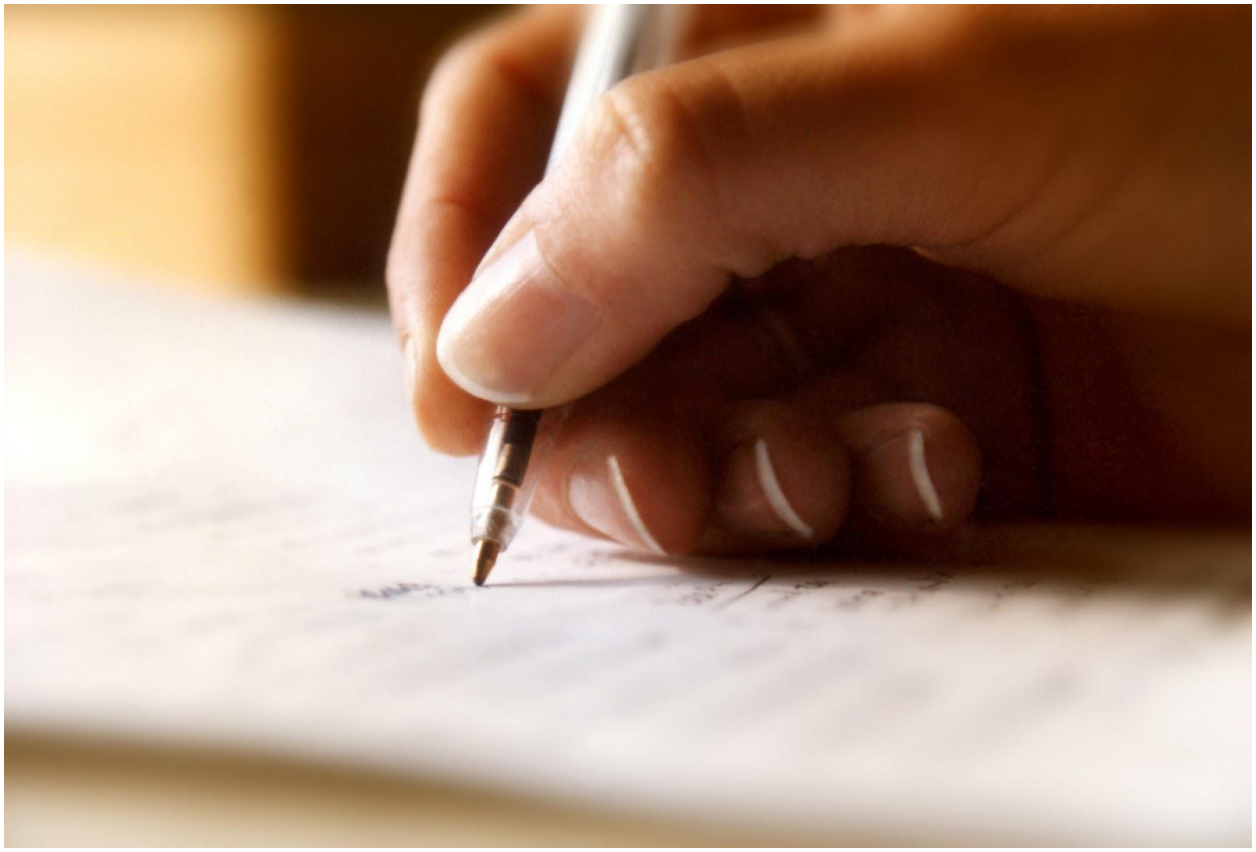
Ensayos



Spanish III

- **So, what the heck is an ensayo?**
    - An ensayo is a 100 word essay/journal entry that you will be required to prepare on a weekly basis. You will be given a picture, a word, a phrase, or something along those lines and you must write about whatever thoughts pop into your head.

- **I don't know enough Spanish to be able to do this…..**
    - This is a common feeling for many students when they first start out. I can tell you that this will be a challenge.
    - You have many resources at your finger tips that can be beneficial. WordReference.com is a personal favorite. Plus, you can use Spanish/English dictionaries, etc… I am NOT looking for paragraphs that you write in English, plug into an online translator, and turn in as your own work. TRUST ME, I will know if you do this!
    - By the end of the school year, you will be able to breeze through these and make wonderful paragraphs!

- **How do I submit my assignment?**
    - All ensayos must be submitted electronically. Email them to tellison@crcs.wnyric.org I suggest using Notability to prepare your ensayos. Let me know if you need help with that.

- **May I submit my assignment early?**

  Absolutely! As long as you submit by THE END OF THE SCHOOL DAY on the due date, you will not be penalized!

- **How will my work be graded?**

  Each essay that you submit will be graded using the New York State Second Language Comprehensive Examination Writing Portion Grading Rubric. The following three pages break down the rubric into specific sections/categories that you will become very familiar with. We are shooting for eight point essays!

- Purpose/Task :

  Did you write what you are being asked to write?

  Do all of your ideas connect to the task prompt directly?

  Did you expand your thoughts with many details?

- Organization:

  Did you expand your thoughts with a variety of vocabulary?

  Did you connect your ideas in an order that makes sense?

  Is there a specific beginning, middle, and end to your writing?

  Is your essay easy to read and does it make sense?

- Vocabulary:

  Did you use a variety of vocabulary from previous grade levels?

  Did you use a variety of vocabulary from this year to-date?

  Is your sentence structure varied?

- Structure and Conventions:

  Are you able to demonstrate control of the following concepts;

  Subject verb agreement

  -present tense, present progressive tense, preterite tense, imperfect tense

  Adjective agreement

  -gender, number, order

  Spelling and accent marks

  -Are they correct?

Writing Rubric

DRAFT

Dimension	The response: 4	3	2	1
Purpose/Task	Accomplishes the task; includes **many** details that are clearly connected to the development of the task, but there may be minor irrelevancies.	Accomplishes the task; includes **some** details that are generally connected to the development of the task, but there may be some irrelevancies.	Accomplishes the task; includes **few** details, some of which may be only **loosely connected** to the task. There are many irrelevancies.	Attempts to accomplish the task; makes some reference to it but provides **few or no** supporting details.
Organization The extent to which the response exhibits direction, shape, and coherence.	Exhibits a logical and coherent sequence throughout; provides a clear sense of a beginning, middle, and end. Makes smooth transitions between ideas.	Exhibits a logical sequence; provides a beginning, middle, and end.	Attempts to provide a logical sequence and/or the beginning or ending is abrupt or unclear.	Exhibits little order; provides a series of separate sentences and/or disconnected ideas.
Vocabulary	Includes a **wide variety** of vocabulary that expands the topic, but there may be minor inaccuracies.	Includes a **variety** of vocabulary related to the topic.	Includes **basic** vocabulary; some vocabulary may be inaccurate or unrelated to the topic.	Includes **limited** vocabulary and/or most vocabulary is inaccurate or unrelated to the topic.
Structure/ Conventions • Subject-verb agreement • Tense • Noun-adjective agreement • Correct word order • Spelling/diacritical marks	•Demonstrates a **high degree** of control of **Checkpoint B** structure/conventions: • subject-verb agreement • present, past, future ideas expressed as appropriate • noun-adjective agreement • correct word order • spelling/diacritical marks **Errors *do not* hinder overall comprehensibility of the passage.**	Demonstrates **some** control of **Checkpoint B** structure/ conventions: • subject-verb agreement • present, past, future ideas expressed as appropriate • noun-adjective agreement • correct word order • spelling/diacritical marks **Errors *do not* hinder overall comprehensibility of the passage.**	Demonstrates **some** control of **Checkpoint B** structures/conventions. **Errors *do* hinder overall comprehensibility and/or there are numerous Checkpoint A errors.** - - - - - - - - OR - - - - - - - Demonstrates a **high degree** of control, but uses *only* **Checkpoint A** structures/conventions.	Demonstrates **little control of Checkpoint A** or **B** structures/Conventions: • subject/verb agreement • present, past, future ideas expressed as appropriate • noun-adjective agreement • correct word order • spelling/diacritical marks **Errors impede overall comprehensibility of passage.**

Word Count: 100+ words = 2 points, 50-99 = 1 point, <50 = 0 points

A zero can be given in any of the above dimensions when the student's performance falls below the criteria described for "1."

If a paper scores a zero on purpose/task, the entire response receives a zero.

Conversion Chart

17 - 18 = 8	11 - 12 = 5	4 - 5 = 2
15 - 16 = 7	8 - 10 = 4	2 - 3 = 1
13 - 14 = 6	6 - 7 = 3	0 - 1 = 0

Writing Checklist

Please refer to the full writing rubric for definitions of each level.

	4	3	2	1	0
Purpose/Task • Accomplishes the task • Includes details • Connects ideas to task/purpose					
Organization • Exhibits a logical and coherent sequence • Has a beginning, middle, and end • Makes smooth transitions					
Vocabulary • Includes a variety of vocabulary • Uses relevant and accurate words					
Structure (degree to which errors hinder overall comprehensibility) • Subject-verb agreement • Present, past, future ideas expressed as appropriate • Noun-adjective agreement • Correct word order • Spelling/diacritical marks					
Word Count • Comprehensible • In target language			100+	50 99	<50

Conversion Chart

Raw Score		Total Score
17-18	=	8
15-16	=	7
13-14	=	6
11-12	=	5
8-10	=	4
6-7	=	3
4-5	=	2
2-3	=	1
0-1	=	0

Total Raw Score ☐

Final Task Score ☐

Due Friday, September 13th

You woke up this morning and discovered that you had an unusual super-power…

Due Friday, September 20th

You just found out that the world is going to end in two weeks……

Due Friday, September 27th

You can pick any person to be the next great leader of our country……

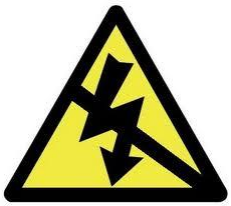
Due Friday, October 4th

You just discovered that at midnight every night, for one hour, you can speak with animals……

Due Friday, October 11th

You have the opportunity to save a community of people who need drastic help, but with a great cost; you must sacrifice your own life……

Due Friday, October 18th



Electricity and any other power source are unavailable for a full week….

Due Friday, October 25th

You just won ten million dollars playing the lottery……

Due Friday, November 1st

You can take five friends to spend a week at this lovely resort…..

Due Friday, November 8th

My most embarrassing moment was when……

Due Friday, November 15th

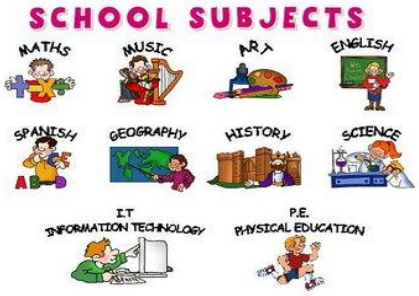
You just returned from a three week backpacking trip to Spain……

Due Friday, November 22nd

Thanksgiving for me involves…..

Due Friday, December 6th

This is what I think about school…..



Due Friday, December 13th

What if you could give the school district one gift that would be free of charge for you?

Due Friday, December 20th

Christmas for me involves…..

Due Friday, January 10th

My bucket list includes…..

Due Friday, January 17th

Today you get to have lunch with any famous person…..…..

Due Friday, January 24th

Describe your favorite season. What do you like to do during that season?

Due Friday, January 31st

What can someone your age do to make money?

Due Friday, February 7th

Write about something ugly (war, crime, fear, hate, cruelty), but find the beauty (silver lining) in it.

Due Friday, February 14th

A man and a woman work in a factory together for 20 years. Write about the relationship that develops.

Due Friday, February 28th

Today, you found a magic lamp and will be granted three wishes….

Due Friday, March 7th

Talk about your fears….

Due Friday, March 14th

What was the most bizarre dream you've ever had?

Due Friday, March 21st

Describe your perfect day…..

Due Friday, March 28th

When you were younger, what did you want to be when you grew up? Has that changed?

Due Friday, April 4th

Describe your morning routine…..

Due Friday, April 11th

Do you prefer to cook food or order takeout?

Due Friday, April 25th

How to throw a proper high school party…..

Due Friday, May 9th

If I had the chance to design a class for highschoolers….

Due Friday, May 16th - Free Writing!