

Moderation Feedback – Central - 2005

Assessment Panel:

Modern Languages

Qualification area

NQ

**Subject(s) and Level(s)
included in this report**

Intermediate 1 Spanish X063 10
Intermediate 2 Spanish X063 11
Higher Spanish X063 12

General comments on moderation activity

All centres were Accepted in this year's moderation of Spanish at Intermediate 1, 2 and Higher levels.

Intermediate 1 Spanish

Candidates on the whole performed well and it was clear there had been a lot of preparation and practice beforehand.

Intermediate 2 Spanish

There was much evidence that candidates had been well prepared for the discussion part in particular although there were instances when discussions were prolonged and did not give the candidates any additional advantage.

Higher Spanish

The candidates performed well in terms of language and content. However, there was evidence that some candidates had been over prepared in that the follow-up discussion was not spontaneous enough.

Specific issues identified

There were three main areas where misunderstanding of procedures occurred:

- (i) The duration of the oral exam at Intermediate 1 Level and the duration of the follow-up discussion at Intermediate 2 Level. Two centres unnecessarily prolonged these.
- (ii) The nature of the follow-up discussion at Intermediate 2 and Higher Levels. There seemed to be a lack of spontaneity in one of the centres where candidates were asked a question about a topic and then not given the opportunity to develop the topic in subsequent questions.
- (iii) In one of the centres there was a distinct lack of understanding of the prescribed themes for Higher Level.

The moderation activity itself was very successful and no problems were encountered.

Feedback to centres

In general, it appears that centres are preparing their candidates to the standards and specifications required for all three levels moderated this year. The level and range of vocabulary and grammar employed by candidates is very much in line with the grammar grids for each level and the Moderators were pleased with this. However, it should be noted that more than one centre moderated unnecessarily prolonged the oral exam at Intermediate 1 and 2 levels.