



Trinity Episcopal School

Galveston, Texas

Spanish

Overview

Throughout the Spanish curriculum sequence at Trinity, we seek to enable students to own a substantial vocabulary and to have the ability to engage in basic conversation according to common themes. Students develop skills in discriminating sounds. Appropriate to their age and years of study, they learn to read, write, and speak in Spanish. Spanish instruction at Trinity is multi-sensory by intention; seeing, hearing, writing, speaking (and to a lesser extent bodily-kinesthetic) strategies are employed. A multi-modal approach allows students to learn via their area(s) of strength. Practice is the key factor in developing confidence and fluency.

Middle School Spanish builds upon earlier learning, but the spiraled nature of the curriculum makes possible the entry into the program of students new to Spanish classes. The curriculum is characterized by increasingly complex grammar and greater quantity of vocabulary. Students practice speaking Spanish in every class session, and are encouraged to practice skills at home. Cultural aspects of the Spanish speaking world are introduced via textbook and audio-visual resources. Emphasis is given to writing, using accrued vocabulary, and acquired grammatical skills. Our students are growing-up in a multi-cultural environment and will need a global outlook as they face the opportunities ahead of them. We believe that students who have acquired a rudimentary facility in a foreign language with some understanding of the history and culture of another people will be less provincial in their perspective. They will also more readily acquire advanced skills in foreign language(s) in their future studies. We expect that our graduates will enter college-preparatory high school programs which require the study of foreign language at an advanced level.

Student Objectives

Begins:

Reading:	
recognize vowel sounds and basic vocabulary	K
identify words in sentences using knowledge of context	K
translate sentences from Spanish to English/English to Spanish	1st
read Spanish passages and answer questions independently	5th

Writing	
copy supplied words	K
write simple grammatically correct sentences following a pattern	1st
write simple sentences (w/o using pattern as guide)	5th
conjugate list of present tense verbs	5th
extend fluency with the use of additional verb tenses	7th
Listening and Understanding	
use of vocabulary according to themes	K
converse using memorized phrases	K
understand constructed (not memorized) conversation	3rd
explain verb patterns that do not follow basic syntactic construction	6th
distinguish subtleties of intonation and voice inflexion	7th
Speaking	
rehearse simple conversations	K
repeat modeled pronunciation sounds, words, and sentences	K
develop accents	K
participate in constructed (not memorized) conversation	3rd
Connecting with Cultures	
discuss culture and geography of selected Spanish-speaking cultures	5th
describe the impact of Hispanic cultures on the South and Southwest United States	7th