

SECTION 5: Q4 TRANSLATION

Mastering the 35-Word English-to-Spanish Task (Total 10 Marks)

WHAT IS THE TASK? (10 Marks)

You must translate a short passage of English into Spanish, aiming for a minimum of 35 words. This is the only question where you write from English. It is marked against two separate grids to assess the key skills.

THE 2-GRID MARK SCHEME

GRID ONE (5 MARKS)

Focus: Rendering of the Original Meaning

- ◆ The passage is broken into 15 small elements (phrases, verbs, nouns).
- ◆ You get a tick for each element correctly conveyed.
- ◆ Ticks are converted to a mark out of 5.
- ◆ Strategy: Get the core meaning across first!

GRID TWO (5 MARKS)

Focus: Knowledge of Vocabulary & Grammar

- ◆ This mark is based on your response as a whole.
- ◆ Rewards very good knowledge of required vocabulary and highly accurate grammar.
- ◆ Errors must be minor for the top marks.
- ◆ Strategy: Ensure verb conjugations and agreements are perfect.

TRANSLATION TACTICS

- ◆ **Break It Down:** Translate sentence-by-sentence, focusing on the key 15 elements.
- ◆ **Be Literal:** Avoid creative interpretations. The examiner only wants the original meaning.
- ◆ **Check the Tenses:** Verify the tense (past, present, future) required for every single verb before you write the final answer.

"The key is accuracy over style. Use the simplest Spanish that is 100% correct to secure the full 10 marks. Do not use vocabulary you are unsure of."