

Indications for writing exams. 2º A

1. Summary.

Don't extend much more than 50 words.

Make **clear, brief** statements about the main ideas. Don't complicate your sentences. Keep simple (..at least for the time being)

2. Vocabulary exercise.

Remember that the word you must find in the text must be the same type of word as the one given:

Ex. A word ending in **-s** = it must be a verb in the 3rd person singular of the present simple OR a plural noun.

- a verb ending in **-ing** will also be a verb in **-ing** in the text. If it's a participle, it will be a participle and so on.
- A noun will be a noun, an adjective will be an adjective.....

3. Grammar transformations.

- If it's reported speech, **pay attention to the structure:**
Is it a statement? A question? An order?
- If it's a verb tense and you're not sure what to change, try saying it in Spanish and then think how that would be in English. Pay attention to the time expression you have to use (By the time, since, for, ago, before, after, next.....) as it will determine the verb tense you have to use.

4. Pronunciation.

Yes, pronunciation in English is chaotic, but there are certain rules which you **MUST STUDY**.

5. Composition. (about 120 words)

Before starting off to write, take a few minutes to think.

- What exactly do I have to write about?

- What am I going to say? What ideas can I mention? What story am I going to tell? (Of course, it doesn't have to be true but it has to be coherent)

When writing, please pay special attention to:

- **PUNCTUATION!** I suppose you all know that there are ,(commas) . full stops, ? question marks and **CAPITAL LETTERS** at the beginning of a sentence (incredible but true) or for proper names, places, nationalities, languages.....
- **Subjects:** All sentences in English need a subject, except imperatives. Go through your writing and check that each verb in a personal form (not infinitives or gerunds) has got its subject.
- **Verb tenses:**
 - Watch for 3rd person singular **S or HAS** if it's present simple.
 - Keep the time line and don't switch from present to past to future to.....
 - The more irregular verbs you know, the better.
- **ADJECTIVES** are **invariable** words. They **DO NOT** have a plural form. So, things such as "different opinions", "fantastics vegetables", "they are very unhealthies"**NEVER AGAIN!**
- **ADJECTIVES** come **BEFORE** nouns: delicious meals NOT meals delicious. Rich people NOT people rich.
- **OTHER (S), ANOTHER.** Check your notes. This has been explained in class and you still use it incorrectly.
- **COMPARATIVES and SUPERLATIVES.**
healthier than NOT more healthy/ healthiest NOT the most healthy; easier **not** more easy....

- **INFINITIVES:** (Check your notes from last year. We studied this)
 - After an adjective we use **TO inf.**
 Es fácil comer buena comida en Galicia = it's easy TO eat ...
 Es importante comer una dieta equilibrada= It's important
 TO eat a balanced diet.
 - SUBJECT of a sentence: **ING form**
 Seguir una dieta saludable es esencial para vivir...=
Following a healthy diet is essential(adj.) **TO live**....

- **VOCABULARY.**

Avoid repeating the same words or expressions all the time.

If you're not sure about a word try and find a synonym. Don't risk too much.

Here are a few of your inventions. Take note of the correct word.

Quimics (químicos) = chemicals

Inclues (incluye)= includes

Variated (variado)= varied

Beneficies (beneficios)= benefits

Ills (enfermedades)= illnesses, diseases

Intent (intentar)= try

Vegetals = vegetables

And remember: *"Practice makes perfect"*