

SMARTHINKING's Tutor Response Form

(Your marked-up essay is below this form.)

HOW THIS WORKS: Your tutor has written overview comments about your essay in the form below. Your tutor has also embedded comments [in bold and in brackets] throughout your essay. Thank you for choosing SMARTHINKING's Spanish Essay Center; best wishes with revising your paper!

*Strengths of the essay:

Casandra, I enjoyed reading your description of this house. Your content is clear, developing it with good detail. I like how you give the main characteristics in the introduction and subsequently present each of the rooms in a logical fashion, as if you were walking a friend through the house for the first time. Moreover, you make good use of the thematic vocabulary. Below, I will give you suggestions for improving your work.

*CASANDRA 0532842 has requested that you respond to the Accents & Punctuation:

Casandra, accents are used to indicate irregular stress patterns and distinctions in pronunciation. Let's take a look at some examples from your essay:

1) Remember to write a tilde over the `-ñ-` here. This letter represents a different sound from -n- without the tilde, so it needs to be marked as such.

banõ [accent]

2) Words that end in a vowel, -n, or -s usually have stress on the second-to-last syllable. Since the word for 'sofa' is stressed on the last syllable, you will mark the irregular pattern by placing an accent over the vowel.

sofa [accent]

3) Be careful with the direction of the accent. The accent on the word 'also' is reversed. You want to use the acute accent mark.

Tambien [accent]

4) The plural forms of words ending in -ión do not take an accent. When you add -es, you are adding a syllable to the end of the word. The -ión is now in the second-to-last syllable, making the stress pattern of the word regular. Therefore, the accent is omitted.

tres habitaciones [accent - omit]

*** CASANDRA 0532842 has requested that you respond to the Sentence Structure/Word Order:**

Casandra, there are no structural errors. Great job!

Agreement:

Casandra, agreement is the process of showing a grammatical relationship between two words in a sentence. Often, it refers to adjectives that must reflect the gender and number of nouns or

verbs that show the same person and number of the subject. Here are some examples to consider:

1) Below, you the noun for 'mirror,' is masculine singular. How will you change the adjective to reflecting the noun's gender, in particular?

tiene un espeho **[spelling]** pequeña **[agreement]**.

2) Here, you have indefinite articles that need to show the number and gender of each of the nouns. How will you change the article to match the gender of 'bathroom' in a)? What change can you make to the article in b) that shows that 'sofa' is singular? (Note that although 'sofa' ends in an -á, is it masculine. So, gender is not an issue.)

a) una [agreement] bano [accent]

b) unos [agreement] sofa [accent]

3) As for verbs, 'estamos' is the form for 'we,' as in 'we are,' but the subject 'la sala', which is 3rd person, singular. How will you conjugate 'estar' to show agreement between the subject and the verb?

La sala estamos **[agreement]** en el primer piso.

4) Also related to subject-verb agreement is the next example. The current verb 'estoy' reads 'I am.' The subject, however, is 'the

rooms and the bathroom'. How will you change the verb to reflect this 3rd person, plural subject?

Los **[agreement]** habitaciones y el cuatro **[spelling]** de baño estoy **[agreement]** en el segundo **[spelling]** piso.

Summary of Next Steps:

- **Check noun/adjective and subject/verb agreement**
- **Review the use of accents**
- **Take a look at my suggestions below and make appropriate changes**
- **Consider submitting a second draft of your essay for further review**

Additional Spanish resources offered by SMARTHINKING: Besides the Spanish essay center, we also offer live tutoring and the ability to submit offline questions 24 hours a day in Spanish. If you have a question about how a particular grammatical construction works or want to try one or two sentences live with a tutor to make sure you are on the right track, you may find SMARTHINKING Spanish tutoring to be a helpful accompaniment to the Spanish essay center.

Please look for more comments in your essay below. Thank you for visiting SMARTHINKING. We encourage you to submit future essays.

Esta (This) casa de dos pisos tiene **[spelling]** tres habitaciones **[accent - omit]**, una **[agreement]** baño **[accent]**, una cocina e **[spelling]** una sala. La sala estamos **[agreement]** en el primer piso. Tiene dos sillones, unos **[agreement]** sofá **[accent]**, una lámpara y una alfombra **[spelling]**. Una de las paredes de la sala tiene un espejo **[spelling]** pequeña **[agreement]**. También **[accent]** en la sala hay una escalera elegante para llegar **[spelling]** al segundo piso. Los **[agreement]** habitaciones y el cuatro **[spelling]** de baño estoy **[agreement]** en el segundo **[spelling]** piso. La casa no tienen **[agreement]** garaje **[spelling]**, perro **[spelling]** tiene un patio pequeño.