JUNIOR CYCLE SPANISH · FREE REVISION SHEET

Exam skills: Listening & Reading

↗ Léim

Learning outcomes: 1.1, 1.3, 1.6, 1.7, 2.5, 2.6, 2.7 (2017 spec, exams 2027–2028) · 1.3, 1.5, 1.6, 1.17, 2.4, 2.7, 2.9 (2025 spec, 1st years from Sept 2026). Play the game: **leim.ie/gist-or-detail.html**

1. Spot the pattern: two questions

Aviso: *Instituto San Jorge: excursión a Madrid el jueves doce de marzo. El autobús sale del instituto a las ocho en punto. Precio: veinticinco euros, comida incluida.*
Q1 What is this notice about? **Q2** At what time does the bus leave?

Q1 needs the **whole text**: it's a **gist** question (a school trip). Q2 needs **three words** (*a las ocho*): it's a **detail** question. Knowing which kind you have tells you **how** to read or listen.

2. Gist or detail?

	Gist: the big picture	Detail: one fact
It asks	What is it about? What kind of text? Where would you hear it? How does the writer feel overall?	When? Where? How much? How many? Who? Why? Name two things…
You…	skim: title, first and last lines, words you know, the tone	scan for one kind of word (a time, a price, a day) and stop there
Clues	the text type, pictures, *Querido…*, *Atención, señores pasajeros*	question words: *¿Cuándo? ¿Dónde? ¿Quién? ¿Por qué? ¿Cuánto? ¿A qué hora?*

3. Before, during and after

1. **Before:** read the questions first. Underline the question word. **Predict** the kind of answer: a time? a price? a place? a reason?
2. **During:** first time through, the gist. Next time, the details. If you hear a piece more than once, give each listen a different job. Unknown words? Keep going.
3. **After:** does your answer match the question word? Did you give the number of points asked (**two** things)? Is it sensible (€550 for a T-shirt?)? Never leave a blank.

4. Cognates: free words

-ción → -tion	la estación, la información
-dad → -ty	la ciudad, la universidad
-oso → -ous	famoso, delicioso, nervioso
-mente → -ly	rápidamente, finalmente
es- → s-	la escuela, el estudiante, el estómago

5. False friends

embarazada = pregnant	not embarrassed
la librería = bookshop	library = la biblioteca
constipado = has a cold	not constipated
el éxito = success	exit = la salida
la carpeta = folder · **la ropa** = clothes	not carpet · not rope
largo = long · **recordar** = to remember	not large · not record

6. Traps examiners love

Numbers: cuatro 4 · catorce 14 · cuarenta 40 · seis 6 · dieciséis 16 · sesenta 60 · setenta 70 · quince 15 · cincuenta 50 · doce 12 · dos 2.
Times: *las nueve menos cuarto* = 8:45 (not 9:45) · *y media* = half past. **Prices:** *doce euros con cincuenta* = €12.50.
Days and months: martes (Tue) / miércoles (Wed) · junio (June) / julio (July).
Change of mind: the first thing you hear is often **not** the answer. Listen for *pero, sin embargo, al final, ahora, perdón*: *El partido no es el sábado; es el domingo.* → Sunday.

Irish and English link: the same skills as your Irish *cluastuiscint* and *léamhthuiscint* and English comprehension: questions first, key word, check.
Exam tip: Listening (140 marks) and Reading (140 marks) are **280 of the 360 marks** on the JC Spanish paper. Answer in **English** when the question is in English, don't copy chunks of Spanish, and give exactly what's asked.

PRACTICE · 30 QUESTIONS

Read, then gist, then detail

↗ Léim

CAMPAMENTO AVENTURA · PICOS DE EUROPA

¿Tienes entre doce y dieciséis años? ¡Ven al Campamento Aventura! Del uno al quince de julio. Actividades: escalada, piragüismo, senderismo y, por la tarde, clases de inglés. Dormimos en tiendas de campaña cerca del río. Precio: cuatrocientos cincuenta euros, todo incluido. No es necesario tener experiencia. Inscripciones antes del treinta de mayo. ¡Plazas limitadas!

A. Answer in English

1. **Gist:** What kind of text is this? _____
2. How old must you be? _____
3. What are the dates of the camp? _____
4. Name two activities. _____
5. What happens in the afternoons? _____
6. Where do campers sleep? _____
7. How much does it cost, and what does that include? _
8. Do you need experience? _____
9. By when must you sign up? _____

Para: Seán · Asunto: ¡Noticias de Granada! **Email**

Hola, Seán: ¿Qué tal? Te escribo desde Granada. Ayer fue el cumpleaños de mi hermana pequeña, Sara: cumplió seis años. Íbamos a celebrarlo en el parque, pero hizo demasiado calor (¡treinta y ocho grados!), así que al final hicimos la fiesta en casa. Mi tía Rosa vino de Málaga: está embarazada y el bebé va a nacer en septiembre.

Hoy estoy un poco constipada, así que no voy al instituto. Mañana voy a ir a la librería del centro a comprar un libro para la clase de inglés. ¿Cuándo empiezan tus vacaciones? Las mías empiezan el veinte de junio. Un abrazo, Elena

10. **Gist:** Why is Elena writing? Tick one.
    ☐ to invite Seán to a party ☐ to tell him her news
    ☐ to complain about her school
11. How old is Sara now? _____
12. Where did they plan to have the party, where did they have it in the end, and why? _____
13. What is the news about aunt Rosa? _____
14. Why isn't Elena going to school today? _____
15. Where is she going tomorrow, and why? _____
16. When do her holidays start? _____

Friends, false friends & traps

B. Cognates: what do they mean?

17. la tradición _____
18. nervioso _____
19. finalmente _____
20. la electricidad _____

C. False friends: circle the right meaning.

21. la carpeta = **carpet / folder**
22. el éxito = **exit / success**
23. recordar = **to remember / to record**
24. la ropa = **clothes / rope**

D. Number traps: write it in figures.

25. a las ocho menos cuarto _____
26. sesenta y cinco euros _____
27. el martes catorce de junio _____

E. Change of mind: answer in English.

28. El examen no es el jueves; es el viernes. When is the exam? _____
29. Pensaba comprar unas botas, pero al final compré unas zapatillas. What did they buy? _____
30. El tren sale a las diez… perdón, a las diez y media. When does the train leave? _____

Challenge: write a short notice in Spanish (30–40 words) for an event at your school: what, when, where, price, what to bring. Then write **one gist question** and **three detail questions** about it in English, and swap with a friend.

Answers

1. An advert for a summer (adventure) camp.
2. Between 12 and 16.
3. 1–15 July.
4. Climbing, canoeing, hiking, English classes (any two).
5. English classes.
6. In tents near the river.
7. €450, everything included.
8. No.
9. Before 30 May.
10. To tell him her news.
11. Six.
12. Planned: in the park. In the end: at home. It was too hot (38°).
13. She's pregnant; the baby is due in September.
14. She has a cold.
15. To the bookshop in town, to buy a book for English class.
16. 20 June.
17. tradition
18. nervous
19. finally
20. electricity
21. folder
22. success
23. to remember
24. clothes
25. 7:45
26. €65
27. Tuesday 14 June
28. Friday
29. Trainers
30. 10:30

Watch out: *embarazada* (Q13) = pregnant, *constipada* (Q14) = has a cold and *la librería* (Q15) = bookshop: all three are false friends! *Catorce* (Q27) is 14, not 4 or 40.