



Faculty Review of Open eTextbooks

The [California Open Educational Resources Council](http://www.cool4ed.org) has designed and implemented a faculty review process of the free and open etextbooks showcased within the California Open Online Library for Education (www.cool4ed.org). Faculty from the California Community Colleges, the California State University, and the University of California were invited to review the selected free and open etextboks using a rubric. Faculty received a stipend for their efforts and funding was provided by the State of California, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Textbook Name:

Mi Vida Loca



License:
Mi Vida Loca by BBC Worldwide is licensed under Copyright

Find it: [eTextbook Website](#)

Textbook Authors:

BBC Worlwide

Reviewed by:

Virginia Adan-Lifante

Institution:

University of California, Merced

Title/Position:

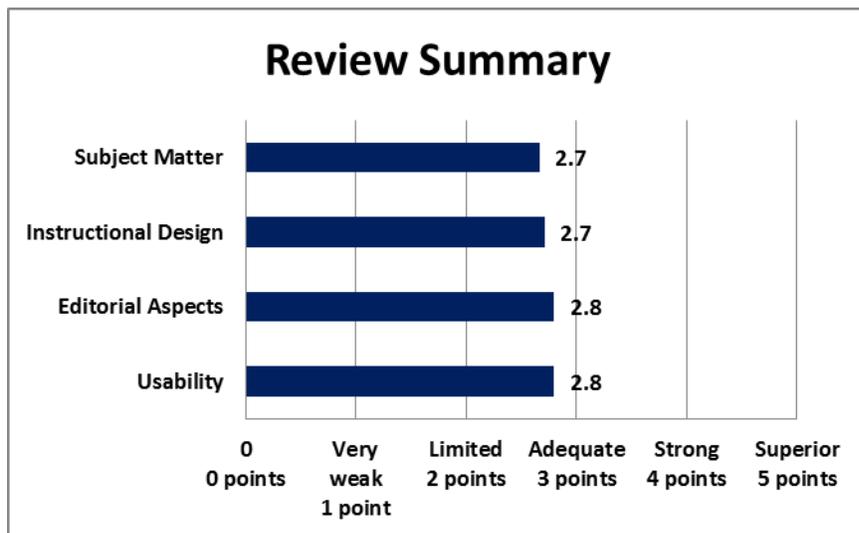
Professor

Format

Reviewed:

[Online](#)

A small fee may be associated with various formats.



Date Reviewed:

March 2015

California OER Council eTextbook Evaluation Rubric

CA Course ID: [SPAN 100](#)

Subject Matter (30 possible points)	N/A (0 pts)	Very Weak (1pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
Is the content accurate, error-free, and unbiased?					X	
Does the text adequately cover the designated course with a sufficient degree of depth and scope?			X			
Does the textbook use sufficient and relevant examples to present its subject matter?				X		
Does the textbook use a clear, consistent terminology to present its subject matter?				X		
Does the textbook reflect current knowledge of the subject matter?			X			
Does the textbook present its subject matter in a			X			

culturally sensitive manner? (e.g. Is the textbook free of offensive and insensitive examples? Does it include examples that are inclusive of a variety of races, ethnicities, and backgrounds?)						
--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Total Points: 16 out of 30

Please provide comments on any aspect of the subject matter of this textbook:

- Not all the goals of a SPAN 100 course are covered.
- Exercises are not communicative.
- This is a video based program. There are not opportunities for reading or writing activities.
- Everything is translated into English
- The program is clearly intended for British students
- There are not offensive or insensitive examples, but neither example that reflect the racial diversity of the Hispanic world. The action of the videos happens only in Spain, and the Spanish spoken only reflect the peninsular accent, with the exception of the accent from the Canary Islands.

Instructional Design (35 possible points)	N/A (0 pts)	Very Weak (1pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
Does the textbook present its subject materials at appropriate reading levels for undergrad use?				X		
Does the textbook reflect a consideration of different learning styles? (e.g. visual, textual?)				X		
Does the textbook present explicit learning outcomes aligned with the course and curriculum?			X			
Is a coherent organization of the textbook evident to the reader/student?				X		
Does the textbook reflect best practices in the instruction of the designated course?			X			
Does the textbook contain sufficient effective ancillary materials? (e.g. test banks, individual and/or group activities or exercises, pedagogical apparatus, etc.)			X			
Is the textbook searchable?					X	

Total Points: 19 out of 35

Please provide comments on any aspect of the instructional design of this textbook:

- The videos are interactive and the student feels like he/she is part of the story. Student is asked to participate by choosing answers, selecting information, etc.
- The videos include explanations of topics that are relevant in order to participate and follow the story. The videos without the explanations are only accessible for UK
- There is not an appropriate test bank, or opportunities for group activities.
- There are not reading, writing, or group activities.
- There are not communicative activities in which students can create with the language.

Editorial Aspects (25 possible points)	N/A (0 pts)	Very Weak (1pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
Is the language of the textbook free of grammatical, spelling, usage, and typographical errors?					X	
Is the textbook written in a clear, engaging style?				X		
Does the textbook adhere to effective principles of design? (e.g. are pages laid out and organized to be clear and visually engaging and effective? Are colors, font, and typography consistent and unified?)			X			
Does the textbook include conventional editorial features? (e.g. a table of contents, glossary, citations and further references)			X			
How effective are multimedia elements of the textbook? (e.g. graphics, animations, audio)				X		

Total Points: 14 out of 25

Please provide comments on any editorial aspect of this textbook.

- There is a section called syllabus in which relevant information regarding the content of each episode is included.
- Explanations of vocabulary and grammar are in an addition to audiovisual format but also in pdf format

that can be printed. The information in pdf does not have pictures or any other images on it.

Usability (30 possible points)	N/A (0 pts)	Very Weak (1pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
Is the textbook compatible with standard and commonly available hardware/software in college/university campus student computer labs?					X	
Is the textbook accessible in a variety of different electronic formats? (e.g. .txt, .pdf, .epub, etc.)				X		
Can the textbook be printed easily?				X		
Does the user interface implicitly inform the reader how to interact with and navigate the textbook?					X	
How easily can the textbook be annotated by students and instructors?	X					

Total Points: 14 out of 30

Please provide comments on any aspect of access concerning this textbook.

- The only concern is that the video without the explanations is for UK only.

Overall Ratings	Not at all (0 pts)	Very Weak (1 pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3 pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
What is your overall impression of the textbook?			X			
How willing would you be to adopt this book?	Not at all (0 pts)	Strong reservations (1 pt)	Limited willingness (2 pts)	Willing (3 pts)	Strongly willing (4 pts)	Enthusiastically willing (5 pts)
			X			

Total Points: 4 out of 10

Overall Comments

If you were to recommend this textbook to colleagues, what merits of the textbook would you highlight?

- The videos are interactive and it can be fun for students. The videos provide linguistic and cultural information, but at the same time there is suspense on the episodes, so students will want to know what happen next.

What areas of this textbook require improvement in order for it to be used in your courses?

- There is not a program intended for an academic course. I would only use it as support material.
- Everything is translated into English and the narrator speaks in English as well.
- There are not opportunities for students to improve their writing, reading, or speaking skills.
- The videos only offer examples of Spanish language and culture from Spain. The rest of the Hispanic world is not represented in this video program.

We invite you to add your feedback on the textbook or the review to [the textbook site in MERLOT](#) (Please [register](#) in MERLOT to post your feedback.)



For questions or more information, contact the [CA Open Educational Resources Council](#).



This [review](#) is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International License](#).