**MI VIAJE**

A Web quest for Spanish

Designed by

Sra. Soto-Weisman

Honors Spanish 3

**The Introduction:**

Get your suitcases out of the closet! It’s time to see how fun and exciting Spanish can be! You are going to plan the perfect trip to the Spanish-speaking country of your choice. You are going to find out everything you need to do to prepare for the time of your life as you plan every detail of your adventure in the Spanish-speaking world. Where will you go? What do you need to do to get there? And once you’re there, where will you stay, what will you eat and what will you do? Why? My goal is for you to learn what the country you have chosen is actually like today, rather than writing a report based upon outdated and perhaps stereotypical materials. The Internet is an excellent source for current information. ¡BUEN VIAJE!

**The Task:**

For this Web quest, you will be planning a trip to a Spanish-speaking country for seven days and six nights, starting and ending here at your home. Day One begins when you get up and prepare to leave your house to go to the airport and Day Seven ends when you arrive back at your home. You will be creating a complete and very detailed daily itinerary of your trip and other documents which will feature steps you took to accomplish your plans, as well as Internet print outs and illustrations of where you stay and what you do there. You will also be making a complete accounting of costs involved. All information will be collected into a three ring binder. You will be learning about the country as it is today, so all of your restaurant and activity choices should be based upon learning about the country.

To conclude this project, you will be making a presentation of highlights of your trip to the class. You may choose your presentation visual format, such as a power point, poster board, scrapbook, postcard series, video or travel brochure. If you have a different idea for your presentation, talk with me about it, and we’ll see how to make it work. Your objective is to help the class visualize and learn about the country you visited.

You may choose to travel alone or with a classmate. If you do travel with a companion you must plan realistically for two people. You will need to make decisions such as who will bring what and how you will divide the costs. **However, you will both turn in your own project binder/portfolio of materials.** The partner binders may NOT be identical. Only the Internet printouts, expense sheet, and web sites used will be the same. All other student-produced documents, such as the itinerary, packing lists, etc, must be created by the individual student. You do NOT divide the individual work and print off two copies. You may only print two copies of Internet pages, such as those for your flight, hotel, restaurants, activities, etc. You should both be creating your own expense sheets and list of web sites used, even though the information on those documents will be the same.

**The Process:**

Here are the steps you will follow to complete your project. You MUST do the steps in order, completely finishing one step before moving on to the next.

**1)** First, you need to decide if you will be traveling alone or with a classmate. Pick your traveling companion with care. You will be spending a great deal of time together and be making some very important joint decisions. You need to be compatible! If there is an age requirement to do something, such as rent a car, you may be whatever age you need to be. **However, all activities must consist of school appropriate material or you will fail the project and be subject to school discipline.**

2) Next, you need to decide which country you want to visit. This may change as you make your plans and discover the constraints of travel time! Remember, you are planning a “real” trip down to the last detail! You only have seven days and six nights and that must include travel time!

3) Day One begins when you get up to prepare to go to the airport on the day of your flight and Day Seven ends by 12:00 midnight the day your flight lands in the USA. You may not get up to prepare to leave your house to go to the airport until after midnight the morning of the day your flight leaves and your plane must land in the USA and you must be back in your house before midnight on Day Seven.

4) As you go, you need to make an accounting of your expenses. If you travel with a companion, who will pay for what or will you split the costs equally? On your virtual trip you are not limited to a budget, but you may be surprised at how the expenses mount up! Use the Excel “Mi viaje expenses” document in your “Mi viaje” folder. There is a sheet of the expense sheet available in the document. You may type in amounts and save the document as you go in your “Mi viaje” folder or you may print it out and fill it in by hand. All amounts on your expense sheet must be in US dollars, except for the grand total which will be in both US dollars and local currency of your country.

5) Also, you need to keep a list of web sites you used to create your trip itinerary, including any specific URLs that are imbedded in this document which you may have used. Simply copy and paste the complete URL of the website onto a Word document and save it in your “Mi viaje” folder. Start the list NOW.

6) It’s time to get started! You need a passport to travel outside of the United States. Your passport is your identification that proves you are a citizen of the United States of America. You cannot leave the country without a passport and you will not be re-admitted into the country without it. You need **form DS-11.** PRINT OFF the instructions and the form, fill it in by hand with **black ink** and include in your binder everything you need to do to get your adult

passport book, **including a photo and any costs incurred**. All information must be accurate EXCEPT for your social security number. Please make up a number XXX-XX-XXXX for that. **Never put any of your personal information into online forms for this project!!!** Use this web site below to find out how to get your **adult passport book** and the **fees**.

U.S. Department of State: http://travel.state.gov/passport/get/first/first\_830.html

7) Do you need to get a VISA to go to your country of choice? Some countries accept your USA passport as sufficient identification to enter their borders; however, some countries require you to get permission to travel within their borders. A VISA is the permission form to travel into or through another country, or permission to stay longer than a passport may allow.

Find out and print this information, **even if you do not need one**, to be included in your binder, along with costs and what you needed to do to accomplish these things.

Do you need to get any inoculations to go to your country of choice? Here is a web site for you to use for discovering Visa and inoculations requirements.

Travel Document System. http://www.traveldocs.com/visas.htm

8) When will you go? You must allow for your passport application to be processed and receive your passport through the mail before you can schedule your international trip. Even though there are “deals” for faster service, play it safe. You need to allow at least **8 to 12 weeks** after application and before your travel dates in order for your passport to arrive in the mail.

Check and make sure your dates actually consist of **ONLY 7 days**! It’s easy to get confused between math and actual number of days, so count rather than add! If you return after Day Seven, you will have significant points docked from your project!

9) It’s time to book your flights. Cruises are not appropriate as they are a vacation within themselves with all meals and activities provided. You will be finding your own restaurants and activities for your trip in order to learn about your country as it is today. Enter your dates for travel and choose your flights, etc. Be sure you are looking at **round-trip information**. Choose airport an International airport in a major city as your destination, such as the capital of your country. Smaller airports do not offer a sufficient number of flights. If you decide to travel on to other cities, you will go by your rental car.

At the end of this step are the three web sites you are to use for getting flights, hotels, rental cars, etc. You may NOT use other sites. Also, you are not to select activities or excursions through these websites, ONLY flights, hotels and rental cars! There normally are package deals for flights+hotel+car available, which are desirable, but do NOT select the “vacation package” option as those include choosing activities which you are expected to find on your own later in the project! Sometimes rental cars are not available in a package, in which case you will have to go back to the home page and book the rental car separately.

When selecting flight departure times, be sure to consider when you need to arrive at the airport to check your luggage and for security checks. For international flights, travelers are to arrive at the airport **three hours before the departure time of the flight**. This also applies to your return flight from your country.

When choosing the return flight, the return date is the date your flight will be leaving your country, which is not necessarily the date you will be arriving back in the US. Be careful of overnight flights that could cause you to over-extend your seven day requirement. Look for the “+ 1 day” notation which will indicate an overnight flight!

Another detail to consider when choosing your flight is “layovers”. A layover is the time you spend in another airport waiting between connecting flights. Be sure to look for the number of stops in your flight choices and take note of the length of the layovers. You may have to shop around quite a bit, even look at different web sites, until you find the most efficient flight for your trip that will allow you the most time in your country.

You need to print off for your binder the page(s) that shows your complete detailed flight itinerary, hotel and rental car information which includes dates, times, locations and total costs. If you get to the page where it asks you to enter credit card information, you have probably gone one page too far for the correct page to print.

Here are the only websites you may choose from for booking your flight, hotel and car:

Expedia. http://www.expedia.com/

Orbitz. http://www.orbitz.com/

Travelocity. http://www.travelocity.com/

10) You must have two maps of the country you are visiting, one for in your binder AND one big enough to be seen by the class to be used in your presentation. You must highlight the city(s) you visited on both maps. If the city is the capital marked with a star, you must still highlight it yourself.

You also need basic facts about the country, such as capital, population, history and other things of interest which must also be included in your binder. Below is an excellent site for both printing off maps and finding basic information:

World Atlas (maps) http://www.worldatlas.com/aatlas/world.htm

11) What type of currency is used in the country you are visiting? How much money will you need? Use the following web site to determine currency and exchange rate by comparing 1 American dollar against the currency of the country you are visiting and print that page. Then compare 1 of that country’s currency back to 1 US dollar and print that page as well. Be sure to include **both print outs** of this information in your binder. You are required to mention this

information in your presentation as well as using this converter to arrive at the grand total in local currency on the expense sheet in your binder.

All amounts in your expense sheet for individual items must be in USA dollars. In your presentation, show and tell us the total trip cost in BOTH USA dollars as well as in the local currency. All entries into your expense sheet need to be in USA dollars so you can plan how much of our money you will need for this trip. As you find activities to do in your country, you may have to convert prices listed in the local currency back into USA dollars in order to enter the amount correctly into the expense sheet.

The Universal Currency Converter: http://www.xe.com/ucc/

12) What will you take with you? You need to start making a packing list for your checked luggage as well as a **separate list** for your carry-on luggage. Your packing list will be a work in progress as you may need to make changes to it as you decide upon activities in order to be sure you have the appropriate clothing for the things you have decided to do.

Be sure to observe the rules for carry-on luggage! Use this website to find the Transportation Security Administration rules about checked luggage and carry-ons:

Transportation Security Administration: http://www.tsa.gov/traveler-information

You will have to go to the web site for the airlines of the flight you booked in order to find the fees for checked luggage and carry-ons. You are allowed to use an Internet search engine for this step to find the airline’s website and print off the page where you will find the necessary information about your luggage. Be sure to include any fees in your expense sheet.

13) If you are traveling with a companion, do you really need to take two of everything? Is the electrical current the same in your travel country as it is in the United States, or do you need an adaptor? The web site below is helpful for this information. Print any information you find about adapters that you may need to purchase. Be sure to include that expense in your expense sheet.

Travel Oasis Electric Guide. http://traveloasis.com/world-electric-guide.html

14) As you are working on your travel details and itinerary in upcoming step 16, you will also need to be noticing which cities you may be visiting due to the activities you have found. You must allow for travel time between cities and even between restaurants and activities in your itinerary. You are not required to actually print off driving instructions for your binder, but you may if you wish. Use Google maps for estimating distances and travel time throughout your project to make sure what you are planning is physically and geographically possible.

Google maps: http://maps.google.com/maps?hl=en&tab=wl

15) Also in the next two steps, as you are finding activities and restaurants, you may discover that due to distance and therefore travel time, you may need a hotel for an overnight stay in another city in addition to your original reservation. If so, choose your hotel(s) from any of the web sites listed in step #9. Be sure to print the document that includes prices and dates in your binder and include those amounts in your expense sheet.

**16)** What will you do and what sights will you see as you travel in and learn about your country? You must prepare a detailed, daily itinerary of each day of your trip. **The itinerary is the focus of the project as it is an accounting of everything you found out and learned about your country. You are writing this itinerary instead of writing a report, so you must include information that you learned from the Internet about the activities and restaurants you have chosen.** Even though it is composed like a schedule of events, it is the story of your project and must include all of the restaurants and activities, **complete with times** and other details.

The Internet printouts prove the activity/restaurant is authentic, the information you personally incorporate into your itinerary tells me what you have learned about the country from the activities/restaurants you have chosen and read about on the Internet.

You need to do at least one activity **every morning**, another one **every afternoon** and another one **every evening after supper** for every day that you are in your country for a **minimum** of three activities a day, starting when you arrive and have checked into your hotel. Sometimes you may have to do more than that to fill up the day, but this basic requirement must be met. Day One and Day Seven’s Activities are traveling as that is certainly part of a trip. However, if your flight arrives early in the day, you will have to find activities to do for the rest of the day, and if your flight leaves in the afternoon or evening, you will need activities to do up until it is time to check out of your hotel and leave for the airport. Determine how many activities you will need before you start searching.

Eating in a restaurant does NOT count as an activity unless there is a show along with the meal. Spending time at the hotel facilities, such as the pool or a gym or spa, is NOT a learning activity. If you go to a beach, you must research material about that specific beach and print it off to be included in your binder and then include that information in your itinerary. **Remember the purpose of this project is to learn about the country!**

Booking an all-day tour is permissible as long as you do separate research about the sites and/or places you will be going to and seeing on the tour and print that information to be included in your binder and itinerary. Meals may be included as part of a tour if they are provided. **You will still have to do an evening activity if a tour concludes before you have had the evening meal.**

Include prices whenever you find them. If you cannot find the actual prices for activities or restaurants, then budget how much you will allow yourself to spend for that activity and put that amount on your expense sheet.

Print off ALL online documents for your binder. **Do not copy and paste**, **print directly from the Internet** as this will validate that the restaurants and activities are authentic. Use print preview and determine exactly which page(s) you need to print to avoid wasting paper/ink by printing pages you do not intend to use in your binder**.**

**Beginning with this step 16, you may use Internet search engines as well as the websites below to help you find information about activities as well as restaurants in the next step.**

Below are some other helpful sites for finding activities, photos and information:

A View on Cities: http://www.aviewoncities.com/

Trek Earth: http://www.trekearth.com/

17) Where will you eat as you visit your country? You need to find restaurants that offer authentic food from the region, no Italian, Chinese, etc. You must eat in a different restaurant for lunch and dinner for every day that you are in your country. You are not to eat these meals in your hotel. Determine how many restaurants you will need before you start searching.

Eating breakfast in the hotel every morning is acceptable and may even be included in your hotel package. If breakfast is not included, you may still eat in the hotel, but you will have to add the cost of breakfast into your expense sheet.

You may only eat in an American chain restaurant **once**, to experience the differences between ours and theirs. However, you must find the actual chain restaurant and its location to verify that it is really there.

Include print outs of actual restaurants that you find online that you would like to try in your daily itinerary. If you can find menus, include them in your binder! As stated in the previous step, you may use Internet search engines to help you.

18) Is your trip ready to go? Now is the time to choose the visual for your presentation to the class. You may use power point, poster boards, scrapbook, postcard series, video or travel brochure. If you have a different idea for your presentation, talk with me about it and we’ll see how to make it work. Please check the presentation requirements to make sure you have made a copy of or written down all of the information you need from your binder materials. You will not have access to your binder once it is turned in, so make sure you have all of the information you need out of it BEFORE you turn it in!!!

19) Answer the four conclusion questions found on the next page of the web quest **in English, in four separate paragraphs, one paragraph answer for each question, in extended response paragraph form,** to be included in your own binder. If you are traveling with a companion, you must each answer these questions personally for yourself, expressing your individual thoughts and opinions. You should each compose your own answers, NOT a joint response between you.

20) The rubrics for how your presentation and binder will be graded can be found on the pages following the conclusion questions. Be sure to look them over so you can better prepare yourself by knowing what will be expected of you for a quality presentation and complete binder.

**Conclusion:**

The Internet can be a very valuable information source to all people, particularly when they need to get information quickly and successfully. Traveling on the Internet can be just as enjoyable for cyber surfers as it is for tourists. Not all people have the resources to travel, so the Internet offers an opportunity that they may not otherwise be given. By completing this Web Quest, you have searched the Internet and may have chosen to cooperate with a peer to gain knowledge about your selected destination and have used your reading, writing, and technological skills to do so.

You have finished a project! You will be presenting your findings to your class. You were challenged to explore necessary details for preparing an international trip to a Hispanic country.

Think about the four questions below and answer each of them **in English, in four separate paragraphs, one paragraph answer for each question, in extended response paragraph form** to be included inside your binder:

1. What did you discover about International travel that surprised you? Why?

2. What did you discover about International travel that concerned you? Why?

3. What aspect of International travel interested you the most? Why?

4. Has this experience changed your views about International travel? How?

**Evaluation:**

You are to each turn in your own binder of collected information about your trip. Partner binders are not to be identical, but naturally since you are traveling together, some items will contain the same information, but should be prepared separately. Only Internet printouts may be identical. Binders will be graded separately. Be sure to check the requirements document to ensure that you have all of the needed information in your binder.

The following rubric will be used to evaluate your trip presentation to the class. Keep in mind that if you are traveling with a companion, you will each receive the same group grade on the presentation. Your binder is not to be your visual. You are to speak for a maximum of five minutes. Check the requirements document to make sure that you have all of the needed information in your presentation.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Mi Viaje: Class presentation** CATEGORY | **4** | **3** | **2** | **1** |
| **Presentation** | Well-rehearsed with smooth delivery that holds audience attention. | Rehearsed with fairly smooth delivery that holds audience attention most of the time. | Delivery not smooth, but able to maintain interest of the audience most of the time. | Delivery not smooth and audience attention often lost. |
| **Visual Effectiveness** | Makes excellent use of font, color, graphics, effects, etc. to enhance the presentation. | Makes good use of font, color, graphics, effects, etc. to enhance to presentation. | Makes use of font, color, graphics, effects, etc. but occasionally these detract from the presentation content. | Use of font, color, graphics, effects, etc., often distract from the presentation content or are not present. |
| **Organization** | Content is well organized and logically presented in a manner that is engaging and easy to follow. | The content is logically organized for the most part and is somewhat easy to follow. | The content is logical but the overall organization of topics appears flawed. | There was no clear or logical organizational structure, just lots of facts. |
| **Requirements**  **1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8** | All requirements are met and exceeded. | One requirement was not completely met. | More than one requirement was not completely met. | Most requirements were not completely met. |
| **Content** | Covers topic in-depth with details and examples. Subject knowledge is excellent. | Includes essential knowledge about the topic. Subject knowledge appears to be good. | Includes essential information about the topic but there are 1-2 factual errors. | Content is minimal OR there are several factual errors. |