

SPANISH DEPARTMENT

TOP TIPS

for becoming a successful Post 16 SPANISH student



- 1 Take notes during your lessons, in Spanish, as you will be developing note-taking techniques and also you will accustom your ear to the native speaker.
- 2 Little and often is key: dedicate 5-10 minutes a day to listen to Spanish radios, podcasts, music, interviews etc. Set aside a slot at the same time every day.
- 3 Immerse yourself in the language: watch soaps, films, documentaries in Spanish.
- 4 Book a slot, at least once a week, with the Spanish assistant to help you with pronunciation and intonation.
- 5 Manage your time effectively; research (45%), plan (5%), write (30%) and review your research (20%). Keep a record of deadlines and important dates, stick to your plan.
- 6 Read more challenging texts, no longer than 30 minutes and annotate, look up words, focus on the different tenses used and make note of any language you think you can use in the future.
- 7 Flashcard up key vocabulary, or drop it into a language-learning app on your phone, then self-test. **memrise.com** has lots of lists already, and will pester you electronically to learn them.
- 8 Develop critical thinking skills by engaging with what you read. For a topic, make a filecard which answers the following questions: what's the key idea? How does it relate to what I already know? What's an alternate view?
- 9 Keep an eye out on what the Instituto Cervantes has to offer, or indeed, anything Spanish happening in London! Get out to something at least once a month.