through Flipgrid by the first week of school. I would advise you to prerecord and edit your video before we start school; then, save your video to your computer or other electronic device to be ready to be uploaded to Flipgrid when we return to school. Your presentation will include the following three elements:

1. Learn a song

Find at least three songs in Spanish from a Spanish/Latin American country on iTunes, Spotify, YouTube or other music streaming services. Find the lyrics on the Internet and print them out. Listen to the song and sing along with the words. Then, challenge yourself to try and remember the words without looking at the lyrics sheet. Play the song every day at least once. Listen to it while you're driving, waiting for the bus, making breakfast or out for a run. The next week, choose a new song and repeat the process. By the end of the summer, you should have a playlist of Spanish music to share with the class! (*Skill area: listening*)

One song in your presentation should have a song that carries with it a strong cultural, political or social message such as from Calle 13, Juanes, La Santa Cecilia, Lila Downs, etc. Explain the message behind song and try to compare this song with a song from our community (such as a song in English) in your presentation.

2. Watch movies/series a week in the target language

Watching movies is a great way to get exposure to authentic language. Watch a TV show, sitcom, series or movie on an online video streaming service such as Hulu, Netflix, YouTube, Amazon Prime, etc., and change the audio settings to “Spanish”. You can use subtitles and set to Spanish as well to help you read what is being said. If you’re up for a challenge, leave the sub-titles off and just enjoy the film. Set yourself a goal such as watching movies by the same director or watching a different genre of movie every week. Watch an action movie one week and a comedy the next, for example.

Keep notes about the movies you watch and any new words or phrases you’ve picked up and share with what you learned in your presentation. These notes will not be collected and will only be used to help you organize your thoughts. If you need help finding things to watch, contact me for suggestions.

3. Current events

Set up a twitter account and begin to follow news, blogs, and other learning sites or listen to a podcast on Notes in Spanish.com. Subscribe to a Spanish news YouTube channel. News is a fantastic way to get exposure to authentic language, and now more than ever due to COVID-19 and injustices happening in our world. There are a few different ways to access the news. Find a news article on a topic you’re interested in and read it through. Read for content and meaning, trying to get the gist of what it is saying. Then read it again to get the deeper meaning and the details.

If you prefer a more structured approach, dissect the article to find the “5 Ws” (Who? What? When? Where? Why?) in the article and record them in your “diario de noticias” (these will not be collected and will only be used to organize your thoughts). Find one or two new vocabulary words and add them to your list. Finally, participate with the greater community by posting questions and replies to tweets. (Skill areas: reading, listening and possibly writing, if you choose to incorporate it).

You are to look for current topics. Please focus on the countries of Paraguay, Venezuela, Cuba, Spain, Costa Rica, Ecuador, and Colombia. Find articles that specifically relate to one (or more) of the AP themes: Families and Communities, Contemporary Life, Global Challenges, Science and Technology, Personal and Public Identities, and Art and Aesthetics

If you need any help putting together your presentation or video, please don’t hesitate to contact me at abraham_garcia@chino.k12.ca.us

Atentamente,

Sr. García