

Class Expectations and Course Overview
SPANISH I
Mrs. R. Hull
Bienvenidos – Welcome!

It is my pleasure to welcome you to your study of Spanish. In Spanish I, students will learn to describe and talk about present activities, talk about themselves, school, family, likes and dislikes, activities, home, weather, clothing, and some foods. Grammar and vocabulary practice will be an integral part of the class, along with the addition of cultural activities and projects. Throughout the course, students will focus on developing the four core components of the Spanish language: Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening.

Classroom Expectations

- A. In my classroom, you may expect me to provide:
 - 1. A safe, positive learning environment,
 - 2. An introduction to the language, culture, and geography of the Spanish-speaking world,
 - 3. Opportunities to hear and use the Spanish language, and
 - 4. Respect for each of you as individuals.

- B. I will expect the following from you:
 - 1. Your words and actions will show respect for yourself, your classmates, your teachers and for the cultures you will be studying,
 - 2. You will come to class each day PREPARED with materials and assignments,
 - 3. You will work cooperatively in pair and group activities, and
 - 4. You will speak Spanish as you learn it!!

Any disciplinary issues will be resolved using policies set forth by the 2015/2016 Student Handbook.

Course Material

In addition to class notes and vocabulary lists generated by the TAHS world language department, we will be using a classroom-only textbook; *Somos así en sus marcas*, published by EMC Paradigm, 2000, to supplement our learning of general vocabulary in context, pronunciation, important phrases and basic grammatical structures.

In addition, most vocabulary lists, notes, presentations and worksheets from class will be posted to the website for easy access.

PLEASE BRING FROM HOME by the end of the first week of class

3-ring binder

AND a one-subject notebook for daily review activities (graded)

Optional but highly recommended:

index cards for vocab practice

divider tabs for binder

10 page protectors

Students must bring Spanish binder and notebook to class daily, along with a pencil. Daily activities will require reference to previous notes and vocabulary, therefore, being unprepared for class will result in points deductions and possible discipline referrals.

Units of Study

I – **Mucho gusto** (basic introductions and conversation)

II – **El colegio** (talking about school)

III – **Relaciones** (family and description)

IV – **La vida diaria** (daily events, pastimes)

V – **La ciudad** (around the town and city)

VI – **¿Qué tiempo hace?** (weather, seasons, holidays)

VII – **El hogar** (around the house)

Grades

I use a total points system. You may view your grades from any Internet connection as they are updated on the MMS grades website <http://mms.tamaqua.k12.pa.us>. Check assignments on the school website - www.tamaqua.k12.pa.us

Each quarter, points will be given in the following categories:

Homework – Homework is frequent but generally not time consuming. Homework will be collected or checked at the beginning of class. Late homework is not accepted, except in extraordinary circumstances.

Class work and Projects- frequent in-class writing assignments, periodic notebook checks, and small quarterly projects. Class work is a vitally important opportunity to apply new knowledge and practice assignments will be given with each new concept. Students who waste time, bother classmates, or copy other students' work will be given a zero for the assignment and possibly a discipline referral. Class work is to be completed IN CLASS and may not be "saved" for study hall or home.

Presentations and oral examinations – these will focus on speaking skills. Students will be required to give short presentations, and oral proficiency examinations (interview style) will be administered periodically.

Tests and Quizzes - During each 9-week quarter, you may expect frequent verb/vocabulary quizzes, regular grammar quizzes, and Unit tests.

Each quarter will be worth 20% of your final grade, the other 20% comes from your mid-term and final examinations. **I do not offer extra credit.** Students are expected to complete all work as assigned throughout the year.

Participation – students may earn (or lose) points daily based upon active participation in Spanish class. 0 – 5 points – determined by total number accumulated in daily activities - will be added or subtracted at the end of each quarter. Points are earned by being attentive and prepared, answering questions and speaking Spanish. Points are lost by being unprepared for class (example: no notes or pencil), being disruptive or off-task, or speaking English during practice time.

Personal electronic devices – use of personal technology devices such as ipods, ipads, droids, kindles etc. is **not permitted during class time**. Exceptions will be announced by instructor. (For example, on vocabulary days)

Missed Days

When you miss a day, **it is your responsibility to check for and complete missed work. Assignments will be noted on my TAHS webpage.** (www.tamaqua.k12.pa.us) On the day you return from an absence, you will be expected to turn in any work due. Check website (if internet is available to you) BEFORE asking teacher about what you missed! IF you know in advance that you will be absent, see me prior to your absence for work, or check the website! **A student is not excused from scheduled tests or quizzes** on the day he or she returns from a normal absence. Quizzes and tests are always announced in advance.

Support:

To help you stay on top of your Spanish I work, calls home will be made when you are missing 3 or more assignments. **Academic detention or academic support will be assigned** when assignments are not turned in or when consecutive failing grades are posted. Academic detention and academic support happen in my room at 2:30 on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Other arrangements can be made as circumstances dictate.

Re-take policy – Everyone gets overwhelmed at times, and everyone forgets sometimes. Therefore, a student may elect to re-take ONE grammar quiz and ONE vocabulary quiz per quarter. **RETAKES MAY ONLY OCCUR ON YOUR TIME** – that is AFTER 2:30. Retakes are not offered for Unit Tests, exams or projects.

A word about academic dishonesty and online translators

Students who seem preoccupied with pants, pockets, legs, the floor and other students' work during tests and quizzes will receive a zero on the assessment. The instructor will not interrupt the test, but the assessment will be returned with a zero the next day. If a student feels unfairly judged, the instructor may offer an opportunity for him or her to demonstrate mastery of the material on the spot. Use of online translators in writing assignments is plagiarism, and therefore will result in a zero for the assignment

Attitude

Students who come to class each day prepared for class, ready to participate, and respectful of others will have a great year and learn lots of Spanish! In the opposite case, a difficult situation will arise, creating an unpleasant environment for all.

So, let's be prepared at all times to follow this rule of thumb:

“If you can't say something nice, don't say (anything) at all!”

–Thumper

¡¡ Bienvenidos a español I !!

Please sign and return this portion by Friday August 28, 2014

I have read and understand Mrs. Hull's class expectations.

Parent name (please print)

Student name (please print)

Parent signature

Student signature

*Please indicate how you would like to be contacted by filling in the names, numbers and or e-mail addresses you would prefer that I use.

Parent contact information:

Parent/Guardian #1

Name: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

Parent/Guardian #2 (if applicable)

Name: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

Daytime E-mail: _____

Daytime E-mail: