

PROPUESTA A

BUYING PROPERTY IN SPAIN

Buying property in Spain has become very popular. Foreigners love Spain because it is easy and cheap to get to, it has fantastic year-round weather (the climate is healthy and pleasant) and the country has an attractive culture that has long been admired by foreigners. Spain's vast collection of regions and cities offer something for everyone: From the sun-seekers favourites of the Costa del Sol and the Costa Blanca, to the islands of Ibiza and Mallorca, or the culture-rich cities of Barcelona and Madrid. Spain has it all - and much more.

There are many reasons why people buy a property in Spain. More than in any other country, people choose Spanish property as a retirement destination, as an investment, as a holiday home or simply to escape the cold weather. There are thousands of houses, villas and apartments for sale in Spain.

In recent years the local authorities have made great efforts to increase the number of foreign tourists and residents. Tourism is, in fact, a very important source of benefit for the Spanish economy: Spain now derives more of its foreign income from tourists than any other country in Europe. Due to low European interest rates, now is a good time to buy property in Spain.

There is no shortage of real estate agents in Spain nowadays. It is a good idea to search a good company who will help you choose the best property. Before you buy a property in Spain you should use "buyingproperty.com" to look at the different areas. You should also consider visiting your favourite ones before deciding where to buy. Some people also rent a property in that area first before making a decision.

Adapted from <[http: www.idealspain.com](http://www.idealspain.com)>

Answer the following questions using the information given in the text.

1. Why do foreigners love Spain?
2. What is the weather like in Spain?
3. Where should foreigners who love sunbathing buy a property?
4. What are the reasons why foreigners decide to buy a property in Spain?
5. How important is tourism for the Spanish economy?
6. Is there a country in Europe in which tourism is more important for the economy than Spain?
7. Why is now a good time to buy property in Spain?
8. Are there many real estate agents in Spain?
9. What should one do before buying a property in Spain?
10. Do most people rent a property in the area first before buying?

PROPUESTA B

APARTHEID

Apartheid was a system of racial segregation used by the *National Party* (NP) government of South Africa. In this system, which lasted from 1948 to 1994, the rights of the majority black inhabitants of South Africa were denied and white supremacy was maintained.

Apartheid as an official policy was introduced following the general election of 1948. New legislation classified inhabitants into three racial groups ("white", "coloured" and "Asian"), and residential areas were segregated by means of forced removals. Non-white political representation was completely abolished in 1970, and starting in that year black people were deprived of their citizenship. The government segregated education, medical care, transport, and other public services, and provided black people with services inferior to those of white people.

Apartheid provoked internal resistance and violence as well as a long trade embargo against South Africa. In addition to the unrest resulting from the internal protests, the sanctions placed on South Africa by the West made it very difficult for the government to maintain the regime. In 1990 President Frederik Willem de Klerk began negotiations to end Apartheid, culminating in multi-racial democratic elections in 1994, which were won by the *African National Congress* under Nelson Mandela and are considered as the most important factor in the abolition of the Apartheid laws.

The vestiges of apartheid still shape South African politics and society. De Klerk began the process of dismantling apartheid with the release of Mandela's mentor and several other political prisoners in October 1989. Although the official abolition of apartheid occurred in 1991, nonwhites were not allowed to vote until 1993.

Adapted from <[http: www.myenglishpages.com](http://www.myenglishpages.com)>

Answer the following questions using the information given in the text.

1. What political party supported the system of Apartheid?
2. How long did the Apartheid system last?
3. How many racial groups were considered by the Apartheid legislation?
4. Was "coloured" the same as "black" in the Apartheid legislation?
5. When were black people deprived of their citizenship?
6. What fundamental public services were not accessible to black people?
7. What were the effects of Apartheid for South Africa?
8. Why was it difficult for the South African government to maintain the regimen?
9. What was the key event in the abolition of Apartheid?
10. Did the official abolition of Apartheid mean that black people were allowed to vote?