

8th Grade American Online School

SPANISH LANGUAGE CURRICULUM

Communication, Culture, and Confidence

Version Mar/2025

1. Introduction

The Role of Spanish Language in 8th Grade

The 8th Grade Spanish curriculum fosters students' communicative competence and cultural literacy through authentic, real-world interactions. By engaging in meaningful conversations, interpreting media, writing creatively, and exploring Hispanic traditions, students develop skills across all four language domains: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Through thematic units and immersive projects, students deepen fluency, cultural awareness, and linguistic confidence.

By the end of this course, students will:

- ✓ Participate in conversations using practical and thematic vocabulary.
- ✓ Express themselves using present, past, and reflexive verbs.
- ✓ Read and write short texts using appropriate grammar and syntax.
- ✓ Interpret authentic Spanish media and audio.
- ✓ Explore and appreciate the diversity of the Spanish-speaking world.

2. Core Competence Areas

SP.1 Communication and Conversational Fluency

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ Engage in interpersonal exchanges on familiar topics.
- ✓ Express needs, opinions, and questions using complete sentences.
- ✓ Roleplay daily situations with confidence and clarity.

Competencies

SP.1.A.1 – Participating in structured conversations on daily topics.

- Greet and exchange information (e.g., names, plans, phone calls).
- Ask and answer questions in structured settings.
- Use thematic vocabulary in context (e.g., directions, food, leisure).

SP.1.A.2 – Applying Spanish in real-life scenarios.

- Simulate travel, shopping, and dining conversations.
- Use expressions related to asking for help, giving directions, and ordering food.
- Participate in immersive classroom simulations.

SP.2 Grammar Structures and Sentence Building

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ Apply verb conjugations in varied tenses.
- ✓ Use pronouns, commands, and comparisons accurately.
- ✓ Construct increasingly complex and grammatically correct sentences.

Competencies

SP.2.A.1 – Mastering high-frequency verb tenses.

- Conjugate present, preterite, and reflexive verbs.
- Practice irregular verbs (e.g., tener, estar, hacer).
- Use past tenses in routine descriptions and narratives

SP.2.A.2 – Expanding grammatical range and sentence complexity.

- Use direct and indirect object pronouns effectively.
- Distinguish between ser/estar and por/para.
- Use comparisons, commands, and compound sentences.

SP.3 Vocabulary Expansion and Functional Use

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ Use vocabulary across diverse real-life contexts.
- ✓ Describe personal experiences, interests, and settings.
- ✓ Build expressive and descriptive fluency.

Competencies

SP.3.A.1 – Developing functional and thematic vocabulary.

- Learn words and expressions related to health, family, food, and travel.
- Use vocabulary in dialogues and descriptive writing.
- Engage with word walls, visual dictionaries, and realia.

SP.3.A.2 – Enhancing expression with adjectives and connectors.

- Use adverbs and adjectives to give detail.
- Provide opinions and compare ideas in writing.
- Write and revise short compositions for clarity and detail.

SP.4 Reading and Writing in Spanish

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ **Interpret written Spanish through various texts and genres.**
- ✓ **Write reflections, summaries, and creative compositions.**
- ✓ **Apply reading and writing strategies for comprehension and fluency.**

Competencies

SP.4.A.1 – Reading authentic and leveled Spanish texts.

- Read messages, stories, blog posts, and comics.
- Identify main ideas, details, and infer meaning through context.
- Use reading logs and group discussions for comprehension.

SP.4.A.2 – Writing for real and creative purposes.

- Compose journal entries, narratives, and letters.
- Use sentence frames and graphic organizers.
- Revise writing for grammar, cohesion, and style.

SP.5 Cultural Exploration and Global Connections

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ **Discover traditions, lifestyles, and values across the Spanish-speaking world.**
- ✓ **Compare cultures through celebration, geography, and daily life.**
- ✓ **Express cultural insights in Spanish through media and presentation.**

Competencies

SP.5.A.1 – Exploring cultural practices and perspectives.

- Study festivals such as Día de los Muertos and Carnaval.
- Examine traditional foods, music, and crafts.
- Explore geographic and ecological diversity in Hispanic regions..

SP.5.A.2 – Making comparisons and global connections.

- Compare traditions in Spanish-speaking countries and the U.S.
 - Present on customs, holidays, or foods using Spanish.
 - Use visuals, performances, and digital media to share learning.
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SP.6 Listening, Media, and Comprehension

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ Understand spoken Spanish in varied formats.
- ✓ Identify main ideas and key details in audio input.
- ✓ Use listening to build fluency and pronunciation.

Competencies

SP.6.A.1 – Interpreting media and natural speech.

- Listen to songs, video clips, and announcements.
- Respond to comprehension questions and prompts.
- Identify emotion, tone, and intent in spoken content.

SP.6.A.2 – Modeling pronunciation and listening accuracy.

- Repeat and mimic Spanish audio for clarity.
- Use listening logs to track understanding.
- Practice pronunciation through read-alouds and rhyming games.

3. Assessment and Evaluation

Formative Assessments – Tracking Language Growth

- ✓ Speaking practice via partner and group roleplays.
- ✓ Vocabulary and grammar application checks.
- ✓ Reflection journals and conversation logs.

Summative Assessments – Evaluating Proficiency

- ✓ Oral interviews and listening comprehension assessments.
- ✓ Written reflections and creative compositions.
- ✓ End-of-unit grammar and vocabulary quizzes.
- ✓ Project presentations in Spanish.

Performance-Based Assessments – Real-World Integration

- ✓ Dialogue-based performance tasks.
- ✓ Spanish cooking demonstration with narration.
- ✓ Video diaries or digital storytelling projects.
- ✓ Cultural comparisons and thematic presentations.

4. Instructional Strategies for Online Learning

Multisensory and Visual Learning

- ✓ Use visual prompts, illustrations, and drawing-based vocabulary retention.
- ✓ Employ movement, acting, and hands-on materials for engagement.

Storytelling and Narrative-Based Teaching

- ✓ Teach grammar and vocabulary through narrative frameworks.
- ✓ Use reader's theater, shadow puppetry, and short films.

Technology Integration

- ✓ Use Flipgrid or Canva for presentations.
- ✓ Integrate Quizlet, Bloocket, or Gimkit for vocabulary practice.

- ✓ Explore Spanish-language videos, podcasts, and virtual tours.
- ✓ Use Padlet for collaborative culture walls and reflections.

Learning Culture

- ✓ Foster risk-taking and appreciation for language diversity.
- ✓ Use positive reinforcement and growth-focused feedback.
- ✓ Celebrate student voice, creativity, and cross-cultural curiosity.



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