

May 12, 2008

Dear Rising 9th Grader,

Welcome to the International Baccalaureate (I.B.) program at Oscar Smith High School! My name is Señora Freundt (rhymes with "point"), and I will be your Spanish teacher next year. In Pre-IB Spanish 2, you will continue to build upon the skills that you learned in Spanish 1. Areas of emphasis will be reading for comprehension, writing for expression and reinforcement, and gaining insights into the cultures where Spanish is spoken.

We will be using quite a bit of Spanish from the very beginning. To prepare, I would strongly recommend that you review the material you learned in Spanish 1 over the summer. Additionally, you might find it helpful to watch cartoons in Spanish, listen to Spanish music, interact with Spanish-speaking friends/neighbors, or read a local newspaper published in Spanish. There are also a number of websites online that can help you review verb tenses and learn more about Hispanic culture.

This summer, I am asking that you complete the enclosed assignment to prepare you for the first day of class. It is due on **August 1** (completed assignments can be mailed or dropped off in the main office of the school). Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about the assignment. I am also enclosing a list of supplies that you will need this year. I hope that you have a terrific summer, and I look forward to meeting you in the fall!

Warmly,

Kelly R. Freundt
Spanish Teacher
Oscar F. Smith High School
freunkra@cps.k12.va.us

Materials Needed

- An English/Spanish dictionary
- A three-ring binder (1 - 1½")
- Pack of 5-tab dividers
- Loose leaf notebook paper
- A box of tissues
- Index cards
- Pens/pencils

Pre-IB Spanish 2 Summer Assignment

Write a letter of introduction (in Spanish!) that includes the following information:

- A personal description
- A description of your house and neighborhood
- A description of your family
- A description of your friends
- Things that you like and dislike

Your letter should:

- be typed
- be double-spaced
- include a picture at the beginning (in the upper right hand corner)
- size 12, Times New Roman Font
- have at least five paragraphs (at least four "meaty" lines per topic)
- be turned in no later than August 1, 2007



Completed work should be brought or mailed to:

Oscar F. Smith High School
Attn: Kelly Freundt
1994 Tiger Drive
Chesapeake, VA 23320

If you decide to mail your work, be sure to send it several days in advance. Any work arriving after the August 1 deadline will be considered late and points will be deducted from the final grade.

The following rubric will be used to determine your grade.

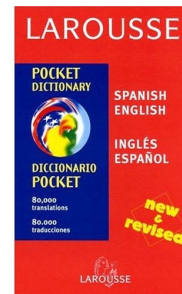
5 = excelente 4 = muy bien 3 = bien 2 = bastante débil 1 = débil

1. The question/task is sufficiently answered/completed.
2. All requirements have been met (format, topic, and photograph).
3. The journal is organized, clear, and easy to follow. The entry flows smoothly from one topic to another.
4. Spelling and punctuation are accurate.
5. Correctly uses grammar and sentence structure.
6. Verb tenses are accurate and level appropriate.
7. Adjectives agree with the nouns they describe.
8. Vocabulary is level appropriate, but not repetitive.
9. Accents are used correctly. Few, if any, are missing.
10. The student worked to the best of his/her ability and the effort is notable.

Total score: _____ / 50 points

Dictionaries: Use of a Spanish-English dictionary is acceptable, but not required for the completion of this assignment. If you do not have a pocket Spanish-English dictionary of your own, this is a worthwhile purchase you might want to consider. A few excellent choices are:

- Larousse Concise Spanish-English Dictionary
- Vox Compact Spanish and English Dictionary
- Webster's New World Pocket Dictionary
- Harper-Collins Beginners Dictionary



There are also language dictionaries available online. I recommend www.spanishdict.com and www.diccionarios.com. **Please be advised that the use of online translation sites (where you type in entire sentences or paragraphs) is a violation of the Oscar Smith Honor Code.**

¡Ojo! Please be careful when looking up words in the dictionary. Make sure that you are looking at the correct part of speech (i.e. If you look up "can," are you looking for the noun *lata* or the verb *poder*?) You might want to cross-reference words by looking them up in the opposite section of the dictionary. For example, if you look up the Spanish word for "kid," you will see the words *calbrito* and *niño*. However, *calbrito* refers to a baby goat (also called a "kid"). By looking up the word *calbrito* in the Spanish section of your dictionary, you will see that it refers to an animal, not a person. At this level, I recommend that dictionary use be limited to looking up unfamiliar nouns and adjectives. Most dictionaries will not tell you if a verb is irregular (i.e. *poder* is a stem-changing verb, *o > ue*), so use the verbs that you learned in Spanish I.