

DIPLOMAS DE ESPAÑOL COMO LENGUA EXTRANJERA 2006

**AN
OPPORTUNITY
NOT TO BE
MISSED...**



**...to further your career.
...to enhance your CV.
...to work and study in Spain and Latin America.
...to be officially accredited as competent in Spanish.**

Everyday more and more people are finding out about the advantages of having this Diploma.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Administrated and issued by the Instituto Cervantes on behalf of the Spanish Ministry of Education, these are official qualifications certifying levels of competence in Spanish.

The Diplomas will be considered as sufficient qualifications of knowledge of the language for any professional or academic activity in Spain requiring the appropriate level of competence. Furthermore, they are complementary certifications to the programs of statutory education of foreign languages in many countries and institutions, and they are also instrumental in aiding personal promotion in academic and professional spheres.

EXAMINATIONS CURRENTLY AVAILABLE

The Instituto Cervantes is member of the Association of Language Testers in Europe (ALTE). This association has participated in the document entitled The Common European Framework of Reference for Languages, in which the Diplomas in Spanish are integrated as follows:

A1	Breakthrough		A2	Waystage	
B1	Threshold	DELE Nivel Inicial	B2	Vantage	DELE Nivel Intermedio
C1	Effective operational proficiency		C2	Mastery	DELE Nivel Superior

ENROLMENT

In order to enrol it is necessary to provide the following documentation:

- Correctly completed enrolment form which can be obtained from an Examination Centre or from the website <http://diplomas.cervantes.es> under "Hoja de inscripción" download "Fichero 1" and "Fichero 2".
- 2 Photocopies of identification document. The ID document must include a photograph and full name, nationality and date of birth. Information supplied on the candidate's enrolment form must correspond with that on the ID document.
- Signed declaration, if applicable, of the fulfilment of at least two of the conditions described under "General candidate requirements" which can be obtained from an Examination Centre or from the website <http://diplomas.cervantes.es> under "Hoja de inscripción" download "Declaración E/L2".

Once enrolment fees are paid, no refund will be granted except under the following two conditions:

- If the candidate communicates his / her desire to withdraw from the exam at least 30 days prior to the examination date: a full refund will be given.
- If the candidate communicates his/her desire to withdraw from the exam between 30 and 15 days prior to the examination date: a refund of 50% of the fee will be given.

EXAMINATION DATES AND FEES 2006

Examinations take place over two ordinary sets of dates (May and November).

Examination dates	Friday 12th May 2006*	Registration dates	1st March- 7th April
	Friday 24th November 2006*		4th September-13th October

	fees**	students at IC (30% discount)	groups registered at IC
DELE Inicial	£ 64	£ 45	£ 55
DELE Intermedio	£ 90	£ 63	£ 77
DELE Superior	£ 105	£ 74	£ 90

* For the oral paper, candidates will be given individual appointments: Friday 12th May (p.m.) and Friday 24th November (p.m.) or Saturday 13th May and Saturday 25th November if necessary.

** Fees depend on examination sites.

EXAMINATION FORMAT

The examination consists of 5 papers (each one including different exercises):

- reading comprehension
- listening comprehension
- writing
- grammar and vocabulary
- speaking

DIPLOMA INICIAL / BEGINNER LEVEL

This attests to sufficient linguistic ability for understanding and responding appropriately in most normal day-to-day situations and for expressing desires and needs on a basic level. The test consists of:

EXAM PAPER	DURATION	FORMAT
Reading comprehension	40 minutes	Candidates must be able to understand short, simple, practical and highly contextualised written texts. a. Candidates must answer by selecting the appropriate answer to multiple-choice questions on informative texts. b. Candidates must select information from a text, based on a series of questions.
Written expression	50 minutes	Candidates must be able to produce brief, simple texts of a practical nature (an application form, other types of form, notes, notices, advertisements, postcards, short letters).
Listening comprehension	30 minutes	Candidates must be able to understand short, simple dialogues and direct texts to a satisfactory level. Candidates must do 4 exercises based on simple dialogues or recorded information, by choosing the correct answers.
Grammar and Vocabulary	40 minutes	a. Candidates must match up different sentences with their corresponding answers. b. Candidates must locate, in several sentences, the words or expressions that are out of context. c. Candidates must complete a text by selecting the correct options.
Oral expression	10 minutes	Candidates are evaluated individually. They must be able to hold on a general conversation about themselves, participate in a role-play, speak about a situation and express opinions based on visual stimuli. Candidates must carry on a 10 to 15 minutes conversation with the panel.

DIPLOMA INTERMEDIO / INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

This validates sufficient linguistic ability to cope in average day-to-day situations in normal communicative circumstances which do not require specialized use of the language. The test is made up of the following parts:

EXAM PAPER	DURATION	FORMAT
Reading comprehension	60 minutes	Candidates must be able to read authentic texts, primarily informative and of general interest (instruction manuals, pamphlets, newspapers, etc.). Candidates will select the right answer to 12 multiple-choice questions, on 4 texts, each of which will be no longer than 450 words.
Written expression	60 minutes	They must carry out two tasks: the first is to write a letter on one of two topics. The second is to write a composition of a narrative, descriptive or discursive nature. Each exercise should be between 150 and 200 words long.
Listening comprehension	30 minutes	Candidates must be able to understand factual information (news, a conversation, an interview, a set of instructions, etc.). Candidates will answer 12 multiple choice questions on a 4 oral text (recordings).
Grammar and Vocabulary	60 minutes	Candidates will carry out the following two exercises: a. Fill in the gaps (20 spaces): candidates must choose the most appropriate option from the 3 given for each blank space. b. They must fill the gaps in 40 short dialogues with the best option.
Oral expression	10-15 minutes	Candidates are evaluated individually and must be able to discuss, explain and express opinions. They take part in a dialogue with the examiner, based on visual and written stimuli.

DIPLOMA SUPERIOR / PROFICIENCY LEVEL

This accredits the necessary linguistic competence to integrate in situations requiring an advanced use of the language and knowledge of the cultural customs embedded within it. The test is made up of the following parts:

EXAM PAPER	DURATION	FORMAT
Reading comprehension	60 minutes	Candidates will read authentic texts of several types, taken from newspapers, magazines or literary sources. Candidates will carry out the following two exercises: a. They must select the correct answer to 9 multiple choice questions on 3 texts, each of which will be no longer than 800 words. b. They must match up a maximum of 10 series of text fragments.
Written expression	60 minutes	Candidates must be able to write non-specialized texts of a professional nature, between 150 and 200 words long each. Candidates will compose: a. A formal letter on one topic taken from two choices, on a choices, on a number of given points. b. A composition of a narrative, descriptive or discursive nature, based on some general outlines.
Listening comprehension	45 minutes	Candidates will answer 16 multiple-choice questions on 4 oral texts (recordings). The recordings will be conversations between two or more speakers, or comments or reports broadcast in the media.
Grammar and Vocabulary	60 minutes	Candidates must complete the following three exercises: a. Fill in the gaps (20 spaces): candidates must choose the most appropriate option from the 3 given for each space. b. Multiple choice exercise: using one of the given options, candidates must fill in the gaps in 35 sentences. c. They must find 5 grammatical errors in one or several short texts.
Oral expression	10-15 minutes	Candidates are evaluated individually and must be able to discuss, explain and express opinions. They take part in a dialogue with the examiner, based on visual and written stimuli.

MARKING SYSTEM

The maximum examination grade is 100 marks. The different tests are grouped as follows:

Group I:	Reading comprehension (20 marks) and Writing (15 marks): 35 marks.
Group II:	Grammar and Vocabulary: 20 marks.
Group III:	Listening comprehension (15 marks) and Speaking (30 marks): 45 marks.

70% is required in each Group to pass the exam.

PRACTICE PAPERS AND BOOKS FOR EXAM PREPARATION

Practice papers are available on the following websites:

<http://diplomas.cervantes.es>

<http://cvc.cervantes.es>

The following books are useful when preparing for the DELE examinations:

- Diploma Inicial: M. Baralo, B. Gilbert y B. Moreno de los Ríos, *Preparación Certificado Inicial Español Lengua Extranjera*, Edelsa, Madrid.
- Diploma Intermedio: J. Arribas y R. M. de Castro, *Preparación Diploma Básico Español Lengua Extranjera*, Edelsa, Madrid.
- Diploma Intermedio: T. García y otros, *El cronómetro. Manual de preparación del DELE*, Edinumen, Madrid.
- Diploma Superior: D. Gálvez y otros, *Preparación Diploma Superior Español Lengua Extranjera*, Edelsa, Madrid.

EXAMINATION SITES IN UNITED KINGDOM**INSTITUTO CERVANTES MANCHESTER**

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