THE MELT SOCIETY

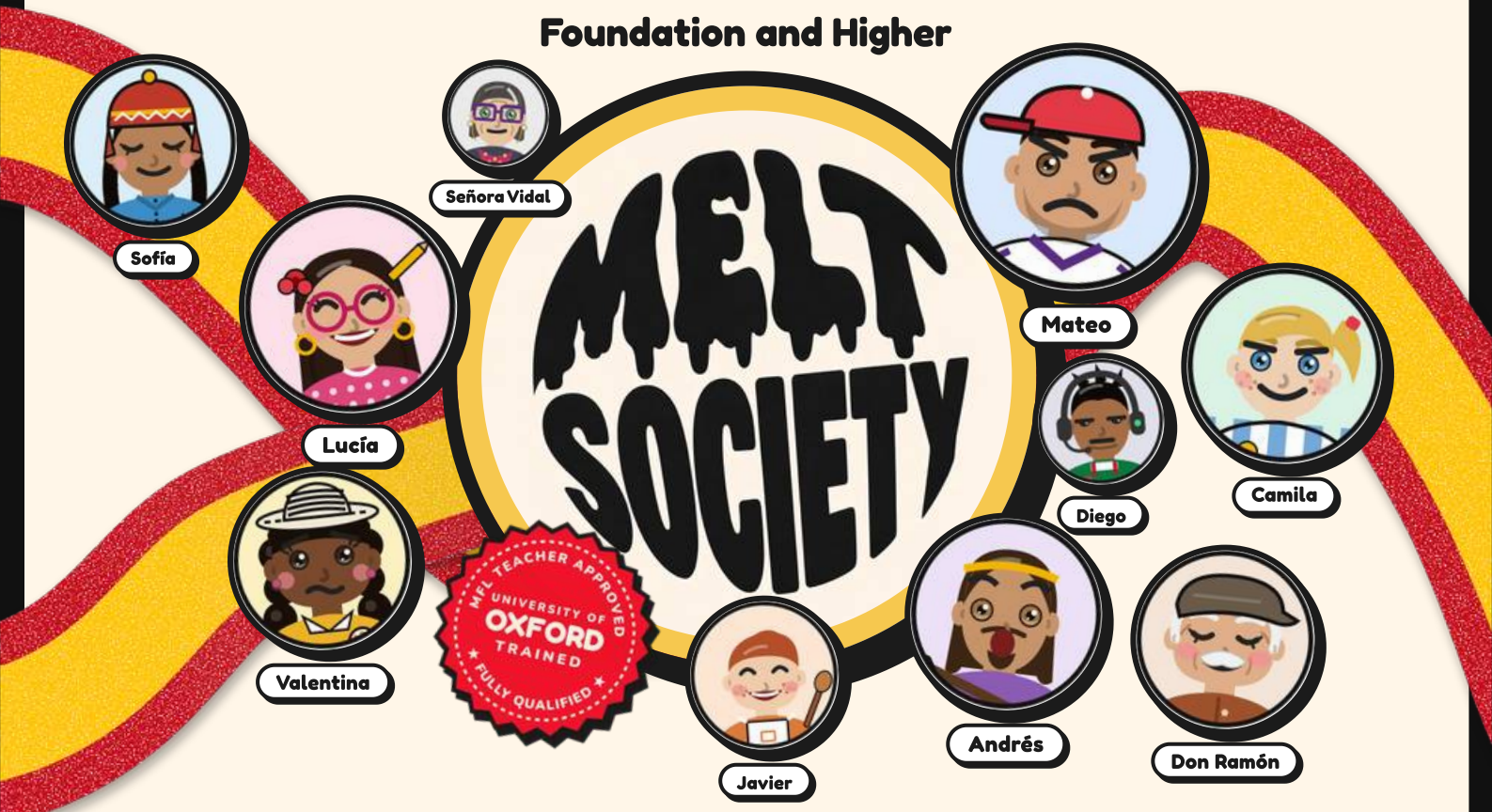
Method for Effective Language Teaching

GCSE Spanish – Edexcel

MELT SPANISH

Reading and writing workbook

Foundation and Higher



8 modules. 40 units. Full answers.

Ten friends from across the Spanish-speaking world to guide you.
Written by an Oxford-trained, fully qualified MFL teacher.

THE MELT SOCIETY

MELT Spanish · GCSE Spanish
Reading and writing workbook, Foundation and Higher

MELT stands for Method for Effective Language Teaching.
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¡Hola! Meet the Cast

Ten friends from Spain and Latin America who will be with you on every page

SEVILLA, ESPAÑA — ES

Lucía

Romero Díaz, 15

«¡Qué guay!»
How cool!

Good vibes	100
Highlighters owned	94
Sarcasm	3

Sunny optimist

In the book: the hype girl. Leads the reading tasks and celebrates every small win.

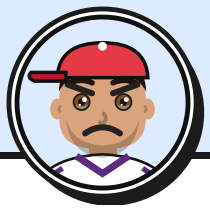
Loves: Flamenco on Fridays and reading novels on the bus.

Quirk: Keeps a pencil behind her ear and forgets it is there.

MADRID, ESPAÑA — ES

Mateo

García Torres, 16



«Uf, qué rollo.»
Ugh, what a drag.

Football	100
Homework enthusiasm	4
Gets it right anyway	98

Grumpy perfectionist

In the book: the grump who moans, then quietly gets full marks in the writing tasks.

Loves: Five-a-side football and basketball in the park.

Quirk: Complains loudly, then quietly writes the best answer in the class.

BOGOTÁ, COLOMBIA — ES

Valentina

Ortiz Restrepo, 15

«¿Y si sale mal?»
What if it goes wrong?

Worry level	97
Animals rescued	88
Plans B, C and D	100

Anxious and kind-hearted

In the book: the worrier whose texts you translate, checked word by word.

Loves: Volunteering at an animal shelter.

Quirk: Writes a back-up plan for her back-up plan.

CDMX, MÉXICO — ES

Diego

Hernández Cruz, 16

«Técnicamente...»
Technically...

Grammar accuracy	100
Facial expression	6
Rhetorical questions answered	100

Deadpan logician

In the book: Diego's grammar code, one rule done properly, plus the Sentence Machines.

Loves: Speedrunning video games and building PCs.

Quirk: Explains any grammar rule in one breath, without blinking.

BUENOS AIRES — ES

Camila

Fernández Rossi, 16

«¡Dale, sin excusas!»
Come on, no excuses!

Determination	100
Stopwatch use	91
Excuses accepted	0

Fierce and fair

In the book: the captain who coaches you to Grade 9 in the long writing tasks.

Loves: Hockey and debating club.

Quirk: Times everything with a stopwatch, even breakfast.

SALAMANCA, ESPAÑA — ES

Señora Vidal

(Carmen) Vidal Moreno, 54

«Con acentos, por favor.»
With accents, please.

Essays marked	10k
Strict but fair	95
Secretly funny	88

Strict but kind

In the book: sets the exam practice and is firmly on the teachers' side.

Loves: Opera and solving crosswords in ink.

Quirk: Can spot a missing accent from across the room.

VALENCIA, ESPAÑA — ES

Javier

Navarro Ruiz, 15

«¿Hay comida?»
Is there any food?

Hunger	100
Paella skills	90
Bocadillos found	8

Cheerful and always hungry

In the book: keeps the word banks stocked, one snack at a time.

Loves: Cooking paella with his grandfather.

Quirk: Learns words faster when they are about food.

LIMA, PERÚ — ES

Sofía

Castillo Vargas, 16

«Tranqui, respira.»
Chill, breathe.

Calm	100
Highlighter colours	11
Panic	2

Calm planner

In the book: pops up with a plan when revision gets stressful.

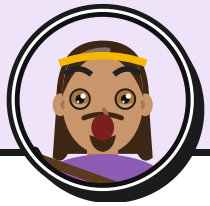
Loves: Hiking and yoga at sunrise.

Quirk: Colour-codes her revision timetable with eleven highlighters.

SANTIAGO, CHILE — ES

Andrés

Molina Soto, 17



«¡Qué drama!»
So dramatic!

Drama	100
Guitar solos	92
Inside voice	5

Born performer

In the book: asks the speaking questions and adds flair to every answer.

Loves: Guitar and open-mic nights.

Quirk: Turns every answer into a song or a speech.

VALENCIA, ESPAÑA — ES

Don Ramón

Ruiz Ferrer, 76

«En mis tiempos...»
In my day...

Stories told	100
Dominoes won	85
Short versions	4

Nostalgic storyteller

In the book: hosts the culture corners, with festivals, history and tall tales.

Loves: Dominoes in the plaza and growing oranges.

Quirk: Every story starts in 1968 and takes the scenic route.

Regional words. Spanish is spoken in more than twenty countries, so you will meet a few regional words. They are always labelled. For the exam, make the specification vocabulary your revision priority.

How this book works

Every unit follows the same path, with the same colours all the way through

1 · Reading

A do now warm-up, texts with questions (Foundation and Higher), a Verb hunt, a word puzzle, translation into English and a cultural inquiry.

2 · Writing

Gap fill, translation into Spanish, your own writing, a Sentence Machine, Diego's grammar code with a Verb workout, and the speaking checklist. Each module has a focus tense (present, then preterite, near future, future, imperfect and conditional), and the Verb workout chip says

Focus

when it drills that tense or

Recall

when it brings back an earlier one.

3 · End of module

This module's challenge, a vocabulary page, The MELT Society recap, exam practice with model answers, then the answer key.

The colour code

Reading task
Sky blue. Read in Spanish, answer in English, translate into English.

Writing task
Coral. Gap fills, translation into Spanish and your own writing.

Grammar · Diego's grammar code
Bright green. One grammar rule per unit, linked to the specification.

Sentence Machine
Turquoise. Pick one chunk per column to build correct sentences fast.

From the speaking exam
Bubblegum pink. Questions you could be asked in the speaking exam, answerable with the language on that page.

Vocabulary
Lilac. Word banks and a vocabulary page in every module, with a line to cover as you revise.

Cultural inquiry
Sunshine yellow with polka dots. Real places, regional words, things to find out.

Exam practice
Ink navy and gold. Exam-style tasks with Grade 9 and Grade 7 models. Exam and revision tips are teal.

Cognate connection
Leaf green with grid lines. Spanish next to English, Italian, French and Portuguese, with a pattern rule.

Same word, different place
Amber. How Spain, Mexico, Argentina, Chile and Colombia say it.

Culture corner
Orange. Festivals, places and news, with a picture, timeline, quiz or debate.

Can I answer these?
Candy-cane pink stripes. A speaking checklist at the end of each unit.

F Foundation H Higher F/H both tiers. Foundation students: try the Higher tasks when you feel ready. **Verbs are in bold** in every text so you can spot the tense.

Module colours (top band and page tab only)

1 Me and my people
2 Healthy body, healthy mind
3 Free time and culture
4 Life online
5 Where I live
6 Our planet
7 School and my future
8 Travel and tourism

Sofía: «Tranqui, respira.» One spread at a time. Twenty minutes a day beats three hours the night before.

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A note for parents and carers. This workbook is written for the Pearson Edexcel GCSE Spanish (1SP1) specification for first teaching from 2024, covering the six themes and the grammar for both tiers. Each unit takes about 40 minutes. The answer key at the end of every module means your child can work independently, and you can check their work without speaking Spanish.

Grab your phone!

Scan me for quick, fun MELT videos

themeltsociety.co.uk/watch

Module 1

Me and my people

Yo y mi gente

Thematic context: My personal world. Grammar focus: present tense of ser, tener and regular verbs; adjective agreement.

In this module

1.1 ¿Quién soy yo? — Who am I? — page 7

1.2 Mi familia — My family — page 15

1.3 Mis amigos — Friends and what makes a good friend — page 20

1.4 Me llevo bien con... — Relationships and getting on at home — page 26

1.5 Igualdad y respeto — Equality and respect — page 32

By the end, I can...

- I can introduce myself and describe my appearance and personality.
- I can describe my family and say how I get on with them.
- I can describe a friend and say what makes a good friend.
- I can say how I get on with my family and why.
- I can give opinions about equality and respect, with reasons.

Jack's tip · Did you notice?
Su madre can mean "his mother", "her mother" or "their mother". Possessives agree with the thing owned: *mis hermanos*, *nuestra casa*.

Lucía: «¡Qué guay! Empezamos con la gente que más quieres.»

En las noticias · el deporte femenino
En 2023 la selección española femenina ganó el Mundial de fútbol por primera vez. La final fue en Sídney, Australia. *Find out: which other Spanish-speaking countries have strong women's football leagues?*

★ **This module's challenge:** Detective case file: who took the phone? (page 38).
Also in this module: a vocabulary page to test yourself, The MELT Society recap, exam practice with Grade 9 and Grade 7 model answers, and the answer key.

1.1 ¿Quién soy yo?

Who am I? · Module 1: Me and my people

Reading

Lucía leads

Do now Retrieval, 2 minutes, from this module: **1)** la hermana → English **2)** *to have* → Spanish **3)** el hermano → English ___ / 3

1 **Read Lucía's post. Answer the questions in English.** F/H — **6 marks**

¡Hola! Me **llamo** Lucía y **tengo** quince años. **Vivo** en Sevilla, una ciudad grande en el sur de España, con mis padres, mi hermano mayor, Pablo, y nuestro perro, Toby. Pablo **tiene** dieciocho años y **es** muy alto. Yo **soy** baja, **tengo** el pelo largo y negro y **llevo** gafas. **Soy** habladora y alegre, pero mi madre **dice** que **soy** un poco desorganizada. Mi ciudad **es** preciosa porque **hay** mucha historia y casi siempre **hace** sol. ¡Me **encanta** vivir aquí!

«¡Qué guay! Hoy empezamos.» *How cool! Today we start. (Lucía is always this cheerful. Always.)*

a) Where is Seville? (1)

b) How old is Pablo? (1)

c) Give **two** details about Lucía's appearance. (2)

d) What does her mother say about her? (1)

e) Why does Lucía like Seville? Give **one** reason. (1)

From the speaking exam
¿Cómo eres? ¿Y cómo te describen tus amigos?

2 **Read Valentina's profile. Answer the questions in English.** H — **8 marks**

¡Hola a todos! Me **llamo** Valentina Ortiz, **tengo** quince años y **vivo** en Bogotá, la capital de Colombia. Bogotá **es** una ciudad enorme en las montañas, así que a menudo **hace** fresco y **llueve** mucho por la tarde. **Vivo** en un apartamento con mis padres y mis dos hermanas menores, Isabel y Mariana. Físicamente, **soy** de estatura media y **tengo** el pelo rizado y los ojos marrones. Mis amigos **dicen** que **soy** creativa y generosa, pero también **reconozco** que me **preocupo** demasiado, sobre todo antes de los exámenes. Cuando **era** pequeña, **quería** ser bailarina y **pasaba** horas bailando en el salón. Sin embargo, hace dos años **encontré** un gato en la calle y lo **llevé** a casa. Desde entonces me **encantan** los animales. Ahora **ayudo** los sábados en una clínica veterinaria cerca de mi casa, donde **limpio** las jaulas y **doy** de comer a los perros. En el futuro me **gustaría** estudiar veterinaria porque **quiero** cuidar a los animales abandonados. ¡Y **voy a adoptar** un perro grande!

From the speaking exam
¿Qué querías ser cuando eras pequeño o pequeña? ¿Y ahora?

Javier: «¿Alguien ha visto mi bocadillo? Estaba aquí hace un minuto.» *Has anyone seen my sandwich? It was here a minute ago.*

2 continued

a) Give **two** details about the weather in Bogotá. (2)

b) What does Valentina admit about herself? (1)

c) What did she use to do when she was little? (1)

d) What happened two years ago? (1)

e) Give **two** things she does at the clinic. (2)

f) Why does she want to study to be a vet? (1)

Verb hunt F/H

6 marks

Verb hunt. These verbs are in bold in the long text above. For each one, write the infinitive, the tense, the person and the English meaning (1 mark per verb, 1 for the rewrite).

Verb	Infinitive	Tense	Person	Meaning
tengo				
encontré				
vivo				
es				
hace				

Now rewrite **tengo** in the **preterite**, same person: _____

Cultural inquiry · Colombia

«Por cierto, los domingos en Bogotá muchas calles se **cierran** a los carros para la **Ciclovía** y la gente **va** en bici. ¡Y en Colombia **decimos** *carro* en vez de *coche*!» *Find out: roughly how many kilometres of road does the Ciclovía use?*

Regional words are for interest. The specification vocabulary is your revision priority; it is not a rule about which answers are accepted.

Diego's grammar code: adjective agreement

Adjectives agree with the noun: *Lucía **es** simpática · Mateo **es** simpático · mis amigos **son** simpáticos · mis amigas **son** simpáticas*. Adjectives ending in *-e* or a consonant do not change for gender (*inteligente, joven*) but add *-s* or *-es* in the plural (*inteligentes, jóvenes*).

Specification link: Appendix 2: Grammar, "Adjectives and adjectival phrases" (agreement); "Verbs: Tenses" (present tense of *ser* and *tener*). Foundation and Higher.

«Técnicamente, es solo un patrón.»

Pop culture corner · Rosalía

Rosalía grew up near Barcelona and studied flamenco for years before mixing it with pop. Her album *El mal querer* (2018) made her a global star.

Tiny task: describe her in Spanish. *Rosalía es...*

3 **Add the spaces: split each line into words and copy it out.** F/H 4 marks

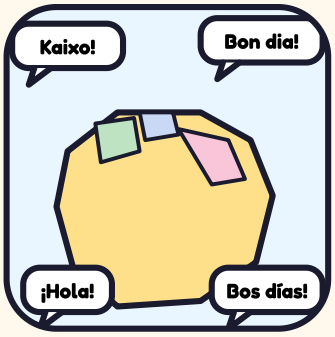
Cuandoerapequeña,queríaserbailarinaypasabahorasbailandoenelsalón.

Físicamente,soydeestaturamediaytengoelpelorizadoylosojosmarrones.

From the speaking exam
¿Dónde vives? ¿Qué te gusta de tu ciudad o pueblo?

4 **Translate Sofía's text into English.** H 7 marks

Me **llamo** Sofía y **soy** de Lima, en Perú. **Soy** una persona tranquila y me **encanta** leer. El verano pasado **fui** de excursión a las montañas con mi familia. En el futuro **quiero** vivir cerca de la naturaleza.



Culture corner · Cuatro lenguas, un país

El castellano es la lengua oficial en toda España. Desde la Constitución de 1978, otras lenguas también son oficiales en sus regiones.

- **El catalán**: en Cataluña y las Islas Baleares; en la Comunidad Valenciana se llama *valenciano*.
- **El vasco** (*euskera*): en el País Vasco y en partes de Navarra. No está relacionado con ninguna otra lengua viva.
- **El gallego** (*galego*): en Galicia, en el noroeste.
- «Buenos días»: *Bon dia* (catalán), *Egun on* (vasco), *Bos días* (gallego).

Mateo: «Uf, qué rollo... pero funciona.» Write one new sentence with **llamo** (in bold on this page). Then change its tense.

Cognate connection · Family and friends

Español	English	Italiano	Français	Português
la familia	family	famiglia	famille	família
el carácter	character	carattere	caractère	caráter
generoso	generous	generoso	généreux	generoso

Pattern: -oso = -ous (generoso, famoso, nervioso)

False friend: *embarazada* means pregnant, not embarrassed (avergonzado).

Writing

Mateo leads

5 **Fill each gap with a word from the box. There are more words than gaps.** F

5 marks

es · se llama · vive · tienen · somos · tengo · soy

Me llamo Javier y (a) _____ quince años. (b) _____ de Valencia. Mi abuelo (c) _____ Ramón y (d) _____ con nosotros. Él (e) _____ muy divertido.

Sentence Machine · Describe yourself

Diego: «Técnicamente, casi todo combina.» Take one from each column, left to right, and adjust agreement (o/a, singular or plural) where needed. Build three sentences, then write your best one below.

Opener	Verb	Detail	Opinion
Físicamente,	soy	alto/a	y me gusta así.
Mi madre dice que	no soy	tímido/a	y estoy orgulloso/a.
Según mis amigos,	a veces soy	gracioso/a	¡qué guay!
Creo que	siempre soy	trabajador(a)	y no me importa.

Then link a second sentence: *Además · Sin embargo · Por eso · También*

_____

Exam tip · Answer in the right language

English question, English answer. Spanish question, Spanish answer. An answer in the wrong language scores nothing.

Camila: «¡Dale, sin excusas!» Build one more sentence with the Sentence Machine on this page, then add a reason with porque or ya que.

_____

_____

_____

_____

6 **Translate into Spanish.** F 5 marks

a) I am sixteen years old.

b) I live in the north of England.

c) My sister is short and funny.

d) We have a cat.

e) My friends are kind.

From the speaking exam
¿Qué hiciste el verano pasado?

7 **Translate this paragraph into Spanish.** H 10 marks

My name is Alex and I live in a small town near the coast. I am quite shy but very hard-working. My parents are generous and my brother is always talking. Last summer we visited my grandparents in Scotland. Next year I am going to learn to drive.

Verb workout · Verb mastery FOCUS: PRESENT F/H 14 marks

Verb mastery grid: *ser* (irregular) in the present, preterite and imperfect. Some forms are done for you.

	present	preterite	imperfect
yo			
tú			
él / ella	**es**	**fue**	
nosotros		**fuimos**	**éramos**
vosotros			
ellos / ellas			

Then tick these tenses in your **Verb mastery tracker** (page 328).

Andrés: «¡Qué drama!» Write your answer to the speaking question on this page: «¿Qué hiciste el verano pasado?» Then say it aloud.

8 Your turn: write it yourself. F/H

F 14 · H 18

Foundation, 40 to 50 words. Write a profile for a Spanish exchange website: your name and age · where you live · your personality · what you are going to do this weekend.

Higher, 80 to 90 words. Write a post introducing yourself to a new penfriend: what you are like · your family · something you did recently · your plans for the future.

What makes it stand out · things examiners notice
Open with a hook. Start with a question or a surprising fact: *¿Sabías que duermo nueve horas?*
Higher: try a subjunctive. *Es importante que* + *subjunctive*, or *cuando sea mayor...*

Need more room? Carry on in your exercise book.

From the speaking exam
¿Qué vas a hacer este fin de semana?

Can I answer these? · Speaking check

- ☐ ¿Cómo eres? ¿Y cómo te describen tus amigos?
- ☐ ¿Qué querías ser cuando eras pequeño o pequeña? ¿Y ahora?
- ☐ ¿Dónde vives? ¿Qué te gusta de tu ciudad o pueblo?
- ☐ ¿Qué hiciste el verano pasado?
- ☐ ¿Qué vas a hacer este fin de semana?

I can introduce myself and describe my appearance and personality. How do I feel?

Success criteria. I can use adjective agreement accurately in my own sentences; I can answer the speaking questions above in full sentences.

Exit ticket. Write one sentence that uses adjective agreement:

_____

WWW (what went well): _____ **EBI** (even better if): _____

Fun fact · Votes for women

Clara Campoamor, a lawyer and politician, led the fight for women's right to vote in Spain. It was written into the Constitution of 1931.

Andrés: «¡Qué drama!» Write your answer to the speaking question on this page: «¿Qué vas a hacer este fin de semana?» Then say it aloud.

Writing

Mateo leads

5 **Fill each gap with a word from the box. There are more words than gaps.** F — 5 marks

hay · acoso · ganan · ayudar · justo · respetar · iguales

Creo que todos somos (a) _____. En mi colegio (b) _____ estudiantes de muchos países. El (c) _____ es inaceptable. Debemos (d) _____ a todo el mundo. No es (e) _____ que las mujeres ganen menos.

6 **Translate into Spanish.** F — 5 marks

a) Everyone deserves respect.

b) Bullying is a serious problem.

c) At my school there are students from many countries.

d) I think we are all equal.

e) You have to help others.

7 **Translate this paragraph into Spanish.** H — 10 marks

In my opinion, equality is very important. At my school we have a group that fights against racism. Last month we organised a talk about bullying and many students came. Unfortunately there are still problems in society. In the future I would like to work for a charity.

Javier: «¿Hay comida?» Word box extension: add three more Spanish words that could fill the gaps on this page, with the English.

Module 1 challenge

Me and my people · Detective case file: who took the phone?

Detective case file: who took the phone?

Case file 01: the missing phone. Señora Vidal's phone has gone missing at the exchange. The thief is the person who is **15**. Read the witness notes, fill in the grid, then name the thief.

1. La persona de Madrid tiene catorce años.
2. Pablo vive en Sevilla.
3. La persona de diecisiete años lleva barba y vive en Valencia.
4. Ana vive en Bilbao y tiene el pelo rizado.
5. La persona con gafas tiene dieciséis años.
6. Inés tiene el pelo largo y rubio.

Name	City	Age	Looks
Ana			
Pablo			
Inés			
Raúl			

El ladrón / La ladrona es _____ **porque**

_____

Sofía: «Tranqui, respira.» Now jot everything down: this space is yours for notes. Write three words from «Module 1 challenge» you want to remember, with the English.

My notes

That was a taster.

You've just tried Unit 1.1. Here's what's waiting in the full book.

1 · Me and my people — 1 unit free
4 more units: family, friends, relationships, equality

2 · Healthy body, healthy mind — in the full book
Food, routines, illness, wellbeing

3 · Free time and culture — in the full book
Music, film, sport, festivals

4 · Life online — in the full book
Social media, gaming, tech, online safety

5 · Where I live — in the full book
Home, town, shopping, the past

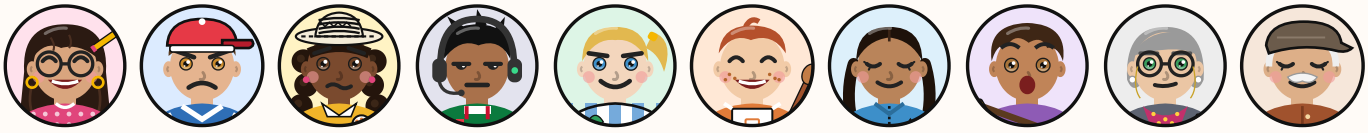
6 · Our planet — in the full book
Environment, climate, nature

7 · School and my future — in the full book
School life, jobs, plans, applications

8 · Travel and tourism — in the full book
Holidays, transport, problems abroad

Also only in the full book:

- **Full answer keys** for all 40 units, with Diego's notes on what else is accepted
- **39 more units** of reading, word puzzles, translation and "Your turn" writing tasks
- **The MELT Society recap** for every module: twenty quick-fire marks
- **Exam practice for every module** with Grade 9 and Grade 7 model answers, colour coded
- **Every vocabulary page** and Sentence Machine
- **Do now, Verb hunt and Verb workout** tasks in every unit, 26 culture corners and 8 module challenges

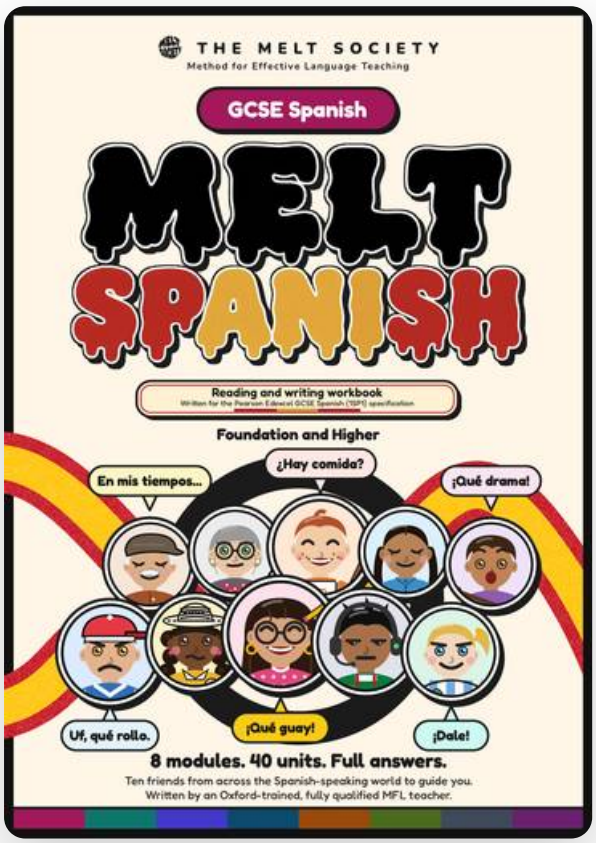


Lucía: «¡Qué guay! There are 336 pages of this.»

Ready for the full book?

336 pages · 8 modules. 40 units. Full answers.

Edexcel GCSE Spanish (1SP1), Foundation and Higher



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From The MELT Society

Little and often beats one long cram. Do one unit a week, mark it with the answer key, and you'll be amazed what sticks. Small steps. Big grades.

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