

Rosa's Spanish Calendar Quest

Learning objective: To recall and spell the twelve months of the year in Spanish and understand their connection to the seasons.

Read the passage below with Rosa the parrot. Use your knowledge of Spanish vocabulary to answer the questions. Remember that in Spanish, months are not written with a capital letter unless they start a sentence!

¡Hola! I am Rosa. I love to fly across the world, and wherever I go, I keep track of time. In Spain, the year begins in enero, when it is chilly. By the time we reach abril, the spring flowers are blooming. When junio arrives, the summer sun shines brightly, and by diciembre, we are ready to celebrate the end of the year. Learning the months in Spanish is like learning a new rhythm for the year!

Word bank: enero (January) · febrero (February) · marzo (March) · abril (April) · mayo (May) · junio (June) · julio (July) · agosto (August) · septiembre (September) · octubre (October) · noviembre (November) · diciembre (December)

1. Identify the two months that appear after 'mayo' in the Spanish calendar and explain why the order of these months remains consistent across different languages. (2 marks)

2. If Rosa celebrates her birthday in the month of 'octubre', which month comes immediately before it? Write your answer in Spanish. (1 mark)

3. Compare the spelling of 'diciembre' and 'septiembre'. What do you notice about the endings of these two months? (2 marks)

4. Justify why it is important to learn the months of the year in another language when travelling to a Spanish-speaking country. (2 marks)

5. What might happen if the order of the months was changed? Explain the impact this would have on how we track seasons or special events. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a circular calendar for a year. Divide it into four segments representing the seasons. Label each month in the correct segment using the Spanish names provided in the word bank.



Extension challenge: Research why some Spanish month names (like septiembre, octubre, noviembre, and diciembre) look similar to English month names. Write a short paragraph explaining the historical link between these words and the Latin numbering system.