

A Very Short Intro to Spanish Culture

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Location

Spain is located in the south west of Europe.



Limits

Spain is bordered to the south and east by the Mediterranean Sea, to the north by France, Andorra and the Bay of Biscay, and to the west by the Atlantic Ocean and Portugal



Territory

The Spanish territory also includes the Balearic Islands in the Mediterranean sea, the Canary Islands in the Atlantic Ocean off the African coast, and two autonomous cities in North Africa, Ceuta and Melilla.



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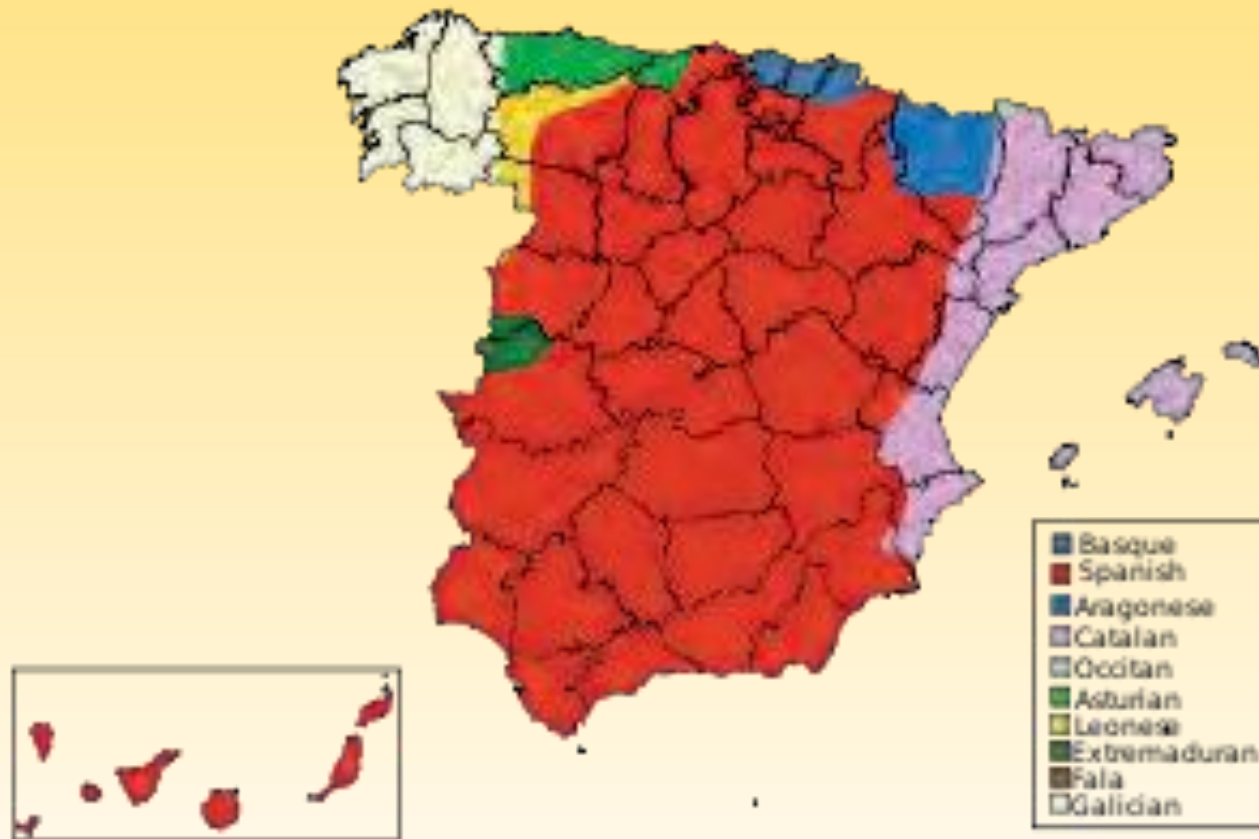


Spain is divided into 19 autonomous communities



What do people speak?

- Most of the Spanish people speak Spanish (Castilian)
- Other Spanish official languages are: Basque, Galician and Catalan.



All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.

(Article 1 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights)

Todos los seres humanos nacen libres e iguales en dignidad y derechos y, dotados como están de razón y conciencia, deben comportarse fraternalmente los unos con los otros.

Tódolos seres humanos nacen libres e iguais en dignidade e dereitos e, dotados como están de razón e conciencia, díbense comportar fraternalmente uns cos outros.



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Tots els éssers humans neixen lliures i iguals en dignitat i en drets. Són dotats de raó i de consciència, i han de comportar-se fraternalment els uns amb els altres.

Gizon-emakume guztiak aske jaiotzen dira, duintasun eta eskubide berberak dituztela; eta ezaguera eta kontzientzia dutenez gero, elkarren artean senide legez jokatu beharra dute.



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Main cities and population

- The capital city of Spain is Madrid; it is in the centre of the country
- Spain has about 44 million inhabitants.



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The Spanish anthem is also a national symbol.



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Main cities and population

	City	Region	Prov.	population
1	Madrid	Madrid	Madrid	3,232,463
2	Barcelona	Catalonia	Barcelona	1,595,110
3	Valencia	Valencian Community	Valencia	797,654
4	Seville	Andalusia	Seville	699,145
5	Zaragoza	Aragon	Zaragoza	654,39
6	Málaga	Andalusia	Málaga	561,25



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Politics

- The political system in Spain is a Constitutional Monarchy
- It is a democracy which means we vote for our politicians but we have a King and a Queen.



Politics II

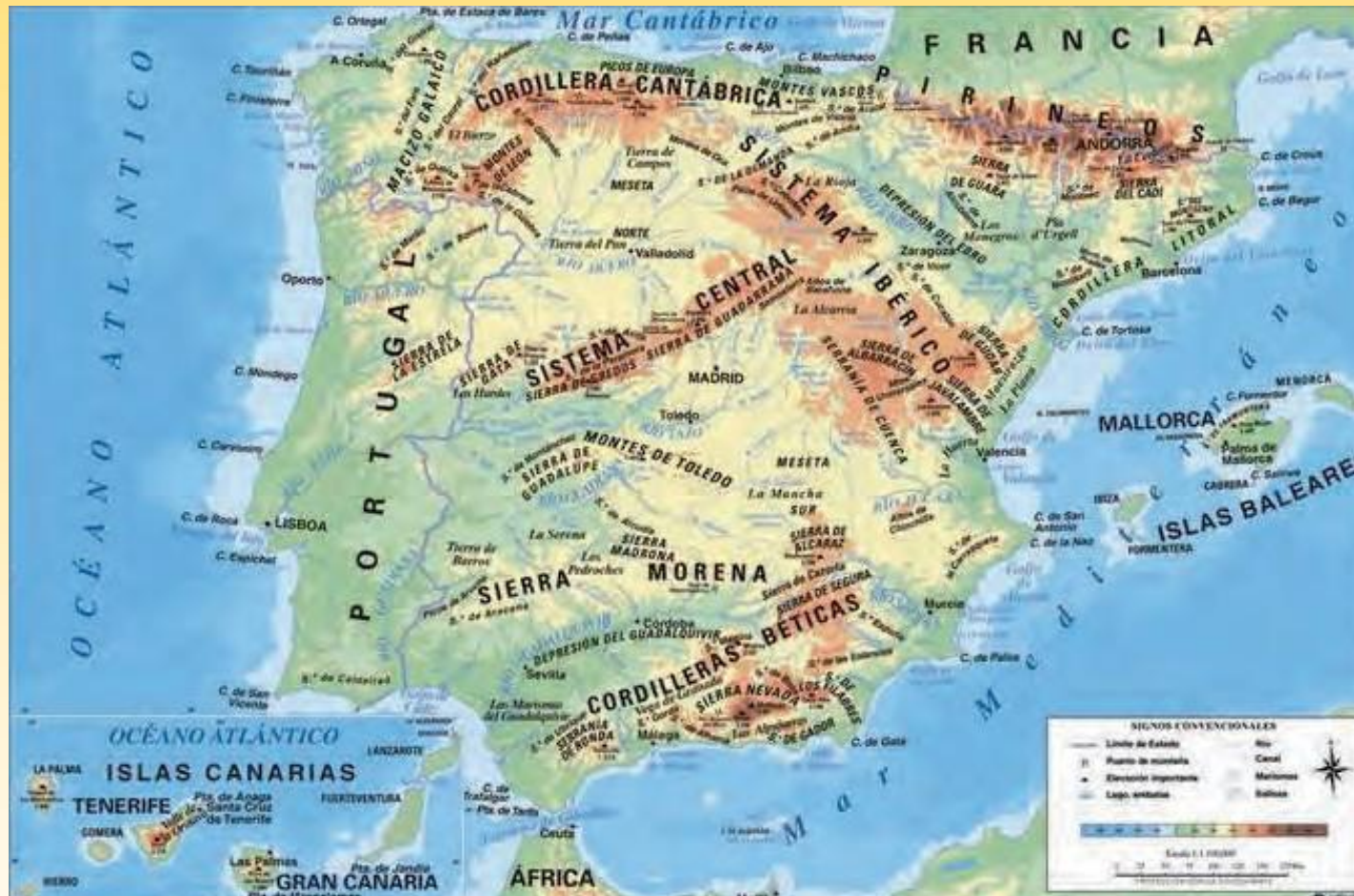
- Our current president of the government is Pedro Sánchez



Physical geography of Spain I

Spain is quite a mountainous country. Highest mountains: in Spain is the Teide volcano, 3715 m, in Tenerife.

Mulhacén, 3479 m., in Granada.



Physical geography of Spain II

- The longest river in Spain is Tagus river, and the Ebro is the largest.
- Other important rivers in Spain are:
Duero, Guadiana, Guadalquivir, Segura, Júcar.



Climate

The climate changes from north to south and from east to west: The north-west is wet and rainy and the temperatures are mild all over the year. The east and south are hot in summer and warm in winter, it doesn't rain too much. The centre is very hot in the summer and very cold in the winter and it usually rains in spring and autumn. It is colder in the mountains, where it snows in winter.





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Mediterranean Diet

- Food in Spain is based on the Mediterranean diet.
- That means that the products we use are mainly:

- Vegetables
- Olive oil
- Cereals
- Fish & meat



Some typical Spanish Dishes

Gazpacho

is very typical in the south of Spain. It is made of tomatoes, bread, pepper, olive oil, garlic and water. It is very refreshing.



Some typical Spanish Dishes

Tortilla

You can ask for it anywhere in Spain. It is made of potatoes, eggs and olive oil. It is delicious.



Some typical Spanish Dishes

Paella

Paella comes from Valencia but people cook it anywhere in Spain. It is made of rice and seafood. Some people also add meat.



Sports

-Football is the most popular sport in Spain, the Real Madrid and Barcelona teams are famous all over the world, the National selection is also well known. We won the World Cup in 2010.



Culture 1 - Architecture

The most well-known Spanish monuments



Giralda in Seville



Sagrada Familia in Barcelona



Royal Palace in Madrid



La Alhambra in Granada



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Culture 2

Spanish festivals and traditions

- Spain used to be a very religious country so many festivals come from the religious tradition.

Easter (Holy Week in Seville)



El Rocío (every May, in the province of Huelva)

Festivals and traditions I

Other festivals are not so religious:

- Fallas in Valencia →



- San Fermín in Pamplona →



Festivals and traditions II

- Ferias



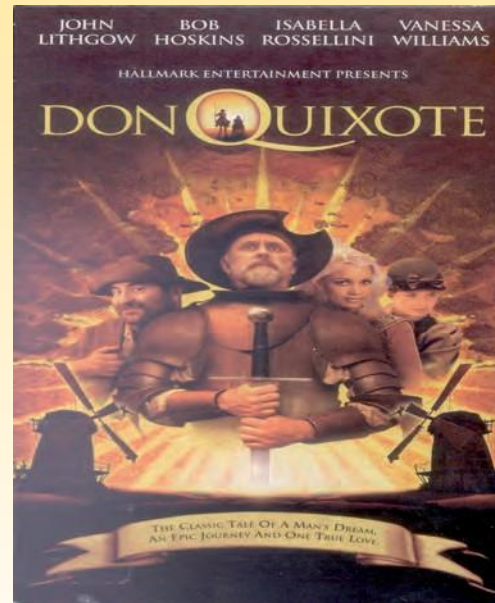
Festivals and traditions III

Carnival in Cádiz and Tenerife



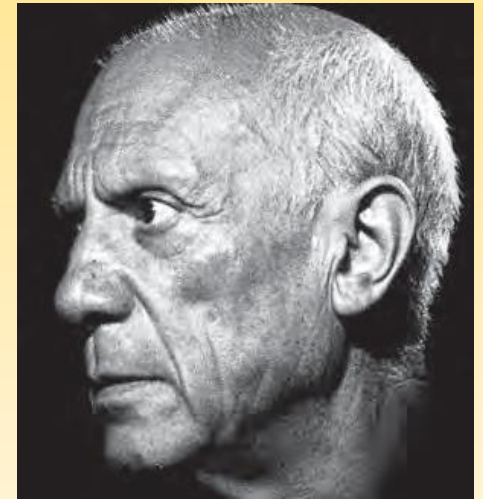
Culture 3 - Literature

- Our best-known writer is Miguel de Cervantes, he wrote in the 16th century the very popular book «Don Quixote of la Mancha».
- This book has been translated into many different languages.



Culture 4 - Painting

- There are a lot of famous Spanish painters.
- Probably the most well-known ones are Velázquez, Goya and Dalí and Pablo Picasso in the 20th Century.



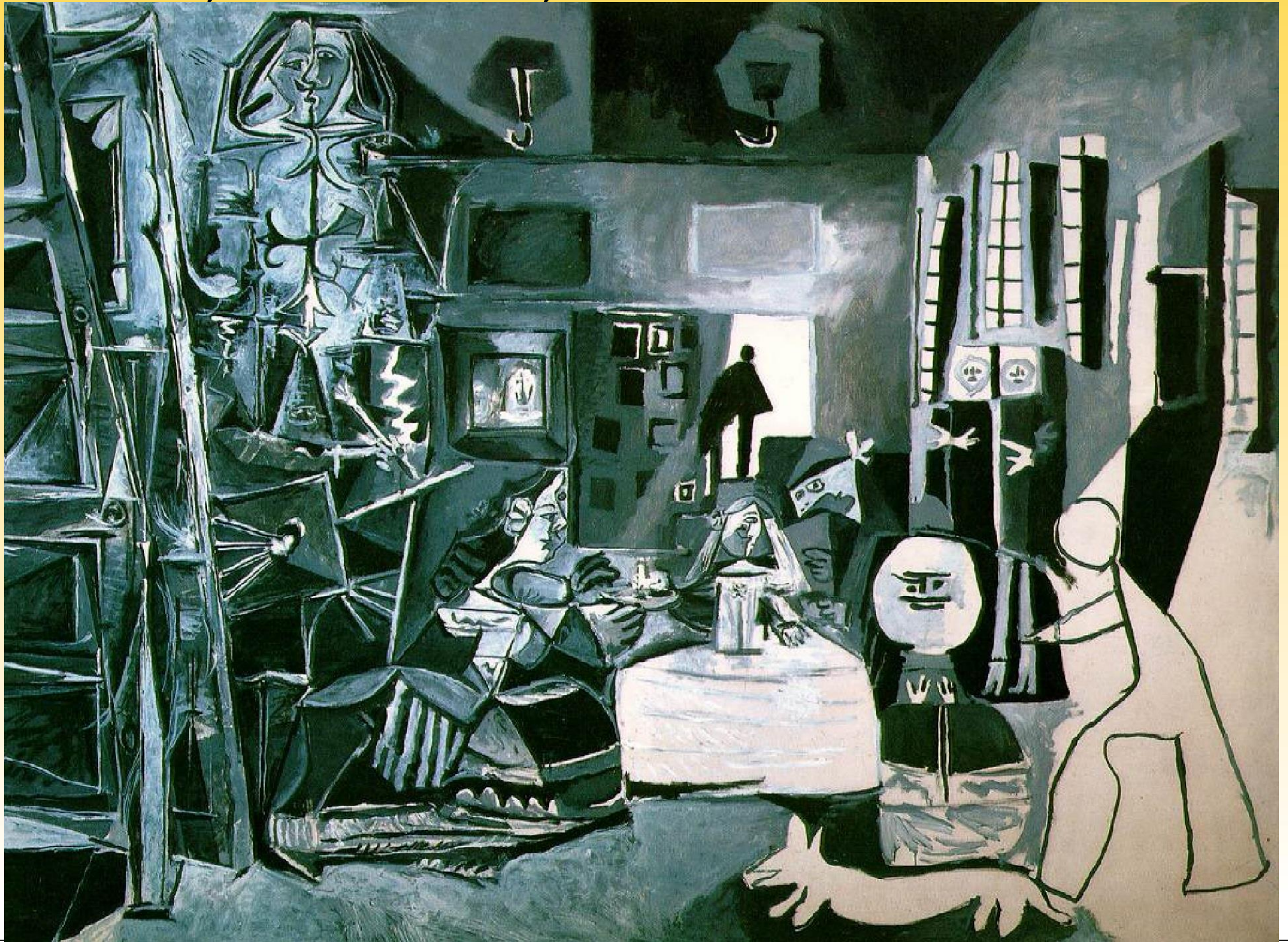
Velázquez, Las Meninas (1656)



Goya, The Third of May, 1808



Picasso, Las Meninas, 1957

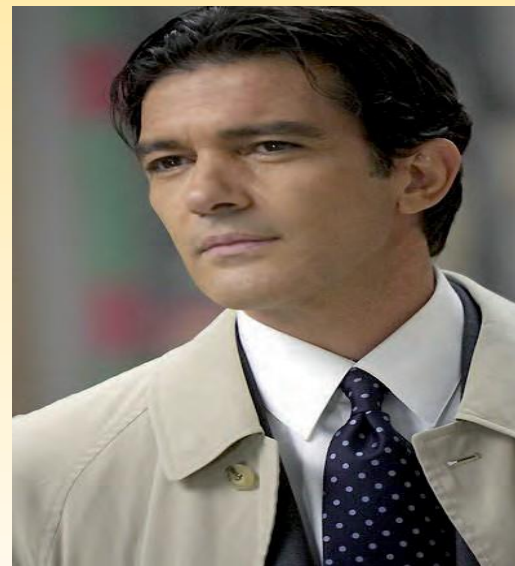


Dalí, The persistence of Memory, 1931



Culture 5 - Cinema

- Penélope Cruz and Antonio Banderas are two famous Spanish actors.
- Penélope won an Oscar in 2009.
- Pedro Almodóvar, the cinema director, won an Oscar too in 1999 (best film).



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Thank you!

¡Muchas gracias!



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