

Ejercicio 2

According to Longh J.S. and Freede J. *"it is a common place to think that there is a Spanish Educational System Crisis"*. This is certainly an issue which frequently generates a great deal of heated debate.

Spanish expenditure per student has increased by 43 %; nonetheless Spain has one of the highest levels of educational failure rates of EU. Early School Leaving (ESL) in Spain stands at 31.9 %. OECD rates show as well that 26 % of Secondary students in Spain do not attain the corresponding diploma. Mathematics, Reading and Comprehension average are lower than ever. On the whole, up to a point, it is an ignominious Spanish Education Panorama.

In spite of figures everything is not lost yet. In 2010 over 1500 students visited a contest page and from the essays submitted by teens some key themes were found that students shared for improving their schools:

.-**Focus less on test scores and emphasize learning process.** There should be more focus on individual progress than on test scores. These are not the only way of seeing how much a student understands.

.-**Refresh teachers training.** To a certain degree students feel that many teachers are not trained to deal with the "Facebook nation". The most important role for teachers should be to coach, encourage and guide students through the learning process giving special attention to nurturing a student's self-confidence.

.-**Parental involvement.** Schieffelfbaum and Simmons consider *"the influence of family educational climate and family background as most weighty factors determining academic performance"*. It is of a great importance to involve parents and other caregivers to instill values that encourages school learning. Schools should welcome parent's active participation in the classroom as well.

.-**Combat classmate apathy.** According Juliette Green *"the atmosphere and learning ethos within schools and classrooms also play a major role in motivating or demotivating students"*. Teachers should promote a suitable climate for learning.

.-**Partnerships with a wide range of community organizations** and government agencies to expose students to the world of work enlisting professionals acting as mentors.

I am firmly convinced that these measures should be taken into account in order to deal with ESL and combat school failure. Family as well should focus their attention to improve Spanish Educational System figures. If these steps were taken the situation could be improved.

Comment [B1]: Insert definite article; 'the'

Comment [B2]: Plural form more suitable, 'averages'

Comment [B3]: Insert definite article; 'the'

Comment [B4]: Word form error, correct: "encourage"

Comment [B5]: Insert 'to'

Bibliography:

.-Longh J.S. and Freede J. (2007), (Regression Models for Categorical Dependent Variable Using Stata, 20th Edition, Arizona, Stata Press).

.-Harry Haller (2011), (Ten measures to improve Schools, Columbia University).

.-José Luis Cañizares Longoria (2009), (Early School Leaving in Spain, Salamanca University).

.-Jeanne Seymour (2011), (Personal, family, and academic factors affecting the achievement in Secondary School, Massachusetts Research Institute).

.-Peter Schieffelbaum and Martins Simmons (2010), (Students, Family and School, Technology and Human Resources Washington School).

.-Juliette Green (2008), (Lower Secondary Education: an international comparison, Seattle University).

Tareas requeridas	Bueno	Parcial	Pobre	Posibles tareas del examen escrito	
					DESCRIPCIÓN
					NARRACIÓN
					INSTRUCCIONES Y DIRECCIONES
					RELATO DE HECHOS
				X	FORMULACIÓN DE HIPÓTESIS
				X	DEFENSA DE UNA OPINIÓN
					SUGERENCIA
					ANÁLISIS DETALLADO DE UNA SITUACIÓN
CONTENIDO	<p>Puntos fuertes</p> <p>Some very good constructions and collocations</p>				
	<p>Puntos débiles</p> <p>You were asked to write an essay, this is not the format for an essay. Look at unit 4 of the manual to revise and adopt the accepted format for essay writing. The format you have adopted does not permit much use of contrasting words, linking words or transitions.</p>				
PRECISIÓN	<p>Grammatically quite sound and with some very good use of sophisticated language and vocabulary. Watch the use of the definite article.</p>				