

Spanish CLEP Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

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Questions

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- 1. What does 'interesar' mean in English?**
 - A. To travel**
 - B. Interest**
 - C. To walk**
 - D. To drive**

- 2. What does 'fumar' translate to in English?**
 - A. To form**
 - B. To frame**
 - C. To free**
 - D. To smoke**

- 3. What does 'producir' mean?**
 - A. To produce**
 - B. To project**
 - C. To process**
 - D. To proclaim**

- 4. What is the meaning of 'conocer' in English?**
 - A. to leave**
 - B. to know (meet)**
 - C. to bring**
 - D. to have**

- 5. Translate 'el lago' to English.**
 - A. the forest**
 - B. the city center**
 - C. the lake**
 - D. the church**

- 6. How do you say 'to swim' in Spanish?**
 - A. bailar**
 - B. nadar**
 - C. volar**
 - D. correr**

- 7. What is the translation of 'reservar'?**
- A. to need**
 - B. to walk**
 - C. to reserve**
 - D. to spend**
- 8. What is the English equivalent of 'apartamento'?**
- A. Hotel**
 - B. Camp**
 - C. Apartment**
 - D. House**
- 9. What is the meaning of 'desayunar' in English?**
- A. To eat breakfast**
 - B. To desire**
 - C. To design**
 - D. To detach**
- 10. What does 'descansar' mean in English?**
- A. to eat**
 - B. to sleep**
 - C. to rest**
 - D. to drink**

Answers

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1. B
2. D
3. A
4. B
5. C
6. B
7. C
8. C
9. A
10. C

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Explanations

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1. What does 'interesar' mean in English?

- A. To travel
- B. Interest**
- C. To walk
- D. To drive

The correct answer is indeed related to the word "interest." In Spanish, "interesar" means "to interest." It is a verb that describes the action of something being of interest or appeal to someone. For example, when you say, "Me interesa" it translates to "It interests me" in English, indicating that something captures your attention or curiosity. The other options do not relate to the meaning of "interesar." "To travel," "to walk," and "to drive" are separate actions that are expressed by different verbs in Spanish, such as "viajar," "caminar," and "conducir," respectively. Thus, these options are not aligned with the definition of "interesar."

2. What does 'fumar' translate to in English?

- A. To form
- B. To frame
- C. To free
- D. To smoke**

The term 'fumar' translates to 'to smoke' in English. This verb is commonly used in the context of smoking tobacco or other substances. Understanding this verb is essential for conversations related to health, lifestyle choices, or social situations involving smoking. The other options do not pertain to the action conveyed by 'fumar,' as they relate to entirely different concepts. Recognizing the correct translation helps build a solid vocabulary foundation in Spanish.

3. What does 'producir' mean?

- A. To produce**
- B. To project
- C. To process
- D. To proclaim

The term 'producir' translates to 'to produce' in English, which refers to the act of creating, generating, or bringing something into existence. This verb is commonly used in various contexts, such as in manufacturing, agriculture, or the arts. The other options do not accurately capture the meaning of 'producir.' While 'to project' relates to presenting or throwing forward an idea or image, it does not align with the concept of producing. Similarly, 'to process' involves a series of actions to transform raw materials or information but does not indicate the creation aspect paired with 'producir.' 'To proclaim' refers to announcing something publicly, which is a different action altogether. Therefore, the correct interpretation of 'producir' is indeed 'to produce.'

4. What is the meaning of 'conocer' in English?

- A. to leave
- B. to know (meet)**
- C. to bring
- D. to have

The correct answer is "to know (meet)" because 'conocer' in Spanish means "to know" in the sense of being familiar with a person or a place or having met someone for the first time. In Spanish, 'conocer' is used when referring to meeting or knowing people, places, or things. It is important to differentiate between 'conocer' and 'saber' in Spanish, as 'saber' typically refers to knowing facts or information rather than being acquainted with someone or something. The other options are not correct: A. "to leave" is translated to "salir" in Spanish. C. "to bring" is translated to "traer" in Spanish. D. "to have" is translated to "tener" in Spanish.

5. Translate 'el lago' to English.

- A. the forest
- B. the city center
- C. the lake**
- D. the church

The phrase 'el lago' translates to 'the lake' in English. This is because 'el' is the definite article for the masculine singular noun in Spanish, which corresponds to 'the' in English, and 'lago' means 'lake'. Hence, when combined, 'el lago' directly translates to 'the lake', making the correct answer the most accurate translation. The other options do not reflect the meaning of 'lago', as they refer to completely different nouns in English.

6. How do you say 'to swim' in Spanish?

- A. bailar
- B. nadar**
- C. volar
- D. correr

Nadar is the correct answer, as it means 'to swim' in Spanish. Bailar means 'to dance', volar means 'to fly', and correr means 'to run'. These options are incorrect because they do not correspond with the desired word 'to swim'.

7. What is the translation of 'reservar'?

- A. to need
- B. to walk
- C. to reserve**
- D. to spend

The term 'reservar' in Spanish translates directly to 'to reserve' in English. This verb is commonly used in contexts such as booking a table at a restaurant, securing accommodations like a hotel room, or arranging events. Its primary connotation involves setting something aside or making a prior arrangement, which aligns perfectly with the English term 'reserve.' The other options present different verbs with distinct meanings that do not relate to the concept of reserving. For instance, 'to need' refers to requiring something, 'to walk' pertains to the action of moving on foot, and 'to spend' generally involves using resources, such as time or money. Therefore, the translation that correctly corresponds with 'reservar' is indeed 'to reserve.'

8. What is the English equivalent of 'apartamento'?

- A. Hotel
- B. Camp
- C. Apartment**
- D. House

The word 'apartamento' is a Spanish word meaning 'apartment' in English. This option is the only one that is also an English word and is therefore the correct translation. The other options are incorrect because a hotel is a place where people pay to stay temporarily, a camp is a temporary place to stay outdoors and is not a permanent living space, and a house is a single-family dwelling, which may differ in structure and size from an apartment. It is important to note that context and usage may also be factors in determining the equivalent English word for a foreign term.

9. What is the meaning of 'desayunar' in English?

- A. To eat breakfast**
- B. To desire
- C. To design
- D. To detach

The word 'desayunar' translates to 'to eat breakfast' in English. This verb comes from the Spanish prefix "de-" meaning 'remove' or 'from,' combined with "ayuno," which translates to 'fast.' Therefore, 'desayunar' literally means to break the fast that one observes overnight while sleeping, making it specifically related to having breakfast. The other options do not reflect the correct translation or meaning associated with 'desayunar.'

10. What does 'descansar' mean in English?

- A. to eat**
- B. to sleep**
- C. to rest**
- D. to drink**

'Descansar' is a Spanish verb which translates to 'to rest' in English. It is incorrect to select options A, B, or D because they do not have the same meaning as 'descansar' and would result in an incorrect translation. Option A, 'to eat', means 'comer' in Spanish. Option B, 'to sleep', means 'dormir' in Spanish. Option D, 'to drink', means 'beber' in Spanish. Therefore, the correct answer for the translation of 'descansar' in English is option C, 'to rest'.