

Listening and talking

You are going to give a short presentation about Christmas celebrations in Spain and in Scotland. Once you have finished you will be asked some relevant questions by the people in your groups.

Think about what makes a good presentation and conversation

Here are some ideas, but you may have some of your own:

- The topic is interesting and structured so it makes sense to me
- The speaker is clear and the pronunciation accurate so I can understand almost all of what s/he is saying
- The speaker uses interesting words and expressions to maintain my interest
- The speaker maintains eye contact with me, varies the tone of her/his voice and body language to help me understand better
- The speaker listens carefully to the questions and can answer them in a way that can be understood by the group

In groups, using the above suggestions and adding some of your own, agree a set of success criteria that will help you evaluate your own talking skills and the skills of others in your class. Your teacher will then help you agree a set for use by the whole class.

Watch the video clip of a presentation about how Christmas is celebrated in Spain and Scotland. Use the success criteria to evaluate how successful you think the speaker is.

After you have listened to the video clip, write down two specific good things that the speaker said or did, such as answering all the questions. Then write down one specific thing that you are now going to include in your presentation.

+ _____

+ _____

→ _____



What am I good at?

Before you start to prepare your presentation, take some time to identify the things you are good at and the areas that you need to develop. Put a + beside the things you can do. You can work with a partner to check each other's knowledge. If you have some "learning gaps", look over your notes to help you find the vocabulary that you'll need.

Topic: Christmas in Scotland and Spain

I can... (put a + if you can do it)

... name three time phrases in Spanish

... say three things about other people in Spanish, for example friends and family

... name **three** kinds of **food or drink** that is eaten in Spain at Christmas and **three** in Scotland in Spanish

... name **three** activities that people might **do** at Christmas in Scotland and Spain in Spanish

... name **three** places that Spanish and Scottish people might **go** at Christmas in Spanish

... say "I prefer" and "because" to give **opinions** and **reasons** in Spanish.

... name **three linking words** such as "however", "also", "then" in Spanish

... use at least **three question words** such as "when", "who", "what" in Spanish

Place a plus sign (+) under each heading that you can do for the topic of Christmas. Be prepared to give an example.

Give information about when people do things at Christmas	Give information about who celebrates Christmas	Give information about what kind of activities they do?	Give information about where people go at Christmastime	Ask and answer questions about when, who, what and where people celebrate Christmas?

Example:	Example:	Example:	Example:	Example:
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I am good at...

I can get better in the areas of...

What I will do to be better in these areas:

Flashcard Traffic Lights



With a partner who wants to improve their Spanish vocabulary, work together to create picture flashcards (target word on one side and a picture on the other). As your partner holds up cards with the image facing you, say the words associated with them. The partner will look at the back of the card to see if you are correct and help you learn more vocabulary. Put all the ones you get correct in the “green” pile, put all the ones that you are unsure about in the “orange” pile, out all the ones you get wrong in the “red” pile. Once you have gone through all your cards, go back to the “orange” pile and practise them until you know them well enough for them to go “green”. Then do the same with the “red” pile until all the cards go “green”. Then reverse roles to help your partner practice. See who can get the biggest “green” pile.



Successful Sentences

Learner 1 will start by saying as many sentences and phrases about Christmas in Spain and Scotland as possible in one minute. Learner 2 listens and records each sentence with a slash (/). If Learner 2 does not understand sentence or phrase or does not feel that it is appropriate to the topic, s/he does not record it. After a minute, Learner 2 tallies the slashes, records the total, and tells Learner 1 how many sentences s/he has said successfully.

Reverse roles. Learner 1 says “Start” and Learner 2 has a minute to say sentences and phrases. After a minute, Learner 1 tallies the slashes (/), records the total, and tells Learner 2 how many sentences or phrases s/he has said successfully.

After both of you have spoken, collectively try to think of more sentences and phrases on the topic. Record these additional phrases in the “Improve” section. Then, practice using the additional vocabulary.

Topic	Number of successful phrases (/)	Improve
Christmas in Spain and Scotland		



Round Robin

Work in small groups of 3. One member of the group says a phrase or sentence about the topic of Christmas. If it is new to you, write it down under the correct heading. Go round the group until everyone has offered as many suggestions as possible. Now learn the new phrase you have noted. Get your group member to help you learn them.

Places	People/objects	Actions/activities	Opinions/reasons	Useful expressions

Asking questions

Think about how to ask five questions in Spanish using different question words such as who, what, when, where and why. Write down a question under each category and practice asking them until you are confident enough not to look at the sheet. Practice with a partner who will try to answer you. Then swap roles and try to answer your partner's questions. Then go round other people in your group asking your questions and answering theirs until you are confident enough not to refer to your notes.

Who	What	Where	When	Why	Other types of questions