

# Modern Foreign Languages

At Rainford all of our students study Spanish in Year 7. We know that you will all have had different experiences with different languages at primary but you don't have to worry – our amazing MFL teachers will have you all up to scratch in no time!

Have a read through these facts about the Spanish language!

**fact #1**  
START HERE! → **SPANISH TRADUCTION**  
WITH **405 MILLION NATIVESPEAKERS**  
Spanish is the second most commonly spoken language in the world, after only Mandarin Chinese. - Source: Wikipedia

**1st**  
**2nd**

**12 FUN FACTS ABOUT THE SPANISH LANGUAGE**

The country with the largest population of Spanish speakers is **Mexico with 114 million**  
The country with the second largest population is the United States with 50 million (more than Spain). -Source: Wikipedia

**MEXICO IS THE MOST SPANISH SPEAKING**

**SPANISH IS AN OFFICIAL LANGUAGE OF THE UN, THE EUROPEAN UNION, THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION (WTO) and other international organizations.** -Source: Wikipedia

**Spanish is one of the world's most phonetic languages.** If you know how a word is spelled, you almost always know how it is pronounced. -Source: One Month Spanish

Spanish's use of inverted question marks and exclamation points (¿ and ¡) is unique among major languages. -Source: About.com

After Latin, the language that has had the biggest influence on Spanish is Arabic. Source: About.com

Countries from Central America (except El Salvador) use the term español to refer to Spanish, while most countries from South America use the term castellano. -Source: Wikipedia

**Spanish VS Castellano**

Over the last 10 years, the worldwide demand for **Spanish Language courses worldwide has almost doubled.** Source: U of Illinois, Springfield.

Studies have shown that students with 2 years of studying Spanish or other foreign language score higher on their verbal scores on the ACT/SAT. -Source: Actfl.org

**88,431 words** Are contained in the official Dictionary of the Royal Spanish Academy (DRAE) -Source: DRAE 22nd edition

**7,000 words** Is the average number of words that native Spanish speaker uses Source: ABC.es

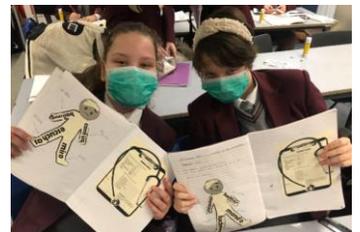
**Spanish is the most popular foreign language to learn in the U.S., Europe and Canada.** -Source: Wikipedia

Your challenge is to create your own fact sheet / poster about Spain or any other Spanish speaking country!

Things you may consider...

- Food (La Comida)
- Festivals (Las Fiestas)
- Culture (La Cultura)
- Music (La Música)
- Famous Spanish People. (Las Personas Famosas)
- Spanish Monuments (Los Monumentos)
- Anything else of interest! ( Algo Más )

You can either email your completed work to [f.begley@rainford.org.uk](mailto:f.begley@rainford.org.uk) or hand it in during our first week in September. (We will remind you!) There will be prizes for the best entries and they will be proudly displayed in the MFL department– make It as creative and interesting as you can!



**We can't wait to meet you all soon!**