Spanish Speaking test  
Practice Form XX  

General Directions

This is a SOPI practice test designed by CeLTA to help MSU students improve their knowledge of how the test format works and hopefully increase their overall scores on the exam. This practice test **CANNOT** be scored or used as an official score.

The SOPI test allows you to demonstrate your ability to speak Spanish. There are several parts in the test. Directions for each part will be given in English. Listen carefully to the directions and answer in Spanish when you are asked to do so. Your answer will be recorded on tape, so it will be important for you to speak **clearly** enough and **loudly** enough for your voice to be properly recorded.

The test asks you to perform various speaking tasks which will range from easy to considerably more challenging. You are **not** expected to be able to answer all questions with equal facility. However, you should try to speak as **much** and as **well** as you can in Spanish in response to each question. During the test, you will be asked to imagine yourself in various Spanish-speaking countries. There is no need to try to accommodate your Spanish to the geographic location of the different questions.

The amount of time provided for your response will vary depending on the complexity of the question. Since the amount of time each examinee needs to respond also varies, feel free to stop talking when you feel you have given a complete response. Do not feel that you need to keep on talking until the allotted time is over. On the other hand, do not worry if you are occasionally interrupted by the next question before completing your answer.

There are no right or wrong answers on this test. The accuracy and completeness of your answers will not be evaluated. The sole purpose of this test is to allow you to demonstrate your ability to speak Spanish. Therefore, always say as **much** as you can, speak as **well** as you can and **show** what you can do.

DO NOT OPEN THIS BOOKLET UNTIL YOU ARE ASKED TO DO SO.
Imagine that you are a reporter for a newspaper in Spain. You are working on a story about the normal life and everyday activities of college students in Spain. You are interviewing a friend named Juan Carlos. Using the pictures on the next page, ask Juan Carlos some questions about his every day activities.

Look at picture 1, which shows Juan Carlos waking up in the morning. Use this picture to ask him one or more questions about his mornings.

Now look at picture 2, which shows Juan Carlos waiting on the bus in the morning. Use this picture to ask him questions about traveling to school.

Now look at picture 3, which shows Juan Carlos working on a computer. Use this picture to ask him questions about his computer usage.

Now look at picture 4, which shows Juan Carlos standing in front of a TV. Use this picture to ask him questions about his free time.
Say as much as you can.
Speak Clearly.

3

Speak as well as you can.
Show what you can do.

1

2

3

4

DO NOT TURN THE PAGE UNTIL YOU ARE ASKED TO DO SO.
Directions for Picture 2

You are visiting your good friend Patricia in Bolivia. She is having a party tonight and needs to buy some food. While you two are shopping, she asks you to describe what an American grocery store looks like. You may use the pictures on the next page or your own knowledge of grocery stores to answer this question. You will have 15 seconds to prepare your answer. After Patricia asks her question, you will have one minute and 20 seconds for your response. Remember to wait for Patricia's question before you describe for her what grocery stores are like in the United States.

(15 sec / 1 min 20 sec)
Say as much as you can.
Speak Clearly.

Speak as well as you can.
Show what you can do.

DO NOT TURN THE PAGE UNTIL YOU ARE ASKED TO DO SO.
Directions for Picture 3

Imagine that you are working for a company in a small town in Mexico. While you are outside of the local school a woman stops you and asks you how to find a library. You know where the local library is and it is not very far away. The dotted line on the map provided shows the route from the school to the library. You will have 15 seconds to study the map. Then, after you hear the woman ask her question, you will have 45 seconds for your answer. Study the map now and wait for the woman's request before you explain how to get from the school to the library.

(15 sec / 45 sec)
Say as much as you can.
Speak Clearly.

Speak as well as you can.
Show what you can do.

DO NOT TURN THE PAGE UNTIL YOU ARE ASKED TO DO SO.
Pedro is an exchange student from Venezuela. He really wants to ask a cute girl out on a date but does not know anything about dating in the USA. Using the series of pictures on the next page as a source of ideas, describe to Pedro what a typical date is like in the USA. You will have one minute and 20 seconds for your answer. Study the pictures now and wait for Pedro's question before you **describe what a typical date is like in the United States.**

(15 sec / 1 min 20 sec)
Say as much as you can.
Speak Clearly.

Speak as well as you can.
Show what you can do.
You and your friend Raul decided to skip class today and have an adventure. Unfortunately, things went wrong and you did not meet until later in the day. Raul has just finished telling you all about his exciting day and he is very interested in hearing about yours. Based on the story shown in the pictures on the next page, recount for Raul exactly what happened to you on your skip day. You will have 20 seconds to prepare your answer. Then, after you hear the question, you will have one minute and 10 seconds to tell him the whole story.

(20 sec / 1 min 10 sec)
Say as much as you can.  
Speak Clearly.

Speak as well as you can.  
Show what you can do.
TOPICS

1. Your Spanish teacher has invited her Paraguayan friend, Mrs. Julia, to speak to your class. She talks about her favorite beaches in the USA. After the presentation, Mrs. Julia is talking very casually with you. She is interested in what you yourself do at the beach. After Mrs. Julia asks her question, tell her what you usually do at the beach.

   (15 sec / 1 min)

2. Your friend has just arrived from a small town in Southern Peru. She wants to mail a postcard to one of her friends in another city but she does not know how to use the US postal system. After your friend asks her question, explain to her how to send a postcard (or letter) through the post office.

   (15 sec / 1 min)

3. You are studying in Spain when you find out that the university is thinking of banning cars from campus. Your friends are having a very pleasant discussion about this topic when Juan arrives. He does not know anything about the topic and asks you to explain it to him. When Juan asks his question, state the advantages and disadvantages of banning cars from a campus.

   (20 sec / 1 min 15 sec)

4. While you are studying in western Bolivia, you are asked by a professor, Dr. Bolos, about the use of social media in the classroom. Dr. Bolos explains that many classrooms are beginning to integrate the use of social media, such as facebook or Google+, as a way for teachers to connect with students on their own level. He is a little concerned about instructors and students becoming too close and having access to each other’s personal lives. Dr. Bolos asks you for your opinion on this topic. After he asks for your opinion, explain your position to him, giving clear reasons to support your views.

   (30 sec / 1 min 30 sec)

5. During a conversation you are having with Dr. Franken, an economist from The University of Mexico City, the discussion turns to immigration in the U.S. Dr. Franken asks you what you think the effects would be if the USA made it easier to get a green card, which allows immigrants to be granted permanent residency and thus work without a special visa. After Dr. Franken asks his question, tell him what you think the possible consequences would be if such a new policy were established.

   (20 sec / 1 min 20 sec)

DO NOT TURN THE PAGE UNTIL YOU ARE ASKED TO DO SO.
SITUATIONS

1. You and a friend are traveling in Spain for a month. Your friend needs to use the restroom and asks you to watch his backpack. While he is gone you started to talk on your phone and did not notice when someone stole the backpack. Your friend came back and realized that the bag was gone. **Explain to your friend what happened and apologize to him.**

   (15 sec / 55 sec)

2. You are starting your first semester abroad at the Universidad de Lima. You brought one coat with you but it is not very fashionable. You want to go to a local shopping mall and buy a new one but your friend does not like going to malls. **Try to convince your friend to accompany you to a mall so that you can buy a new coat.**

   (15 sec / 1 min 5 sec)

3. You are living in the south of Mexico and working for a property development company. The company has just bought a plot of land and is unsure what to do with it. Some people want to put a new shopping mall there since it is a very good location off of a major road. Other people want to make it into a soccer complex. The people who live in the area are very big soccer fans and would like to have a place to play and watch soccer. Finally, some people want the land to be set aside and developed into a park. This would not make your company any money but it would be good for public relations (PR). Your boss is the project manager for this project and she wants to hear your input. **When your boss asks her question, tell her what you think is the best use for this land. Remember to give valid and convincing reasons in the defense of your proposal.**

   (20 sec / 1 min 15 sec)

4. You are an exchange student in Uruguay. You have been asked to give a short talk to a political science class on recent events in US politics. The students are already in their seats and the teacher is introducing you. After you hear the introduction, **thank the group for the invitation and begin to discuss any recent political event that has occurred in the past year in the USA.** Note that you are NOT expected to give a complete talk in the allotted time. You only need to begin your talk and continue until the time is up.

   (35 sec / 1 min 40 sec)

5. Imagine that you are studying abroad in Guatemala. Your friend Pablo is studying business because he thinks it will help him get a good job after he graduates. The problem is that Pablo does not like his classes and really wants to study music. He knows that being a musician is very hard and probably won’t lead to a career. Pablo wants your help on making this decision. After he asks his question, **advise him, from your point of view, on what he should do.**

   (15 sec / 1 min)

END OF TEST