Your notes

GCSE Spanish: revision notes

The environment and where people live

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Where I live

- Vivo en una ciudad (in a town or city), en un pueblo (in a village or small town), en **el campo** (in the countryside), en la costa (on the coast), en la montaña or **en las afueras** (in the suburbs).
- Vivo en una casa / un piso (a flat).
- Hay... (there is / are...) un parque, un centro comercial (a shopping centre), una piscina, una biblioteca (a library), una estación de tren (a train station), un ayuntamiento (a town hall), un mercado, una iglesia.
- No hay cine (there isn't a cinema): no article is needed after no hay.
- Lo bueno es que es tranquilo / animado (the good thing is it's quiet / lively). Lo malo es que no hay nada para los jóvenes (the bad thing is there's nothing for young people).

Directions and describing places

- ¿Por dónde se va a **la estación**? (how do I get to the station?) Sigue todo recto (go straight on), gira a la izquierda / a la derecha (turn left / right), toma la primera calle (take the first street).
- Use estar for location: está cerca de (near), lejos de (far from), enfrente de (opposite), al lado de (next to), entre (between).
- Antes había... (before, there used to be...) pero ahora hay... (but now there is...).

The environment

- **el medio ambiente** (the environment), la contaminación (pollution), **el calentamiento global** (global warming), el cambio climático (climate change), **la basura** (rubbish), los envases (packaging), el plástico, el efecto invernadero (the greenhouse effect), la sequía (drought), las inundaciones (floods).

- To protect the environment: reciclo el papel y el vidrio (glass), apago la luz (I switch off the light), me ducho en vez de bañarme (I have a shower instead of a bath), uso **el transporte público**, voy al instituto en bici.
- **ahorrar** agua / energía (to save water / energy), **malgastar** (to waste), las energías renovables (renewable energy).

Grammar to use

- Deberíamos + infinitive (we should): deberíamos **reciclar** más.
- Hay que + infinitive (we must / it's necessary to): hay que proteger el planeta.
- Si + present, then future: si reciclamos, protegeremos el planeta (if we recycle, we will protect the planet).
- Si + imperfect subjunctive, then conditional (Higher): si fuera alcalde, crearía más carriles bici (if I were mayor, I would create more cycle lanes).

Key terms

la ciudad	town or city
el pueblo	village (small town)
el campo	countryside
en las afueras	in the suburbs
el ayuntamiento	town hall
la estación	station
la biblioteca	library
el transporte público	public transport
el medio ambiente	the environment
el calentamiento global	global warming
la basura	rubbish
reciclar	to recycle
malgastar	to waste
ahorrar	to save
las inundaciones	floods

Quick questions

Cover the answers and test yourself: remembering is what makes it stick.

1. What does "Vivo en el campo" mean?
2. What is "la biblioteca"?
3. What is "el ayuntamiento"?
4. How do you say "There isn't a cinema" in Spanish?

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5. What does "Gira a la izquierda" mean?
6. What does "enfrente de" mean?
7. What does "el calentamiento global" mean?
8. What does "malgastar" mean?

Answers

1. I live in the countryside
2. the library
3. the town hall
4. No hay cine
5. Turn left
6. opposite
7. global warming
8. to waste

What to do next

Practise 14 questions on this topic

Try 4 exam questions, with mark schemes

Read the lesson, one step at a time

Free revision for GCSE and KS3 at lycolearn.co.uk. Some notes are for one exam board only, and say so in brackets.

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