

# **Spanish Language Proficiency Exam Description**

## **La Salle Catholic College Preparatory**

(Updated 2022)

### ***Overview***

Spanish classes at La Salle Catholic College Preparatory are taught as second-language learning classes. We place each student in the class that best fits their knowledge and skills in the areas of reading, vocabulary, grammar, writing, and speaking as demonstrated on the Proficiency Exam. In addition to placement, this exam is given to all at the end of Spanish I to measure a student's level of proficiency and as a requirement for entrance into Spanish II. All students, whether already attending La Salle or coming from another school, must take the test in order to enroll in Spanish II or any higher level.

### ***Purpose***

Our goal in administering this exam is to determine how to give students the best possible chance to succeed in Spanish at La Salle. Our students come from many different backgrounds and programs, and we want to assure each a spot in the right class. We hope to assure that all Spanish II students have the skills they need to succeed.

### ***Test Structure***

The exam will cover what we feel to be the most important content of our Spanish I curriculum. It is divided into five sections: reading, writing, speaking, listening, and grammar. In addition to this document, you will find three other documents on the World Languages page of the La Salle Prep website. The first, "Knowledge and Skills of the La Salle Spanish I Curriculum," lists what we feel is important to be able to write, speak, hear, and read about when entering Spanish II and includes the key skills found in the grammar section of the exam. The "Speaking Review Guide" allows you to practice for the speaking section of the exam. The speaking section will be administered one-on-one with a La Salle Spanish teacher and will focus on a topic selected at random based on the information in the Speaking Review Guide. The "Rubrics Used for Scoring the Essay and Speaking Sections" are also available on the World Languages page of the La Salle Prep website.

### ***Testing into Upper Level Spanish***

Students with extensive experience in the language and/or Heritage or Native Speakers of Spanish who wish to place in a class higher than Spanish II will be given additional assessment materials consistent with the goals of the classes at La Salle. All skills are considered when determining a placement of a student: reading, vocabulary, grammar, writing, and speaking.