

**TEST ON  
HISTORICAL COMPETENCES**

**Assessment Unit**

**SPANISH EMIGRANTS  
IN THE 1960s AND NOWADAYS (2014)**

**SOURCES AND DOCUMENTS**

**COMPULSORY SECONDARY EDUCATION  
YEAR FOUR (\*)**

---

\*(\*) This test was designed for Spanish students at the end of Compulsory Education (15-17 years old).

**MAIN AUTHOR:** Jesús Domínguez Castillo

**COAUTHORS:** Laura Arias Ferrer, Raquel Sánchez Ibáñez, Alejandro Egea Vivancos, Fco. Javier García Crespo y Pedro Miralles Martínez

**CONTACT:**

Laura Arias Ferrer  
Área Didáctica de las Ciencias Sociales  
Facultad de Educación  
Universidad de Murcia  
email: [larias@um.es](mailto:larias@um.es)  
tel.: 868887994

Raquel Sánchez Ibáñez  
Área Didáctica de las Ciencias Sociales  
Facultad de Educación  
Universidad de Murcia  
email: [raqueledu@um.es](mailto:raqueledu@um.es)  
tel.: 686883547

**SPONSORSHIP:**

This research is part of project COMPSOCIALES, funded by the Ministerio de Economía y Competitividad (Subprojects EDU2012-37909-C03-01 and EDU2012-37909-C03-03).

**COOPERATE:**



**Nebrija**  
*Universidad*



*This unit deals with the Spanish migrations abroad from 1959 to 2014.*

### **DOCUMENT 1:**

*Isabel was a Grade 10 student during 2012-13. In one of her first days of class in that year, her history teacher asked the students to write a brief story of a branch of their family (mother's or other's), from the birth of the students' grandparents to their own birth. They also had to complete the story with a timeline. Here you are the first few paragraphs of the story that Isabel wrote:*

#### ***The story of my mother's family***

My grandparents Carmelo and Paquita were born in a small village, 80 miles from Madrid, in the central high plateau. They went to school only until age 10. They married in 1955 and initially lived at my grandma's mother house, Tina, who was widowed since her husband died at the Civil War. Uncle Mingo, the eldest brother of my grandma was single and also lived with them. They had two children: the first one, born in 1956, died of meningitis when he was only a few months old; the second one is my mother, called Pilar, who was born in France in 1964 .

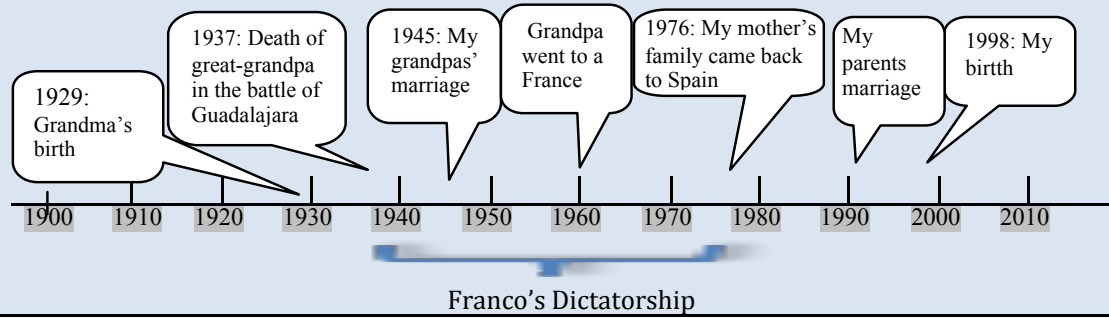
As it was usual for a married women at that time, grandma Paquita attended the house and cared not only for her elderly mother, but also for her husband and her bachelor brother. She also attended barnyard chickens and assisted in the fields when needed. My grandfather Carmelo was an agricultural laborer. My grandparents had inherited some lands that barely provided them with enough resources to eat, so that grandpa also had to work as day laborer when landowners hired him to plow the fields, harvest the grain, etc. But things were not going well for him: Some landowners did not hire him because he was married to the daughter of a red (a socialist) and, besides, some of them also began to buy tractors so that my grandpa worked fewer days to pay. Moreover, since the late 50s, because of foreign competition, the prices of crops he could sell were increasingly lower. Finally, after 5 years of marriage, my grandpa Carmelo had to leave his family and go to France. There he got a job as a builder laborer, like many Spanish immigrants, mostly illiterate men, who only could get low-skilled jobs.

At first he lived with other Spaniards and could sent most of his salary to my grandmother but in 1963, after the death of her mother, my grandma Paquita joined him in France, a year before my mother was born. There, she used to work as a cleaner, in addition to caring for her family at home. She barely learned French and said that she found it hard to adapt to living in France. Eventually they bought their famous Citroën "two horses" and used to drive to the family village in Spain during summer holidays. My grandparents, as nearly 50 per cent of Spaniards their age, were almost illiterate, however my mother could attend primary education in France, finished her Baccalaureate in Spain and finished her career as a journalist later on.

A year after the death of Franco they finally returned to Spain. My mother (...)

*(Source: own)*

**DOCUMENT 2: Timeline made by Isabel**



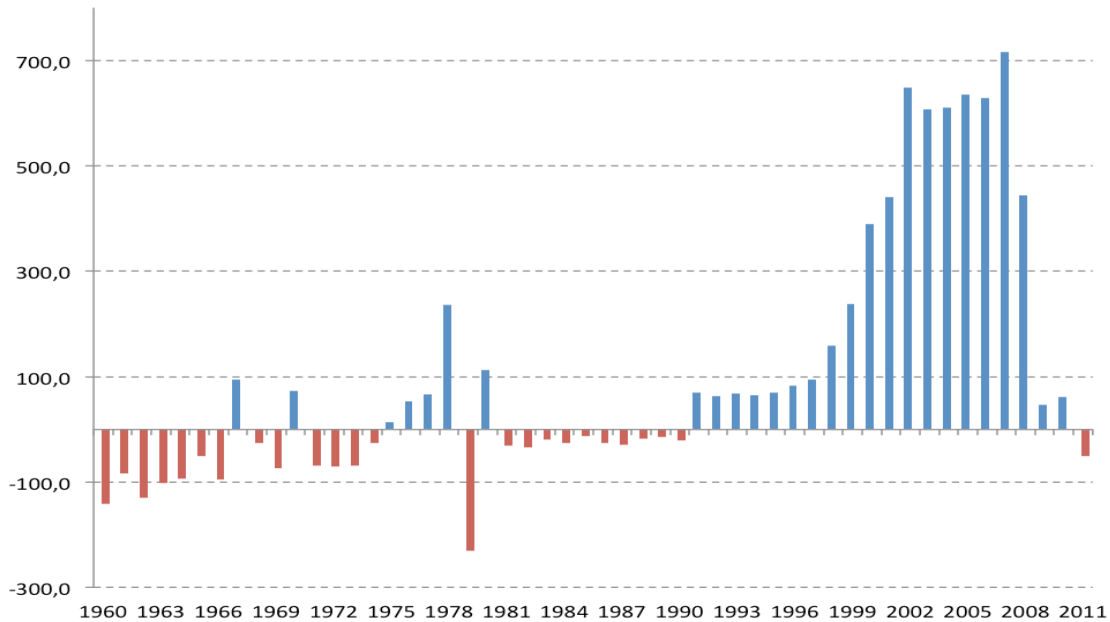
**DOCUMENT 3: Harvest with sickle (Teruel, Spain, around 1950)**



(<http://www.20minutos.es/museo-virtual/foto/8355/?contexto=temas&tema=agricultura>)

## DOCUMENT 4:

**Net migration balance (incoming and outgoing population) in Spain between 1960 and 2011 (in thousands of people per year).**



FUENTE: Juan Ignacio Conde-Ruiz y Clara I. González. Prepared by the authors based on data from Fundación BBVA and INE. (<http://www.fedeablogs.net/economia/?p=18448>)

## DOCUMENT 5

*In just two years the financial crisis has put out of work almost 7.000 scientists and technicians in the Canary Islands!!*



(FUENTE: [http://saincanarias.blogspot.com.es/2012\\_02\\_01\\_archive.html](http://saincanarias.blogspot.com.es/2012_02_01_archive.html))

Demonstration banner with the text: “If you are a graduate in Spain you have 3 professional way-outs (prospects): By land, sea or air”