



Canberra Academy of Languages

Unit Outline – Beginning Spanish

Unit overview

Unit: 43214 Society and Community T (1.0)

Timeframe: 2022, Semester 2

Course: 5910 BEGINNING SPANISH

Teacher: Eleanor Body

Unit Description

Students learn how different language communities are organized. They learn through the target language how to engage in diverse cultural practices and consider these in relation to their own. Students explore how to participate in society and the community.

Unit Goals

This unit should enable students to:

- evaluate the dynamic interrelationship of language and culture, and the importance of intercultural capabilities
- acquire language learning processes and strategies which enable students to communicate understandings about communities.

Content

The theme of “society and community” will be addressed in this unit through the organisers/domains and focus areas listed under the domains for reflection by students, as shown below. For the nexus to topics, see the term overviews where the domains are referenced by the numbering below.

Q1: Society and Community a

1) Engaging with texts in relation to society and community

- a) Roles and responsibilities in education, occupations and tradition
- b) Expression of ideas, beliefs and values

2) Contexts of language and culture

- a) Effect of intercultural understanding on communication and interaction in society and community
- b) Aspects of intercultural communication such as register and body language
- c) How customs/traditions may vary within and between cultures
- d) Own language learning and intercultural experiences

3) Values, beliefs and perspectives

- a) Self and others as members of society
- b) How society and community are established and maintained through cultural, intercultural and intracultural perspectives
- c) Reflection on own values, beliefs and practices.

Q2: Society and Community b

4) Features of language use

- a) Ideas, concepts and opinions related to social organisation and engagement
- b) Sharing ideas and understanding perspectives
- c) Responding to audience, purpose and context in spoken and written interactions with consideration of gender, age or dialect
- d) Processes and strategies in viewing, listening and reading
- e) Grammatical features and functions for communication, accuracy, complexity and fluency

5) Reflection

Reflection on learning processes recognising cognitive, cultural, personal and linguistic elements of language acquisition

6) Engaging with texts in relation to society and community - sequel

Language specific information

For language specific information, including an overview of essential understandings and grammar for the program, see Appendix F in each BSSS ACT BSSS Modern Languages course document.

Assessment Items

Assessment Item Task Mode	Category	Week	Weighting %
Reading	Test conditions	6	30
Listening	Inquiry	8	20
Writing	Test conditions	13	30
Speaking	Inquiry	15	20

Test conditions and enquiry based categories and weightings will alternate within each half-unit each semester.

Assessment Criteria

Students will be assessed on the degree to which they demonstrate understanding and communicating through assessment tasks using the four macro skills. For marking schemes, refer to assessment task descriptions, which will be published on the class pages for the current semester on Languages.Org.Au.

Assessment Procedures

Completion of assessment items: Students are required to substantially complete and submit all assessment items that contribute to the assessment for a unit unless due cause and adequate evidence is provided. Otherwise, any student who fails to submit assessment tasks worth in total 70% or more of the assessment for the unit will be deemed to have voided the unit.

Late submission of work: Late non-test work will be subject to a penalty of 5% per day including weekends, unless prior arrangement is made for an extension, supported by evidence of due cause for the extension.

Moderation: Moderation within CAL includes the meshing process described under "Meshing". Moderation is conducted every semester within CAL and at system level to ensure comparability of grades from different units and schools. Small group moderation is used for cohorts of fewer than 10 students.

Calculation of unit scores and course scores: Unit scores are derived from marks allocated according to the assessment item weightings. Course scores are based on unit scores reported over the duration of a student's program of study. Course scores in each T or H course are calculated from a student's best 80% unit scores. See the [overview about scaling and the ATAR](#) on BSSS website.

The meshing process for units in CAL programs includes the use of common assessment criteria; similar assessment task design for units within each scaling group; and consultations with teachers of the units prior to finalising unit scores.

Academic integrity: Assessment tasks must be done without plagiarism. Advice in relation to ownership of work, acknowledgement of sources and plagiarism is outlined on the ACT BSSS website. See BSSS Policy & Procedures Manual for details.

Appeals: Procedures for appealing a grade or score are outlined on the page "[Your rights to appeal](#)" on BSSS website.

Attendance/Participation: Students should attend and participate in all scheduled classes and structured learning activities for the units in which they are enrolled, including required components of homework. A student whose attendance falls below 90% of the participation requirements in a unit without due cause supported by adequate evidence will be deemed to have voided the unit.

Achievement standards, assessment tasks, program of learning

Achievement standards for this unit can be found in the course document. See the BSSS curriculum page: https://www.bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum > select the link to "BSSS A/T/M/V/C Courses".

Assessment task descriptions are posted to class pages on <https://languages.org.au> in the lead-up to assessment tasks. Select your language from the navigation bar; scroll to the link for the current semester.

Assessment rubrics are based on the task type, task mode and assessment criteria (see above) and on the achievement standards.

For information about assessment task types, see the course document, and assessment task descriptions via the links on the class page on <https://languages.org.au>.

Additional information about assessment is available from www.cal.act.edu.au/programs.htm#assessment and <https://cal.act.edu.au/events.htm> (look for the pen-and-paper icon associated with assessment tasks).

The CAL program of learning for each unit comprises the unit outline, the term overviews, and the weekly modules. More details are available at <https://languages.org.au> and on the CAL Google Classroom portal.