

Formentera's office of language normalisation has joined forces with the city government of Eivissa to launch 'Apunts en net', a resource designed to help employees of both administrations tackle the most common issues raised by drafting texts in Catalan.

The premise: every week, three Catalan language-related notes will go out to work email accounts. Each email will contain a brief text explaining a theoretical aspect of the language and offering examples. Features will touch on one of three subjects:

1. Spelling, syntax, grammar and vocabulary (pronouns, prepositions, specific lexicon, etc.)
2. Stylistic conventions (use of upper and lower case, abbreviations and symbols, etc.)
3. Catalan for administrative contexts (administrative terms, aspects related to drafting administrative texts, etc.)

The programme's creators see 'Apunts en net' as a way to give staff additional support in their daily work. Content will be geared towards not just addressing frequently asked questions about vocabulary, writing tips and stylistic conventions, but also offering clearly worded insight about evolving rules and conventions, newly coined words and specific expressions that surface over time. The format likewise allows for discussion of place names and real-life words and expressions.

Content and design of the weekly updates will be overseen by the language advisory services of both islands. Agency staff can expect to find the first emails in their inbox starting in June.

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