

Parent/Student Information

8th Grade Spanish

Señora Hanley

Objective

The objective of this class is to continue study of the Spanish language and the associated culture.

Topics

Topics covered this year include: review of greetings, classroom objects and subjects, time and calendar; body parts; travel and transportation; prepositions and directions; regular and irregular verbs in the present tense, initial work with the past tense (preterite); holidays, geography and culture of Spain. Reading for comprehension will include a chapter book in Spanish, about a Mexican youth's adventures while traveling with his family in Spain.

Grading Policy

Quizzes/Tests – quizzes weekly; tests weighted 2x	60%
Homework – due when assigned; <u>no credit for lateness</u>	15%
Class participation/ Daily “dictado” [translation work]	25%

****NOTE:**

- Homework, quizzes and tests must be done *alone*. Failure to comply results in a grade of 0 for that work.
- **Recommended online dictionary is www.spanishdict.com** Use of online language translators is restricted to single word lookup only. Obvious usage in homework and composition assignments will result in loss of grade points.

Absent Work

Students who are absent are responsible for getting the homework and turning it in the following day. (Student should use my web page or call a fellow student.) *Typically Spanish homework is 10 minutes or less; daily practice is key to learning a second language.* **If a student is absent on the day of a scheduled quiz/test, the student will take it the next day s/he is in school.**

Participation and Respect

Participation is a key aspect of learning a foreign language. Raising your hand to speak, paying attention, being prepared, and attempting to speak in Spanish are all important aspects of participation. Equally important is respecting others' attempts to speak and participate. I expect all students to treat others and me as they would like to be treated, with courtesy and respect.

Website

Homework assignments, test and quiz dates, and project descriptions can be found on my web page:
<http://srahanleygrade8spanish.educatorpages.com/>

Extra help

I am available for extra help during activity periods, most days before school and after school with advance notice. I cannot help if I do not know there is a problem. Please ask questions and let me know if you need help.

I can be contacted at Lynn_Hanley@wrsd.net, or through the main office number at Mountview, (508) 829-5577.

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****How can I do my best in this class?*****

1. **Be organized!** A 3-ring binder (cuaderno) is required, and must be divided into the sections listed below. Try your best to keep all papers in their correct section – don't throw anything away without checking with me first! Your binder is very important and will often be your primary study resource for tests and quizzes. And, we do have graded notebook checks.

Notebook Sections:

1. **Vocabulario**
2. **Gramática**
3. **Alejandro**
4. **Tarea**
5. **Pruebas y Proyectos**

You also need a **composition notebook** for daily *dictado* (translation). You will keep it in class.

You need a Spanish/English dictionary for use at home. **Use of online language translators is restricted to single word lookup only.** Recommended online dictionary is www.spanishdict.com. Obvious usage of online translators in homework or composition assignments will result in loss of grade points.

2. **Be prepared!** Bring your cuaderno to class **each day**, as well as a **pen or pencil**.
3. **Do your homework!(Tarea):** Homework will be assigned by the end of class each day, and is posted on the board and the web as well. Homework is due at the beginning of class on the due date. **No credit is given for late homework since we usually go over it in class.** If you are absent for one day, I expect you will check the web or a classmate and make a best effort to do the work. *You can always write the homework on a piece of paper if you cannot print it out.* Homework must be done alone unless otherwise stated.
4. **Study a bit each day!** You should review each night in order to be able to do the daily *dictado*, since it involves whatever vocabulary and grammar we are working on. **DO NOT** wait until the night before a test to study the material – this is the fastest, easiest way to failure!
5. **Do your best on projects!** There will be at least one major project per term and several small projects. Their dates and topics will be announced well in advance. Solid effort in this area can help your grade. ****NOTE:** You will be allowed to choose a project partner for some projects. Choose carefully, as all team members are expected to contribute.
6. **Participate in class!** The more you try to communicate in Spanish, the faster you will learn to speak. Participation in a language class is probably more important than in any other class you have. Please don't be afraid to make mistakes – everyone is going to make many mistakes – it is a natural part of the learning process! I also hope to hear you speak Spanish to me and to your classmates outside of class. Try to have fun with the language!

Put this in the front of your Spanish notebook for easy reference!