**Higher Tier Language Structures – Mi casa**

1. **Desde hace……*(Since…ago/ for)***

When you want to say how long you have been doing something you use desde hace + present tense

**Examples**

He vivido en esta casa desde hace\* cinco años

*I have been living in this house since 5 years ago\**

Hemos vivido a las afueras de Liverpool desde hace\* tres años

*We have lived in the sounding area of Liverpool since 3 years ago\**

1. **Lo + adjective….**

When you want to say “The good thing is that….” “The bad thing is…….” “The best thing is…..” use lo + adjective

**Examples**

Lo malo\* es que mi casa no está en un barrio muy bueno.

*The bad thing is (that) my house is not in a very good neighbourhood.*

Lo bueno\* de mi casa es……el tamaño

*The good thing about my house is……the size*

Lo mejor\* de mi habitación es …que es tal y cómo yo siempre he soñado.

*The best thing about my bedroom is that is just how I´ve always dreamt.*

Lo peor\* del jardín es ....que necesita muchos cuidados.

*The worst thing about the garden is……it requires a lot of work.*

Lo peor\* de mi casa son las escaleras ¡Odio subir y bajar a todas horas!

*The worst thing about my house is the stairs. I hate going up and down!*

Lo más positivo\* de la decoración de mi casa es…que es moderna y cómoda.

*The most positive thing about my house decoration... is modern and comfortable.*

1. **Extended sentences**

**3.1** Write longer sentences using **porque** and **pero** in the same sentence.

**Examples**

Me gusta…………….porque\* es……………………….pero\*……………………….

I like…………………….because it is…………………..but…………………

Me **chiflan**………………porque\* son………………pero\*

I love (plural)……because they are………but

**3.2** Correlations  **No solo.......sino también.**

**(Not only......... but also).**

**Examples**

Me gusta no solo mi habitación sino también el jardín.

*I not only like my bedroom but also my garden.*

1. **Negatives**

**no….**  don´t (not)

**nunca** never

**jamás** never

**no**….**nadie** anybody / nobody

**no** ….**ni**…..**ni**  neither……nor……….

**Examples**

No\* me gusta el jardín I don´t like the garden

Nunca\* paso tiempo en la cocina I never spend time in the kitchen

Jamás\* uso el cobertizo I never use the shed.

No usamos ni el cobertizo ni el invernadero

*We don´t use either the shed or the greenhouse (conservatory)*

1. **Impersonal Verbs**

se puede + full verb You can

se debe + full verb You should/must/ought to

se necesita + full verb You need to

se require + full verb It requires

**Examples**

Se puede\* tomar el sol en el balcón You can sunbathe in the balcony.

No se debe\* comer en las habitaciones You shouldn´t eat in the bedrooms.

1. **Expressions with tener**

**Tener** means to have but when linked with an adjective (describing word) its meaning changes from “to have” to “to be”

**Examples**

Tener éxito\* to be successful

Tener miedo\* to be afraid

Tener hambre\* to be hungry

Tener suerte\* to be lucky

Quiero tener éxito\* en la vida I want to be successful in life

Tendré suerte\* si….. I will be lucky if……

**Examples**

Tendré suerte si me dan mi propio dormitorio

*I will be lucky if I get my own bedroom.*

Si tengo hambre voy a la cocina y pico algo.

*If I´m hungry I go to the kitchen and pick something.*

1. **“If” sentences**

When you start sentences with “if” or “si” in Spanish, combinations of tenses are used. The combinations are as follows

Si\* + present + future

Si\* + imperfect + conditional

Si\* + pluperfect + conditional perfect

**Examples**

Si\* me dan mi propio dormitorio, tendré más independencia.

*If I get my own bedroom, I will have more privacy*.

Si\* hace sol, saldré al jardín.

*If I´s sunny, I will go out to the garden.*

Si\* mi amiga nos visit**ara**, dorm**iría** en el sofá.

*If my friend visited, She would sleep on the couch.*

Si\* hubiese elegido mi habitación, habría elegido la más soleada.

*If had chosen my bedroom, I would have picked the sunniest one.*

1. **Object Pronouns**

When you want to avoid repeating the thing you are talking about in a sentence, use an object pronoun. They are normally found in front of a verb. The most commonly used are:-

**Masculine Feminine**

it **lo** **la**

them **los** **las**

me **me** **me**

**Examples**

Lo\* veo I see it

Me\* ayudará it will help me

1. **Comparatives**

When you want to compare two things use the following comparisons

**Más……… que** more….than

**Menos ………..que** less….than

**Tan………como**  as…………as

**Examples**

La habitación de arriba es más soleada que\* la de abajo

*The upstairs bedroom is sunnier than the downstairs one.*

Vivir en un piso es menos caro que\* una casa

*Living in a flat is less expensive than a house*

Las casas inglesas son tan elegantes como\* las españolas

*English houses are as elegant as Spanish ones.*

1. **Superlatives**

When you want to say “the most………… ” or “the least……” use a superlative in Spanish

**el más** the most (m)

**la más** the most (f)

**el menos** the least (m)

**la menos** the least (f)

**Examples**

Esta casa es la más\* amplia

This house is the biggest.

El cuarto de estar es el más\* cómodo de todas las habitaciones de la casa

The sitting room is the most comfortable of all rooms in the house.

1. **Adverbs**

Adjectives which describe verbs are called adverbs. In English they usually end in “ly”. In Spanish normally they end in “mente”

**Example**

**probablamente**  probably

**afortunádamente** fortunately

**definitívamente** definitely

**constántemente**  constantly

**periódicamente** periodically

**consecuentemente** consequently

However, not all adverbs end in “mente”

**Examples**

**a menudo** often

**algunas veces** sometimes

**ahora** now

**casi** almost

1. **Linking ideas with starters such as …….**
2. **Al** llegar + full verb On arriving….
3. **Después de** + full verb After………..
4. **Antes de** + full verb before Before……

**Example**

Al\* llegar a mi casa se encuentra el salón.

*On arriving to my house you find….*

Despues de\* descansar en el jardín nos bañamos en la piscina.

After resting in the garden we swim in my pool.

Antes de llegar al cuarto de estar, está la cocina.

Before getting to the sitting room, there is the kitchen.

1. **Using “ísimo” (veeeeeeeeeeery)**

When you want to emphasise an adjective add “ísimo” to it

ísimo (m)

ísima (f)

ísimos (mpl)

ísimas (fpl)

**Example**

Mi sofa es comodísimo\* My coach is veeeery comfortable

Las cotinas son carísimas\* Curtains are veeeery expensive

Mi piso es grandísimo\*. My flat is veeeeery big.

1. **Conjunctives ( Conectores)**

Start sentences with good linkage to gain valuable content marks

**Examples**

**Sin embargo** However

**Además** Furthermore

**Aunque** Although

**Para empezar** To start / begin with

**Para concluir** To sum up / conclude

**Por un lado . . por otro lado** On the one hand . . . on the other hand

**En primer lugar** In the first instance / place

**Al fin y al cabo** When all is said and done

**A pesar de todo**  Despite everything

**Por lo tanto** Therefore

**Por lo que** Therefore

**Afortunadamente** Fortunately

**Por desgracia** Unfortunately

**Después**  after / afterwards

**Entonces** then / so

**Luego** then / next

**También**  also

**Por eso**  so / for this reason

**Por ejemplo** for example

**Así que**  so

**Ya que** since, considering that

**Aparte de** apart from

1. **Using the gerund**

When you want to use “ing” in Spanish add “iendo” to er or ir verbs or “ando” to ar verbs.

**Example**

Viviendo\* en el centro, ahorraré en transporte.

*Living in the city centre, I will save in transport.*

Conociendo\* a amis vecinos, el barrio será mejor

*Getting to know my neighbours, the neighbourhood will be better.*

1. **TENSES**
   1. Present VISITO
   2. Preterite VISITÉ
   3. Perfect HE VISITADO
   4. Imperfect VISITABA
   5. Conditional VISITARÍA
   6. Pluperfect HABIA VISITADO
   7. Subjunctive VISITE
   8. Future VISITARÉ or VOY A VISITAR

1. **Después de haber + past participle**

When you want to say after having done something, you use después de haber + past participle

**Examples**

Después de haber comprado\* esta casa……….

After having bought this house……………

Después de haber vivido\*……

After having lived……………

Después de haber compartido\* habitación……

After having lived……………

1. **Subjunctive phrases**

**Quisiera *I would like***

**Ojalá fuera *If only I or He/She/It were***

**Ojalá tuviera *If only I or He/She/It had***

**Ojalá pudiera *If only I or He/She.. could***

**Ojalá hubiera *If only there were***

**Cuando sea mayor *When I’m older***

**Cuando (to indicate future) When.....**

**Si tuviera más tiempo/dinero**

***If only I had more time/money***

**Cuando sea mayor *.....****When I´m older*

**Cuando viva solo *.....*When I live by myself**

**Cuando cambie la decoración ...**

*When I change the decoration*

1. **Opinions**

**Creo que . . .**  I believe that . . .

**Pienso que . .** . I think that . . .

**En mi opinión. . .** In my opinión . . .

**Para mí . . .** For me . . .

**A mi parecer . .** . It seems to me / In my opinion . . .

**Diría que . . .** I would say that . . .

**Desde mi punto de vista** . . . .From my point of view. . . .

1. **Usually OR Used to = Soler**

***Suelo – I usually***

***Suele- He/she usually***

***solemos – we usually***

***Solía – I used to***

***Solíamos- We used to***

***Followed by an INFINITIVE (AR, ER, IR)***

**Examples**

**Suelo pasAR mucho tiempo en la cocina.**

*I usually spend lots of time in the kitchen*

**Cuando era pequeño, solíamos jugAR en la buhardilla**

When I was younger, we used to play in the loft.

1. **It´s +Adjective+ TO Infinitive**

**Es difícil + It´s difficult**

**Es fácil + It´s easy**

**Es necesario+ It´s necessary**

**Es esencial+ It´s essential**

**Es útil+ It´s useful**

**Examples**

**Es difícil compartir tu habitación con tu hermana**

*It´s difficult to share your bedroom with your sister*

1. **Tengo la intención de + Infinitive**

I tend to + infinitive

**Examples**

**Tengo la intención de cambiar la decoración de mi casa**

*I intend to change the decoration of my house*

1. **Tanto/a/s….como *As many as***

**En mi habitación no hay tantos muebles como en el salón.**

*In my bedroom there is not as many furniture pieces as in the dining room.*

1. ***RELATIVE CLAUSES***

**WHO (quien) , WHICH (que), WHERE(donde)*, WHOSE (cuyo)***

**En la habitación donde duermo…**

*In the bedroom where I sleep...*

**En la habitación que está cerca de la cocina….**

*In the bedroom that is near the kitchen...*

**La casa que está contigua a la mía….**

*The house which is next to mine...*

**La casa cuya puerta es roja…**

*The house which is next to mine...*

**Alas para volar**

**Wings to fly**

**Achieving A\* - B**

**Higher Structure Booklet**

**Mi casa **