



Compulsory summer work:

We are going to be studying *El Laberinto del Fauno* by Guillermo del Toro (2006). Over the summer you must:

1. Watch the film and try to summarise it in Spanish.
2. Write a short essay (150 words minimum) in response to the question below. Try to use a range of different language structures (please see the end of the document):

“¿Quién es tu ídolo y que influencia tiene sobre la sociedad?”

3. Choose 5 of the useful websites explore to help prepare for the A Level course in September.

Useful Spanish websites:

To help you develop your reading skills:

- <https://www.elmundo.es/>
- <https://elpais.com/>
- <https://www.abc.es/>
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/spanish/news/>
- <https://www.hola.com/> (celebrity gossip magazine)
- <https://www.marca.com/> (sport)

To help you develop your listening skills:

Spanish news

- <https://www.20minutos.es/>
- <https://es.euronews.com/>
- <https://www.canalsur.es/>

Spanish TV programmes and films

- <https://www.antena3.com/programas/>
- <https://www.netflix.com>
- <https://www.mitele.es/>

Essay Tips: Structure

Your essay should consist of 3 main sections.

1. The introduction

Put the question in context. E.g. why are people talking about this issue? Why is it important? Has a recent event made it topical? How about starting with an interesting fact or statistic? Then say what you are going to do in your essay – stick to the essay title!

2. The main body of the essay

Depending on the essay question, you may need to divide this section into an “pros” part and “cons” part. Remember, 2 or 3 arguments for each part is generally enough.

For each argument, remember, one idea per paragraph and for each paragraph:

- What is my point?
- Where is my evidence?
- What is my analysis?
- How does this answer the question?
- How can I link this to the next point?

3. The conclusion

Sum up the main points you have made throughout the essay and don't introduce new ideas. Give your opinion if possible.

Finish, if you can, with something which could be important to your topic in the future.

Essay Tips: Structure and vocabulary

1. Introduction:

- Primeramente = Firstly
- En primer lugar = Firstly
- En segundo lugar = Secondly
- Me gustaría hablar de/analizar... = I would like to talk about/analyse...
- El tema he elegido es... = The topic I have chosen is...
- Lo que me encuentro más interesante es... = The thing I find most interesting is...
- Es necesario que nos preguntemos... = It is necessary to ask ourselves whether
- De todos es sabido que... = It is well known that...

2. Main body:

- Es importante tener en cuenta que... = It is important to take into account that...
- Es evidente que... = It is evident that...
- Es incuestionable que... = It is unquestionable that...
- Se debe resaltar que... = One must point out that...
- Sería más correcto decir que... = It would be more accurate to say that...
- Nos hace pensar que... = It makes us think that...
- Parece claro/evidente que... = It seems clear that...
- Por el contrario = on the contrary

- En realidad = Actually
- Incluso si = Even if/even though
- A pesar del hecho de que/a pesar de... = Despite the fact that
- Esta es la razón por la que = That's why...
- Se puede entender que = It can be understood that...
- Se deduce que = It can be deduced that...
- Se piensa que = It is thought that...
- No hace falta decir que... = It goes without saying that...
- Este ejemplo prueba que = This example proves that...
- Este nos muestra que = This shows us that...

3. Conclusion

- Habiendo considerado todos los aspectos = All things considered
- En conclusión = In conclusion
- Para resumir/concluir = To sum up
- Para terminar/finalmente = Finally
- En conjunto = All in all
- Como hemos explicado = As was explained
- Como hemos dicho = As was stated
- Como hemos subrayado antes = As was pointed out earlier
- Esto muestra que = This shows that
- Esto demuestra que = This demonstrates that
- Podemos concluir que = We can conclude that
- Hemos llegado a la conclusión de que = We have come to the conclusion that