

# National Spanish Exam

## Practice Proficiency Exam – Level 2 - 2015

### Part One. Reading Comprehension.

This section will measure your proficiency in reading Spanish and contains 14 multiple choice questions in increasing order of difficulty. You should work as far into the section as you can.

Each item is comprised of (1) a context in English, (2) an authentic reading in Spanish, and (3) a question in English. Each question is followed by four possible answers, only ONE of which is correct. Choose the **ONE** answer which best completes each statement.

1. While reading an online blog, you see the following description posted on a school website.

Los alumnos regresan a su clase a la una y media de la tarde después de comer en la cafetería. La profesora es la Sra. Colón. Su clase es un poco difícil pero interesante y ella es muy simpática. Los alumnos toman apuntes en la clase y estudian las propiedades y relaciones entre números. A veces necesitan las calculadoras. A José le gusta sumar y restar, pero Juan prefiere multiplicar y dividir. La tarea para mañana es aprender las fórmulas en la página ochenta.

What type of class is being described in this paragraph?

- Cooking.
  - Mathematics.
  - Social Studies.
  - Science.
2. Sra. Cano is traveling with students from Spain to the United States and is making roommate assignments based on their similar interests.

**Francisco** quiere ser actor y a él le gusta mucho el teatro. **Javier** es nadador y también participa en un equipo de fútbol. **Lucas** es callado y prefiere leer en su tiempo libre. A **Rodrigo** le encanta estudiar los artículos en los periódicos y pasar tiempo en la biblioteca. **Víctor** es social y deportista.

Who would likely get along well as roommates?

- Rodrigo and Francisco.
- Javier and Víctor.
- Javier and Francisco.

Victor and Lucas.

3. While surfing Internet sports sites, the following advertisement pops up in a new window.

¿Te gusta el fútbol? ¿Quieres ver un buen partido?  
**¡Puedes ganar!**

SORTEO DE DOS ENTRADAS PARA VER EL PARTIDO MÁLAGA C.F. - SEVILLA F.C.  
ESTADIO DE LA ROSALEDA - FECHA: 02/05/2015 - HORA: 20:00  
FIN SORTEO: SÁBADO - 02/05/2015 (12:00 HORAS)

¡¡¡ANIMA A TU EQUIPO!!!

Si quieres participar en el sorteo, envía un correo electrónico indicando lo siguiente:

A) Tu nombre y número de teléfono  
B) Tu jugador favorito y ¿por qué?

Envía las respuestas a:  
websorteo@gmail.com

**Indicando el asunto: Sorteo Entrada Málaga C.F.**

**¡SUERTE!**

What is the purpose of this advertisement?

- To publicize a contest to win two free soccer tickets.
- To advertise a club where soccer matches are held.
- To provide the date and time of the grand opening of a new store.
- To promote an important soccer game this coming Saturday.

4. Brooke handed in the following picture and short paragraph for an assignment in Spanish class.



Esta es mi perra Alba. Es una perra salchicha de color rojizo. Alba tiene 4 años que corresponden a 28 años en humanos. Tiene los ojos pardos, el pelo corto y patas muy cortas. También lleva un collar rosado. Es una perra muy preciosa y cariñosa pero es bastante tímida si no conoce a la gente. Le gusta jugar con su pelota de tenis por horas y horas. Además le gusta robar calcetines y ponerlos debajo de la cama.

According to the paragraph, what statement about the dog is true?

- She hides tennis balls in odd places.
- She is shy until she gets to know people.
- She likes to sleep under the bed at night.
- She prefers to spend hours and hours running.

5. A friend in Spain has sent you a link to a blog that contains this posting.



Practicar algún tipo de deporte es una actividad muy popular entre los jóvenes. La gran mayoría de los adolescentes hacen deporte sólo por el sencillo hecho de divertirse un poco. En algunas ocasiones esta diversión se convierte en discusiones o en peleas. Sin embargo, hay jóvenes que utilizan el deporte como medio para tener una buena salud física mientras otros sólo pretenden lograr una figura escultural para poder sentirse a gusto con sus cuerpos.

According to the author of this text, what is the main reason why teenagers participate in sports?

- To get healthy.
- To compete against others.
- To have fun.
- To build a good physique.

6. You are browsing online when you see this advertisement posted by a car dealership.

**¡COMPRE SU COCHE A PRECIOS POR DEBAJO DEL PRECIO DE FACTURA!**

Liquidación de todos los modelos 2014.

¡Grandes ahorros de fin de año!

Haga click aquí para ver precios de liquidación y ofertas cerca de



usted.

**Liquidación de Fin de Año**

¡Recibe precios de liquidación ahora!

What can be inferred from this advertisement?

- The manufacturer is promoting the sale of car seats for children.
  - The dealer is selling cars at bargain prices to make way for newer models.
  - The car being sold is used but in excellent condition for the price.
  - In order to receive bargain prices, the buyer must purchase through the Internet.
7. A friend in Spain has sent you a link to a blog that contains this posting.



La gran mayoría de los jóvenes pasamos gran parte de nuestro tiempo en las redes sociales. Esto es algo asociado a la necesidad de poder expresar nuestras opiniones, pensamientos y (o) comentarios por medio de textos o con simples imágenes asociadas con esta. Podemos interactuar con demás personas de otros lugares del mundo por medio de fotos, comentarios, por vídeo chat o simplemente chat (que significa charla). Los jóvenes del siglo 21 encontramos cierto tipo de diversión o entretenimiento en estas bien llamadas redes sociales (Facebook, Twitter, Myspace, YouTube, Badoo, etc...). Es por eso que este pasatiempo es uno de los mejores que existe en la actualidad para los jóvenes.

What is the opinion of this author?

- Spending time using social media is a great way for young people to spend their leisure time.
  - The great majority of young people spend too much time using social media.
  - Expressing one's opinion on social media can have negative consequences.
  - Some social networking sites do not have appropriate names.
8. The following notice is posted on a website that advertises homes and apartments for rent.



**Piso en el centro de Madrid.** El piso tiene un ambiente agradable junto a los famosos bares de tapeo en la Plaza Mayor y la Puerta del Sol. Es muy grande y está completamente reformado. Además está bien comunicado con las estaciones de Metro. Cuenta con una gran cocina equipada con todos los electrodomésticos necesarios. Tiene dos baños y una habitación completamente amueblada con cama, armario, mesa de estudio y silla. Hay una terraza enorme. El precio que paga incluye Internet wi-fi, agua y limpieza semanal. Los gastos de electricidad y gas no están incluidos pero son de sólo 30 € al mes.

What type of person would be interested in this posting?

- A person who travels by subway often.
  - Someone who doesn't mind paying extra for expensive luxuries.
  - A single person who enjoys living in the countryside.
  - Someone with a large family and several pets.
9. Camila is studying to become a flight attendant and is reading examples of the different announcements that she will have to make when she is aboard the aircraft someday.

El comandante y todos nosotros les damos las gracias por elegir este vuelo con destino a Madrid. La duración estimada del vuelo será de una hora y diez minutos. Por motivos de seguridad y para evitar interferencias con los instrumentos de vuelo, les recordamos que los teléfonos móviles deberán permanecer desconectados desde el cierre de puertas y hasta su apertura en el aeropuerto de destino. Favor de guardar todo su equipaje de mano en los compartimentos superiores o debajo del asiento delantero, dejando despejados el pasillo y las salidas de emergencia. Ahora abróchense el cinturón de seguridad, mantengan el respaldo de su asiento en posición vertical y su mesita plegada. Estamos a punto de despegar. Gracias por su atención y feliz vuelo.

During which part of the trip would this announcement be made?

- During an emergency.
- At takeoff.
- At landing.
- During turbulence in the air.

10. Miguel sees the following article on a health website.

Algunos alimentos que consumimos contribuyen a la formación de caries y a la formación de bacterias. Para prevenir esto es bueno evitar el excesivo consumo de los siguientes alimentos: frutas cítricas, caramelos masticables o duros, bebidas gaseosas, vino, café y té. Los alimentos que pueden prevenir o incluso revertir el daño de nuestros dientes son los siguientes: chicles sin azúcar, agua, lácteos como la leche y el queso, fresas y comidas altas en fibras. Ahora ya sabes qué alimentos dañan tus dientes y cuáles ayudan a revertir el daño. No tienes excusas para no cuidar tus dientes y mantenerlos saludables.

What is the purpose of this text?

- It describes when to eat certain foods during the day.
  - It identifies ways to remove food from teeth without brushing.
  - It lists foods that are both good and bad for dental health.
  - It explains how bacteria can cause dental cavities.
11. While studying literary devices, you read the following text by Federico Garcia Lorca in which he presents several metaphors.

Sus cabellos son oro, su frente campos elíseos,  
sus cejas arcos del cielo, sus ojos soles,  
sus mejillas rosas, sus labios corales,  
perlas sus dientes, alabastro su cuello,  
mármol su pecho, marfil sus manos,  
su blancura nieve.

To what does Garcia Lorca compare the objects?

- Parts of the body.
  - Articles of clothing.
  - Parts of a city.
  - Daily chores.
12. You have received this offer in the mail from a national cell phone company.

Escribe tu código postal abajo y obtén 500 minutos a toda hora. Si te inscribes ahora, además recibirás llamadas ilimitadas, así como minutos de noche y fin de semana. El pago será sólo de \$39.99 mensual con un contrato nuevo de 2 años.

According to this advertisement, what is **NOT** included in this monthly package?

- Unlimited weekend calls.
- 500 anytime minutes.

- Unlimited nighttime calls.
- Unlimited text messages.

13. Matilda sees this posting about vacation packages on her way into the grocery store.

¿Te gusta nadar y broncearte? ¿Te gusta pasar el día relajándote en la arena o jugando al volibol? Si te gustan estas actividades, ven a nuestra reunión para familiarizarte con la información de viajes que ofrecemos en la Oficina del Sol. Ofrecemos varios paquetes vacacionales de diferentes actividades. Tenemos paquetes para cualquier afición. También ofrecemos paquetes turísticos de muchos lugares. Si necesitas alejarte de la tensión del trabajo o de los estudios, ven para descubrir las vacaciones perfectas para ti.

What does this advertisement offer to a prospective traveler?

- A comparison of the different tourist themes of different travel agencies.
- A price list of activities that are included in various vacation packages.
- A seminar about various travel packages.
- A description of the psychological benefits of taking a vacation.

14. While hiking through a park in Uruguay, you come across the following sign.



Mantengamos limpio nuestro parque, bosque, playa, y así estaremos colaborando con la hermosa naturaleza que nos rodea, evitando con cada desperdicio que arrojamos destruir la ecología que tanto intentamos preservar.

What is the purpose of the sign?

- To request that visitors respect the environment while using the park.



- To ask hikers to preserve the natural ecological balance by picking up after pets.
- To explain what parts of the park are closed due to recent storm damage.
- To warn of the dangers that might be encountered while hiking in the park.

## Part Two. Listening Comprehension.

This section will measure your proficiency in listening to spoken Spanish and contains 14 multiple choice questions in increasing order of difficulty. You should work as far into the section as you can.

Each item is comprised of (1) a context in English, (2) an audio clip in Spanish, and (3) a question in English. Each question is followed by four possible answers, only ONE of which is correct. Choose the **ONE** answer which best completes each statement.

To access the following audio files, please visit [www.nationalspanishexam.org](http://www.nationalspanishexam.org).

15. A teacher in Madrid is speaking with her class about an upcoming excursion to the city's downtown area.



How long will the trip to the city last?

- About six hours.
  - Until 1:30.
  - One week.
  - Until right after lunch.
16. You are in the cafeteria of an office building when a man walks up and begins talking to the woman at the next table.



What can you infer from this conversation?

- The woman is the man's boss.
  - The man and the woman are good friends but have not seen each other for some time.
  - The woman already knows the man but didn't recognize him at first.
  - The man and the woman have just met.
17. You are listening to the radio podcast discussing aspects of Panamanian culture.





What statement best summarizes the purpose of this text?

- It describes the meanings of the different colors of the flag.
- It explains the significance of the two five-point stars.
- It tells what symbols are important to Panama.
- It gives a description of Panama's flag.

18. You are in a clothing store and overhear the following conversation.



Who are these people?

- Two friends buying an outfit as a gift.
- A male clerk and a female customer.
- An employee and his manager.
- A husband and wife out shopping.

19. Paco has asked what he might contribute to Manuela's saint's day party. Manuela has left the following message in Paco's voicemail letting him know what everyone else is bringing.



What might Paco bring to the party that someone else is not already bringing?

- Napkins.
- Paper plates.
- Cheese and crackers.
- Soft drinks.

20. You are standing in line at the ticket counter at the Miami airport and overhear the following conversation between the passenger in front of you and the ticket agent.



What is the passenger's main concern?

- That her carry-on luggage won't fit in the overhead compartment.
  - That she is going to miss her connecting flight.
  - That her luggage will not get on her flight.
  - That her luggage weighs too much.
21. Arturo is out of town visiting his cousin and would like to exercise at her gym.



What will Arturo need to get into his cousin's gym?

- A credit card.
  - A parent signature.
  - His school identification card.
  - His driver's license.
22. Federico is visiting a museum with his nephew and reads the following information posted on a sign in front of one of the exhibits.



What question would the nephew most likely ask after hearing his uncle read this sign?

- Which are bigger, older or smaller stars?
  - What materials are used in the pigments of watercolors?
  - How do the eyes in the human body work?
  - Where does hydroelectric energy come from?
23. Mr. Alvarez is shopping for a new winter coat.



Why doesn't Sr. Alvarez purchase the navy blue coat?

- He does not like the color.
- It doesn't fit him well.
- He already has one that is similar.

- It's too expensive.

24. Lauren hears this conversation on a TV talk show.



What is the woman describing?

- A colorful fall parade.
- An exhibit at the zoo.
- A fashion show.
- Winter decorations.

25. Juan's mom has asked him to help with a few chores around the house.



What statement best summarizes the conversation?

- Juan has used the vacuum cleaner in both the hallway and in the living room.
- Juan is trying to get out of his chores by claiming that the vacuum cleaner is not working.
- The vacuum cleaner is broken and Juan's mom wants him to take it into the shop.
- Something strange happened to the vacuum cleaner when Juan plugged it in.

26. While watching a popular cooking show, you hear the participants discussing this dish.





What ingredients are mentioned in preparing the dish?

- Breadcrumbs and eggs.
- Two pieces of pork.
- Fillet of fish.
- Melted cheese.

27. You are listening to a report on school safety when you hear this account of a recent school visit by the local fire chief.



What do you think the fire chief reported to the principal the day after the fire drill?

- That the students should be able to evacuate the building more quickly.
- That there were a few problems which prevented a timely evacuation.
- That he was satisfied with how quickly the students left the building.
- That the principal should conduct fire drills more often.

28. Raul is questioning Marisa about what she did last weekend.



How did Marisa spend last Saturday?

- Taking pictures of celebrities.

- With an actress in a theater.
- Writing an essay at her aunt's house.
- With her aunt at the movies.



Version A

**Answer Sheet**

### **Practice Exam - National Spanish Examination - Proficiency - Level 2**

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This test measures proficiency in Spanish reading and listening comprehension.

1. Mathematics.
2. Javier and Victor.
3. To publicize a contest to win two free soccer tickets.
4. She is shy until she gets to know people.
5. To have fun.
6. The dealer is selling cars at bargain prices to make way for newer models.
7. Spending time using social media is a great way for young people to spend their leisure time.
8. A person who travels by subway often.
9. At takeoff.
10. It lists foods that are both good and bad for dental health.
11. Parts of the body.
12. Unlimited text messages.
13. A seminar about various travel packages.
14. To request that visitors respect the environment while using the park.
15. About six hours.
16. The man and the woman have just met.

17. It gives a description of Panama's flag.
18. A male clerk and a female customer.
19. Paper plates.
20. That her luggage will not get on her flight.
21. His driver's license.
22. Which are bigger, older or smaller stars?
23. It's too expensive.
24. A fashion show.
25. Juan is trying to get out of his chores by claiming that the vacuum cleaner is not working.
26. Breadcrumbs and eggs.
27. That the students should be able to evacuate the building more quickly.
28. With an actress in a theater.