1	Spanish adaptation and validation of the automatic self-talk questionnaire for sports
2	Alexander T. Latinjak
3	Universitat de Girona, Spain
4	Carme Viladrich, Saül Alcaraz and Miquel Torregrosa
5	Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain
6	
7	Acknowledgements
8	This research was supported by grant Ministerio de Ciencia e Innovación
9	(DEP2010-15561) and the Private EUSES Foundation.
10	
11	PRE-PRINT VERSION
12 13 14 15	Published June, 2015 in International Journal of Sport and Exercise Psychology, DOI: 10.1080/1612197X.2015.1055287

This is an pre-print version of an article published by Taylor & Francis in International Journal of Sport and Exercise Psychology on 04 May 2015, available online: https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/1612197X.2015.1055287

1

Abstract

2 This paper presents the Spanish adaptation of the Automatic Self-Talk Questionnaire for 3 Sports. In the process of adaptation, we preferred cultural and linguistic equivalence to 4 literal translation. Therefore, we gathered qualitative evidence based on the judgments 5 of a multidisciplinary group of experts (n = 6) and focus groups (n = 10). Concerning 6 cultural and linguistic equivalence, we found differences between the original and the 7 adapted version in the editing of 16 items. Generally, these differences were deemed 8 necessary to guarantee the cultural and metric equivalence between the original and the 9 adapted version. As to the subsequent quantitative phase, data were obtained from 263 10 athletes from different sports and different levels ($M_{age} = 20.30, S.D. = 3.08$). The 11 results showed acceptable levels of internal consistency (alpha values ranged from .70 12 to .83) and supported the original model of eight factors. In addition, a structural model 13 including precompetitive anxiety offered further evidence in regard to the link between 14 self-talk and competitive anxiety. Lastly, some implications concerning the 15 methodology are discussed. 16 Keywords: self-talk, anxiety, measurement, athletes, psychometrics

1	Spanish adaptation and validation of the automatic self-talk questionnaire for sports
2	Theodorakis, Weinberg, Natsis, Douma and Kazakas (2000) defined self-talk as
3	"what people say to themselves either out loud or as a small voice inside their head" (p.
4	254). Self-talk is an emerging topic in general psychology, especially in sport
5	psychology (Hatzigeorgiadis, Zourbanos, Galanis, & Theodorakis, 2011). In sport
6	psychology, the study of self-talk has advanced through two main lines of research: one
7	that focuses on the personal and social antecedents of automatic self-talk along with the
8	cognitive, motivational, behavioural and affective mechanisms through which automatic
9	self-talk affects performance; and another that studies the effectiveness of self-talk
10	interventions used to improve performance through changes in attentional focus, control
11	of effort and emotional regulation (Hardy, Oliver, & Tod, 2009; Theodorakis,
12	Hatzigeorgiadis, & Zourbanos, 2012).
13	In the matter of the study of automatic self-talk, our understanding regarding its
14	content and structure has advanced through the development of research instruments,
15	such as the Thought Occurrence Questionnaire for Sports (TOQS; Hatzigeorgiadis &
16	Biddle, 2000) or the Automatic Self-Talk Questionnaire for Sports (ASTQS;
17	Zourbanos, Hatzigeorgiadis, Chroni, Theodorakis, & Papaiannou, 2009).
18	Hatzigeorgiadis and Biddle (2000) developed the TOQS, which described three types of
19	negative self-talk: worries related to performance, thoughts of escape and task-irrelevant
20	thoughts. Later, in order to offer researchers a more far-reaching measure of athlete's
21	self-talk, Zourbanos et al. (2009) created the ASTQS based on the TOQS, measuring
22	four types of positive self-talk and four types of negative self-talk: on the one hand,
23	motivational/psych-up statements (e.g., Let's go), confidence building statements (e.g.,
24	I feel strong), instructional statements (e.g., Focus on your technique) and anxiety-
25	controlling statements (e.g., Calm down); and on the other, worries (e.g., I am going to

1	lose), statements about disengagement (e.g., I can't keep going), statements regarding
2	somatic fatigue (e.g., I am tired), and irrelevant thoughts (e.g., I am hungry).
3	Zourbanos et al. (2009) tested several measurement models, including a less
4	restrictive model defined by the eight correlated scales and a second-order factor model
5	comprising eight first- and two second-order factors. Their results supported both
6	models and the authors discussed that the results indicated that the eight factors assessed
7	distinct self-talk categories which represent two broader dimensions. Hence, subsequent
8	studies used the latter ten-factor model which was further confirmed in the fields of
9	sport (Zourbanos, Hatzigeorgiadis, Tsiakaras, Chroni, & Theodorakis, 2010; Zourbanos
10	et al., 2011) and physical education (Zourbanos, Papaioannou, Argyropoulou, &
11	Hatzigeorgiadis, 2014).
12	Respecting the second line of research, a large body of evidence supports the use
13	of self-talk interventions to increase performance (Hatzigeorgiadis et al., 2011),
14	motivation (Thelwell & Greenlees, 2003) and attention (Latinjak, Torregrosa, &
15	Renom, 2010, 2011), and to reduce anxiety (Hatzigeorgiadis, Zourbanos, &
16	Theodorakis, 2007). Moreover, Hatzigeorgiadis et al. (2011) pointed out that the effects
17	of self-talk on motivation, attention and anxiety might serve as an underlying
18	mechanism of the relationship between self-talk and performance. With reference to the
19	effects of self-talk interventions upon anxiety, Hatzigeorgiadis et al. (2007) showed in
20	their study how instructional and anxiety-controlling statements could reduce cognitive
21	anxiety: specifically, performance worries. Moreover, these results obtained by
22	Hatzigeorgiadis et al. justify the use of the self-talk-anxiety relationship as a means for
23	evaluating the validity of the ASTQS in regard to a self-talk nomological network
24	(Cronbach & Meehl, 1955) of related concepts.

4

1	Despite the relevance of self-talk as a research topic in sport psychology, and the
2	usefulness of the ASTQS as a tool for evaluating athlete self-talk content, publications
3	about self-talk in Spanish literature are quite rare (Latinjak, Torregrosa, & Renom,
4	2009) and there are still no adapted versions of the ASTQS published in sport
5	psychology literature. Moreover, any linguistic and cultural adaptation is important
6	because research with different types of participants, compared to the samples used to
7	originally develop the instruments, can be conducted. Those samples can be compared
8	and invariance studies among different cultures can be carried out.
9	Henceforth, the purpose of this study was to adapt the ASTQS to the Spanish
10	language and to validate it using evidence respecting cultural, linguistic and
11	measurement equivalence. As for the structure of automatic self-talk, we wanted to
12	compare the fit of the less restrictive 8-factor model and the original second-order factor
13	model (Zourbanos et al., 2009). Moreover, we measured competitive anxiety in order to
14	examine the nomological validity of the adapted version in regard to external variables.
15	We expected positive self-talk to be negatively related to and negative self-talk to be

16 positively related to somatic anxiety, cognitive anxiety and concentration disruption.

17

Method

18 **Participants**

A group of experts formed by four psychologists (one specialist in methodology, two specialists in sports psychology, and one applied sports psychologist and coach), together with the collaboration of two professional translators and 10 federated athletes participated in the process of translation and cultural adaptation. The athletes were eight males and two females, with ages ranging from 18 to 24 ($M_{age} = 20.50$, SD = 1.91), who participated in the two focus groups. A total of 263 athletes participated in the quantitative phase. Their mean age was 20.30 years (SD = 3.08). Most participants were

1	male (76.43%) and a minor part female. All participants were sports sciences students
2	practicing different individual (26.24%; e.g., tennis, swimming, track and field) and
3	team sports (73.76%; e.g., soccer, basketball, handball and water polo) at regional
4	(69.58%), national (24.33%) or international levels (6.08%). The distribution in genders
5	and sports represent the distribution of sports sciences students at the national
6	universities (cf. García-Fernández, Pires-Vega, & Fernández-Gavira, 2013; Latinjak,
7	López-Ros, & Font-Lladó, 2014).
8	Instruments
9	The Automatic Self-Talk Questionnaire for Sports (ASTQS, Zourbanos et al.,
10	2009) contains eight subscales and 40 items (see items for each subscale in Table 1). All
11	the items are introduced by the stem 'In your sport, how often have you thought or told
12	yourself something similar to the following ideas in the last months'. The items are rated
13	on 5-point Likert scale from 1 (Never) to 5 (Very often) ¹ . The overall score in each
14	subscale was obtained by calculating the mean of the items scores.
15	The Spanish version of the Sport Anxiety Scale (SAS-2; Smith, Smoll,
16	Cumming, & Grossbard, 2006) developed by Ramis, Torregrosa, Viladrich and Cruz
17	(2010) contains 15 items divided into three subscales: worries, concentration disruption
18	and somatic anxiety. Participants rated the items that were introduced by the stem
19	'Before or while I compete in sports' on a 4-point Likert scale from 1 (Not at all) to 4
20	(Very much). The overall score in each subscale was obtained by adding each items
21	score.
22	Procedure

We have followed the recommendations of the *International Test Commision* (Hambleton, 2005) and the rationale developed in the work of Viladrich, Torregrosa, and Cruz (2011) in the process of translation and cultural adaptation. Those authors

1 suggested that the process of cultural and linguistic adaptation goes beyond the strategy 2 of back-translation used in several studies (e.g., Gillet, Vallerand, Paty, Gobánce, & 3 Berjot, 2010). In such a way, these procedures focus on providing information on the 4 linguistic, conceptual and measurement equivalences. Once we obtained permission 5 from the first author of the original version, a professional translator with Spanish as a 6 mother tongue did the first translation from English into Spanish (Version 1). The 7 translation was reviewed and culturally adapted by the group of experts (Version 2). 8 This version was administered to two focus groups composed of 10 athletes from the 9 target population. Afterwards, the group of experts used the insights obtained from the 10 focus groups to improve the questionnaire. Specifically, they changed the wording of 11 some items into common expressions used in a wide variety of sports (Version 3). 12 Later, another professional translator with English as a mother tongue did the back-13 translation (Muñiz, Elosua, & Hambleton, 2013) from the Spanish adapted version into 14 English. The group of experts compared the differences between the original version 15 and the adapted version and produced the Version 4 of the questionnaire. In the 16 quantitative phase, sports-science students of different universities where approached. 17 Once they agreed to participate, they answered the instruments before their regular 18 lecturing sessions. They were informed that participation was voluntary and signed an 19 informed consent form.

20

Results

21 Conceptual, cultural and linguistic equivalence

The evidence of cultural and linguistic validity gathered during the adaptation process can be summarized as follows. The group of experts accepted the initial translation for 24 out of 40 items. Based on the opinion of both experts and focus groups, changes were suggested in 16 items. In this phase, priority was given to

8

1 retaining the concepts and not the wording; consequently, as depicted in Table 1, 2 suggested items deviate significantly from the original wording. These divergences 3 were deemed necessary by the group of experts to guarantee the linguistic and cultural 4 equivalence. This included the complete rewording of item 40, (i.e., I am thirsty) which 5 was considered a relevant thought for some sports and, therefore, was reworded into "I 6 have a lot of things to do", with the agreement of the first author of the original ASTOS 7 publication (Zourbanos et al, 2009). The final version (i.e., Version 4, see Table 2) was 8 approved unanimously by the group of experts.

9 **Preparatory data analysis and internal structure**

10 Item means, standard deviations, skewness and kurtosis can be seen in Table 2. 11 Generally, our participants tended to score high in those items pertaining to positive 12 self-talk scales and low in those belonging to the negative ones. Accordingly, some 13 values for skewness and kurtosis do not allow the assumption of multivariate normality 14 (i.e., items 20, 36 and 40). Missing values were scarce, one out of 1000, and were 15 related to the responses from only 1.05% of the participants. Taking into account the 16 ordinal nature of item responses and the doubts about multivariate normality, 17 confirmatory factor analyses were conducted using weighted least squares mean and 18 variance adjusted (WLSMV) estimator in Mplus 6.0. Missing values were pairwise 19 eliminated with this estimator, a treatment we deemed adequate due to its scarcity 20 (Graham, 2009).

Goodness of fit of the two models described in the introduction was tested. To begin with, the 8-factor model (M1) consisted of eight correlated first order factors. In the original second-order factor model (M2), two second-order factors (Positive and Negative Self-Talk) accounted for the relations among the first order factors. Model fit was tested using chi-square statistic, comparative fit index (CFI), Tucker-Lewis index

(TLI) and root mean square error of approximation (RMSEA). Values of CFI and TLI >
 .95 and RMSEA < .05 were taken as indicators of excellent fit (Hu & Bentler, 1999)
 and values CFI and TLI > .90 and RMSEA < .08 were taken as indicators of acceptable
 fit (Marsh, Hau, & Wen, 2004). Nested models were compared via chi-square difference
 and a change in CFI higher than .01 was considered significant (Cheung & Rensvold,
 2001).

Table 3 shows that the best fitting model is the less restrictive one (M1) with
CFI = .93, TLI=.93 and RMSEA=.04. Chi-square statistics for the difference with the
more restrictive model (M2) was statistically significant. Model M2 showed worse fit
indices (CFI=.90, TLI=.89, RMSEA=.05), with a change in CFI with respect to Model
M1 higher than .01, hence, we decided to use M1 in all subsequent analyses.
Descriptive statistics and Cronbach's alpha coefficients were obtained with
SPSS 17.0 and factor loadings and correlations between factors were obtained with

14 Mplus 6.0. Firstly, items can be considered good indicators of their first-order factors as

15 they showed standardized factor loadings between .41 and .86 (see Table 2), the upper

16 limit for standard errors being 0.07. Positive self-talk subscales showed higher means

17 (Motivation: M = 3.53, SD = 0.83; Confidence: M = 3.34, SD = 0.85; Instruction: M =

18 3.09, SD = 0.75; and Anxiety Control: M = 2.91, SD = 0.85) than negative self-talk

19 subscales (Irrelevant Thoughts: M = 2.26, SD = 0.97; Somatic Fatigue: M = 2.91, SD =

20 0.85; Worries: M = 2.03, SD = 0.59; and Disengagement: M = 1.65, SD = 0.60).

21 Standardized factor loadings for second order factors ranged from .45 (Motivation)

22 to.86 (Confidence) for Positive Self-Talk and from .51 (Worries) to .85 (Irrelevant

23 thoughts) for Negative Self-Talk (Figure 1).

In terms of reliability, Figure 1 shows Cronbach's alpha values between .70
(Instruction) and .83 (Somatic Fatigue and Worry), all of them being equal or above .70

1	as recommended by Nunnally (1978). All the items contributed to Cronbach's alpha in
2	their subscales with the exception of Item 9 (i.e., no stress) with a Cronbach's alpha
3	coefficient of .78 if this item was deleted from the anxiety control subscale.
4	Regarding factor correlations, the results showed statistically significant and
5	positive correlations among all positive self-talk factors, and statistically significant and
6	positive correlations among all negative self-talk factors. Further, anxiety control
7	correlated significantly and positively with somatic fatigue, worries and disengagement;
8	and instruction correlated significantly and positively with worries and irrelevant
9	thoughts (Figure 1).
10	Relation with the variable Competitive Anxiety
11	In order to add a new piece of validity evidence, correlation among positive and
12	negative self-talk factors from ASTQS and the Sport Anxiety Scales factors were
13	obtained. Sport Anxiety Scales reliability values were acceptable, between .84 and .88,
14	and the measurement model showed good fit indices (M3 in Table 3, $CFI = .98$, $TLI =$
15	.98, RMSEA = .06). Afterwards, we tested the structural model relating self-talk factors
16	with competitive anxiety factors using WLSMV estimator as defined in Mplus 6.0. The
17	model showed an adequate fit to the data (M4 in Table 3, CFI = .94, TLI = .94, RMSEA
18	= .04). Concerning relations (Figure 2), three of the negative ASTQS scales – worries,
19	somatic fatigue and disengagement – correlated significantly and positively with all
20	three SAS-2 scales. Irrelevant thoughts, on the other hand, correlated significantly and
21	positively only with concentration disruption. Further, instruction and anxiety control
22	also correlated significantly and positively with concentration disruption and somatic
23	anxiety. Lastly, relations among the SAS-2 scales were all significant and positive.
24	Relations observed in the ASTQS measurement model (Figure 1) remained unchanged
25	in the structural model.

10

1	Discussion
2	The results of this study forwarded evidence in favour of the cultural
3	equivalence between the original and the adapted version of the ASTQS, and
4	manifested the relationship between automatic self-talk and sport anxiety.
5	Concerning equivalence, linguistic differences were found between the original
6	and the adapted version in 16 items. However, these differences were considered
7	necessary, in all cases but one, to guarantee the cultural equivalence between the
8	original and the adapted versions. In the case of Item 40, our decision to change its
9	content has to be taken into consideration when attempting to perform intercultural
10	comparisons with the ASTQS. In addition, the qualitative evidence gathered was largely
11	supported by our quantitative results. Only in the case of Item 9, elimination would
12	have increased its scales levels of reliability. Nevertheless, the group of experts decided
13	to retain this item, because the increase in reliability in this scale would not make up for
14	the costs in terms of comparability between the original and the adapted versions.
15	Nevertheless, in light of some discrepancies between our results and those from
16	Zourbanos et al. (2009) and Zourbanos et al. (2010) in terms of fit indexes of the ten-
17	factor model (e.g., CFI = .90 and .92, TLI = .89 and .92, RMSEA = .05 and .04, in this
18	study and in Zourbanos et al. [2009], respectively) we underline the need for further
19	research on the structure of automatic self-talk. In addition, this study and the original
20	study conducted by Zourbanos et al. (2009) diverge in regard to the relationship
21	between instructional and anxiety-controlling statements and some negative scales, such
22	like performance worries. Zourbanos et al. (2009) found a negative relation between the
23	two positive instruction and anxiety control scales and the negative worry scale, in
24	Stage 4 of their study. In the previous stage, no such relation was found. In this study
25	we found positive relations among the positive scales and some negative scales. In this

1	regard, Latinjak, Zourbanos, López-Ros and Hatzigeorgiadis (2014) have suggested that
2	different types of self-talk are connected to each other in a network of causal relations.
3	Specifically, they indicated that some sorts of self-talk (e.g., worries such as "I am not
4	going to make it"), which come to mind unbidden and effortlessly, might trigger other
5	types of self-talk (e.g., confidence building statements such as "I am very well
6	prepared"), which would be used intentionally to change one's thoughts in order to
7	improve performance and control emotions. However, evidence regarding these
8	relations is still lacking. Future studies should ask about the origins of these
9	discrepancies and assess to what degree they are haphazard or cultural.
10	As for the relationship between self-talk and anxiety, our results are consistent
11	with previous studies that have linked both concepts in sport psychology. For example,
12	Conroy and Metzler (2004) have illustrated how different types of anxiety, such as fear
13	of failure and sport anxiety, are related to different types of negative self-talk. Similarly,
14	in our study we only found a relationship between negative self-talk and competitive
15	anxiety. Furthermore, several studies have evidenced how specific self-talk
16	interventions have proven to be beneficial reducing, specifically, cognitive anxiety
17	(Hatzigeorgiadis et al., 2009). In this research, no such effects have been studied, but
18	the adequate fit of the modified Second-order factor model indicates that several types
19	of positive self-talk might be related to performance worries, which are an essential part
20	of cognitive anxiety (Morris, Davis, & Hutchings, 1981). Generally, there is
21	considerable evidence of the cognitive anxiety-performance relationship (e.g.,
22	Woodman & Hardy, 2003). A better understanding of the connections between self-talk
23	made up of worries and anxiety-controlling self-talk could help designing specific self-
24	talk interventions. Based on previous findings, it would be expected that these

1 interventions could help athletes enhance their self-efficacy and to improve their

2 performance (e.g., Hatzigeorgiadis et al., 2007).

3 We would like to make a final remark on the methodology we employed. In this 4 study we preferred conceptual to linguistic equivalence. Accordingly, we chose a 5 methodology that favoured cultural adaptation and, therefore, emphasized the use of the 6 expert and focus groups. Our results together with those of previous studies adapting 7 similar methodologies (Alonso-Arbiol, van de Vijver, Fernandez, Paez, & Campos, 8 2011; Matsumoto & Van de Vijver, 2011; Ramis et al., 2010; Viladrich et al., 2011) 9 support and promote the use of cultural adaptation procedures. Nevertheless, there is 10 also a limitation to this study: the test-retest reliability coefficients were not examined. 11 Such procedure would have allowed for evidence in regard to the stability and reliability 12 of the adapted version over time.

13 Altogether, in this study we successfully adapted an instrument which allows 14 Spanish-speaking researchers to inquire into athlete automatic self-talk and to contribute 15 to the growing literature in this area. Moreover, we contributed to the discussion about 16 the underlying structure of automatic self-talk and we forwarded further evidence 17 respecting the link between patterns of what we say to ourselves and competitive 18 anxiety. From an applied perspective, the adapted version of the ASTQS could help 19 sport psychologists to monitor changes in athlete self-talk throughout seasons. This 20 procedure could help to test the degree to which specific cognitive interventions, such as 21 self-talk, imagery or cognitive restructuring are changing the general thought patterns of 22 athletes while practising sport.

23

1

Footnote¹

2	Please note that Zourbanos et al. (2009) originally used a Likert scale ranging
3	between zero and four, based on recommendations published by Amsel and Fichten
4	(1998). In this study we decided to use a Likert scale ranging from one to five. On the
5	one hand, we believed that Amsel and Fichten (1998) concluded in Study 1 of their
6	publication that it was the anchor words of the response scale, rather than the values
7	attached to the anchor words, that influenced the way participants responded. Therefore,
8	we took special care of adapting the anchor words into Spanish so that the original idea
9	remained unchanged. On the other hand, we opted to use similar endpoints for the
10	ASTQS compared to the SAS-2 and to other important psychological measures used in
11	sport psychology and translated into Spanish, such as the Behavioral Regulation in
12	Sport Questionnaire (BRSQ: Lonsdale, Hodge & Rose, 2008; Vilardich et al., 2011) or
13	the Subjective Vitality Scale (SVS: Ryan & Frederick, 1997; Balaguer, Castillo, García-
14	Merita, & Mars, 2005). This was supposed to facilitate the future integration of the
15	ASTQS into booklets assessing different constructs in sport psychology.

1	References
2	Alonso-Arbiol, I., van der Vijver, F. J. R., Fernandez, I., Paez, D., & Campos, M.
3	(2011). Implicit theories about interrelations of anger components in 25 countries.
4	<i>Emotion</i> , 11(1), 1–11. doi: <u>10.1037/a0020295</u>
5	Amsel, R., & Fichten, C.S. (1998). Recommendations for self-statements inventories:
6	Use of valence, end points, frequency, and relative frequency. Cognitive Therapy
7	and Research, 3, 255–277.
8	Balaguer, I., Castillo, I., García-Merita, M., & Mars, L. (2005). Implications of
9	structured extracurricular activities on adolescent's well being and risk behaviours:
10	motivational mechanisms. 9th European Congress of Psychology. Granada.
11	Cheung, G. W., & Rensvold, R. B. (2001). The effects of model parsimony and
12	sampling error on the fit of structural equation models. Organizational Research
13	Methods, 4, 236–264. doi: 10.1177/109442810143004
14	Conroy, D. E., & Metzler, J. N. (2004). Patterns of self-talk associated with different
15	forms of competitive anxiety. Journal of Sport and Exercise Psychology, 26,
16	69-89.
17	Cronbach L. J., & Meehl P. E. (1955). Construct validity in psychological tests.
18	Psychological Bulletin, 52, 281–302
19	García-Fernández, J., Pires-Vega, F., & Fernández-Gavira, J. (2013). Preferencias
20	profesionales de los estudiantes de licenciatura en Ciencias de la Actividad Física y
21	del Deporte de la Universidad de Sevilla [Professional preferences of students in
22	physical education and sport sciences]. RETOS. Nuevas tendencias en Educación
23	Física, Deporte y Recreación, 23, 39-42.
24	Gillet, N., Vallerand, R. J., Paty, E., Gobancé, L., & Berjot, S. (2010). French validation
25	and adaptation of the perceived autonomy support scale for exercise settings to the

- sport context. International Journal of Sport and Exercise Psychology, 8, 117–128.
 doi: 10.1080/1612197X.2010.9671937
- 3 Graham, J.W. (2009). Missing data analysis: Making it work in the real world. *Annual*
- 4 *Review of Psychology, 60, 549–576.* doi:
- 5 <u>10.1146/annurev.psych.58.110405.085530</u>
- 6 Hambleton, R. K. (2005). Issues, designs and technical guidelines for adapting tests into
- 7 multiple languages and cultures. In R. K. Hambleton, P. F. Merenda, & C. D.
- 8 Spielberger (Eds.), Adapting educational and psychological tests for cross-cultural
- 9 *assessment* (pp. 3–38). Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.
- 10 Hardy, J., Oliver, E., & Tod, D. (2009). A framework for the study and application of
- 11 self-talk in sport. In S.D. Mellalieu & S. Hanton (Eds.), Advances in applied sport
- 12 *psychology: A review* (pp. 37–74). London: Routledge.
- 13 Hatzigeorgiadis, A., & Biddle, S. J. H. (2000). Assessing cognitive interference in
- 14 sports: The development of the Thought Occurrence Questionnaire for Sport
- 15 (TOQS). Anxiety, Stress, & Coping, 13, 65–86. doi: <u>10.1080/10615800008248334</u>
- 16 Hatzigeorgiadis, A., Zourbanos, N., Galanis, E., & Theodorakis, Y. (2011). Self-talk and
- 17 sport performance: A meta-analysis. *Perspectives on Psychological Science*, 6(4),
- 18 348–356. doi: <u>10.1177/1745691611413136</u>
- 19 Hatzigeorgiadis, A., Zourbanos, N., & Theodorakis, Y. (2007). The moderating effects
- 20 of self talk content on self talk functions. Journal of Applied Sport Psychology,
- 21 19(2), 240–251. doi: <u>10.1080/10413200701230621</u>
- 22 Hu, L. T., & Bentler, P. M. (1999). Cut-off criteria for fit indexes in covariance
- 23 structure analysis: Conventional criteria versus new alternatives. *Structural*
- 24 Equation Modeling, 6, 1–55. doi: <u>10.1080/10705519909540118</u>

1	Latinjak, A. T., Torregrosa, M., & Renom, J. (2009). Aplicando el auto-habla al tenis:
2	su impacto sobre el foco atencional y el rendimiento [Applying self-speech to
3	tennis: It's impact on the attentional focus and performance]. Cuadernos de
4	Psicología del Deporte, 9(2), 19–29.
5	Latinjak, A. T., Torregrosa, M., & Renom, J. (2010). El papel de la exigencia de la tarea
6	en la aplicación del auto-habla y su efecto en tenistas de ocio [The influence of task
7	exigency on a self talk application and on its effect on recreational tennis players].
8	Revista de Psicología del Deporte, 19(2), 187–201.
9	Latinjak, A. T., Torregrosa, M., & Renom, J. (2011). Combining self talk and
10	performance feedback: their effectiveness with adult tennis players. The Sport
11	Psychologist, 25(1), 18–31.
12	Latinjak, A. T., López-Ros, V., & Font-Lladó, R. (2014). Las emociones en el deporte:
13	Una representación tridimensional [Sport Emotions: The concepts used in a tri-
14	dimensional model]. Revista de Psicología del Deporte, 23(2), 267-274.
15	Latinjak, A. T., Zourbanos, N., López-Ros, V., & Hatzigeorgiadis, A. (2014). The
16	structure and content of undirected and goal-directed thoughts in sport.
17	Psychology of Sport and Exercise, 15, 548-558.
18	Lonsdale, C., Hodge, K., & Rose, E. A. (2008). The behavioural regulation in sport
19	questionnaire (BRSQ): Instrument development and initial validity evidence.
20	Journal of Sport and Exercise Psychology, 30, 323-355.
21	Marsh, H. W., Hau, K. T., & Wen, Z. (2004). In search of golden rules: Comment on
22	hypothesis-testing approaches to setting cutoff values for fit indexes and dangers
23	in overgeneralising Hu and Bentler's (1999) findings. Structural Equation
24	Modeling, 11, 320–341. doi: <u>10.1207/s15328007sem1103_2</u>

1	Matsumoto, D., & Van de Vijver, F. J. R. (2011). Cross-cultural research methods in
2	psychology. Cambridge: Cambridge University press.
3	Morris, L., Davis, D., & Hutchings, C. (1981). Cognitive and emotional components of
4	anxiety: Literature review and revised worry-emotionality scale. Journal of
5	Educational Psychology, 75, 541-555. doi: 10.1037//0022-0663.73.4.541
6	Muñiz, J., Elosua, E., & Hambleton, R. K. (2013). Directrices para la traducción y
7	adaptación de los tests: segunda edición [International Test Commission Guidelines
8	for test translation and adaptation: Second edition]. Psicothema, 25, 151-157.
9	Nunnally, J. C. (1978). Psychometric theory (2 nd ed.). New York: McGraw-Hill.
10	Ramis, Y., Torregrosa, M., Viladrich, C., & Cruz, J. (2010). Adaptación y validación de
11	la versión española de la subescala de ansiedad competitiva SAS-2 para
12	deportistas de iniciación [Adaptation and validation of the Spanish version of the
13	Sport Anxiety Scale SAS-2 for young athletes]. Psicothema, 22, 1004–1009.
14	Ryan, R. M., & Frederick, C. M. (1997). On energy, personality, and health: subjective
15	vitality as a dynamic reflection of well-being. Journal of Personality, 65, 529-
16	565.
17	Smith, R. E., Smoll, F. L., Cumming, S. P., & Grossbard, J. R. (2006). Measurement of
18	multidimensional sport performance anxiety in children and adults: The sport
19	anxiety scale – 2. Journal of Sport and Exercise Psychology, 28, 479–501.
20	Thelwell, R. C. & Greenlees, I. A. (2003). Developing competitive endurance
21	performance using mental skills training. The Sport Psychologist, 17, 318-337.
22	Theodorakis, Y., Hatzigeorgiadis, A., & Zourbanos, N. (2012). Cognitions: Self-talk
23	and performance. In S. Murphy (Ed.), The Oxford Handbook of Sport and
24	Performance Psychology (pp. 191–212). New York: Oxford University Press.

1	Theodorakis, Y., Weinberg, R., Natsis, P., Douma, E., & Kazakas, P. (2000). The
2	effects of motivational versus instructional self talk on improving motor
3	performance. The Sport Psychologist, 14, 253-272.
4	Viladrich, C., Torregrosa, M., & Cruz, J. (2011). Calidad psicométrica de la adaptación
5	española del Cuestionario de Regulación Conductual en el Deporte
6	[Psychometric quality supporting the Spanish adaptation of the Behavioral
7	Regulation in Sport Questionnaire]. Psicothema, 23(4), 786-794.
8	Woodman, T., & Hardy, L. (2003). The relative impact of cognitive anxiety and self-
9	confidence upon sport performance: A meta-analysis. Journal of Sport Sciences,
10	<i>21</i> , 443–457. doi: <u>10.1080/0264041031000101809</u>
11	Zourbanos, N., Hatzigeorgiadis, A., Chroni, S., Theodorakis, Y., & Papaiannou, A.
12	(2009). Automatic self-talk questionnaire for sports (ASTQS): Development and
13	preliminary validation of a measure identifying the structure of athletes' self-
14	talk. The Sport Psychologist, 23, 233–251.
15	Zourbanos, N., Hatzigeorgiadis, A., Goudas, M., Papaiannou, A., Chroni, S., &
16	Theodorakis, Y. (2011). The social side of self-talk: relationships between
17	perceptions of support received from the coach and athletes' self talk.
18	Psychology of Sport and Exercise, 12, 407-414.
19	Zourbanos, N., Hatzigeorgiadis, A., Tsiakaras, N., Chroni, S., & Theodorakis, Y.
20	(2010). A multi-method examination of the relationship between coaching
21	behavior and athletes' inherent self-talk. Journal of Sport & Exercise
22	Psychology, 32, 764–785.
23	Zourbanos, N., Papaioannou, A., Argyropoulou, E., & Hatzigeorgiadis, A (2014).
24	Achievement goals and self-talk in physical education: The moderating role of

- 1 perceived competence. *Motivation and Emotion*, *38*, 235-251. doi:
- 2 10.1007/s11031-013-9378-x

3

Table 1

Arguments for the modifications we undertook in 16 items so as to guarantee cultural equivalence

	Original	Literal	Adapted	Back	Argument
Item	item	translation	version	translation	
2	Power	Fuerza	Ánimo	Come on	Both the experts and the
5	Strong	Fuerte	Duro	Tough	focus groups suggested that
7	Don't get upset	No te alteres	Tranquilo	Calm down	the literal translation had to be modified in order to
16	Focus on	Concéntrate	Concéntrate	Focus on the	adapt the item to athletes'
	what you	en lo que	en lo que	job at hand	slang.
	need to do	tienes que hacer ahora	toca		
21	I'm wrong	Me he	No paro de	I keep	
	again	equivocado	cometer	making	
		otra vez	errores	mistakes	
34	Today I	Hoy doy	Estoy hecho	I feel like	
10	Suck	asco Ma signata	una mierda	shit	We appendented that the
12	T leef strong	fuerte	bien	I leel good	literal translation had to be
17	Concentrate	Concéntrate	Concéntrate	Focus on	modified in order to adapt
17	on your	en tu juego	en lo que	what you're	the item to a broader range
	game	J - 8	estás	doing	of sports.
	C		haciendo	e	
22	I am not as	No soy tan	Soy peor	I'm worse	We considered that the
	good as the	bueno como	que los	than the rest	literal translation had to be
	others	los otros	demás		modified in order to adapt
23	I am not	No voy a	Fracasaré	I'm going to	the emotional loading of
	going to	alcanzar mi		lose	the item to the Spanish
	reach my	meta			culture. For example, <i>no</i>
26	goal What will	Quá	Fetov	I'm making	solir were substituted for
20	others think	pensarán los	haciendo el	a fool of	stronger expressions (i e
	of my poor	demás de lo	ridículo	myself	sov peor and necesito salir.
	performance	mal que lo			respectively).
	1	he hecho			1 57
28	I want to get	Quiero salir	Necesito	I need to get	
	out of here	de aquí	salir de aquí	out of here	
29	I think I'll	Creo que	Voy a tirar	I'm	
	stop trying	voy a dejar	la toalla	throwing in	
20	T 7/1	de intentarlo	N T .	the towel	
30	I can't keep	No puedo	No quiero	I don't want	
26	going Mu body	Seguir Mi quarpa	seguir Lou mi	to carry on	We followed suggestions
30	doesn't help	no me está	cuerpo po	hody isn't	made in the focus group
	me today	avudando	me responde	responding	The meaning of the literal
	ine today	hov	ine responde	responding	translation was not clear to
		- J			them.
40	I am thirsty	Tengo sed	Tengo	I have	We considered that the
			muchas	different	content "being thirsty" was
			otras cosas	other things	not an irrelevant thought in
			que hacer	to do	many of the target sports in
					our study.

Subscale	Item	Content		SD	Skew.	Kurt.	Loadi
	1						ng
Motivation	vation 1 ¡Vamos!		4.17	0.91	-1.05	0.80	.41
	2	Animo.	3.30	1.15	-0.02	-0.91	.53
	3	Da el 100%.	3.24	1.33	-0.19	-1.14	.70
	4	A tope.	3.84	1.17	-0.78	-0.34	.62
	5	Duro.	2.95	1.42	-0.01	-1.31	.70
Anxiety	6	Relajate.	2.91	1.05	0.02	-0.78	.69
Control	7	Tranquilo.	3.46	1.04	-0.32	-0.50	.76
	8	Calma.	2.75	1.26	0.17	-1.05	.77
~ ~ ~	9	No te estreses.	3.33	1.16	-0.25	-0.75	.65
Confidence	10	Creo en mí.	2.86	1.17	0.07	-0.82	.76
	11	Estoy bien preparado.	3.39	1.11	-0.31	-0.62	.72
	12	Me siento bien.	2.88	1.16	0.08	-0.83	.63
	13	Yo puedo.	2.29	1.18	0.71	-0.30	.65
	14	Creo en mis capacidades.	2.97	1.19	-0.12	-0.88	.86
Instruction	15	Céntrate en tus objetivos.	2.88	1.14	0.01	-0.77	.78
	16	Céntrate en lo que toca.	3.35	1.07	-0.38	-0.29	.62
	17	Concéntrate en lo que estás haciendo.	3.79	1.02	-0.63	-0.06	.70
	18	Concéntrate en tu técnica.	3.13	1.16	-0.22	-0.85	.58
	19	Céntrate.	2.59	1.13	0.31	-0.72	.48
Worry	20	Voy a perder.	1.54	0.82	1.58	2.11	.64
	21	No paro de cometer errores.	1.75	0.92	1.09	0.43	.44
	22	Soy peor que los demás.	2.13	1.01	0.67	-0.22	.61
	23	Fracasaré.	2.64	0.94	0.22	-0.26	.80
	24	No me puedo concentrar.	2.98	0.88	0.11	0.01	.68
	25	No lo conseguiré.	2.41	0.96	0.17	-0.47	.78
	26	Estoy haciendo el ridículo.	2.46	0.97	0.41	-0.05	.60
Disengage-	27	Quiero parar.	2.14	0.92	0.45	-0.49	.82
ment 28 Necesito salir de aquí.		2.48	1.24	0.50	-0.68	.81	
	29	Voy a tirar la toalla.	2.51	1.24	0.35	-0.86	.77
	30	No quiero seguir.	2.11	1.22	0.76	-0.57	.85
	31	Estoy harto.	2.19	1.20	0.72	-0.51	.58
Somatic	32	No estoy en buena forma.	2.21	0.96	0.43	-0.30	.56
Fatigue	33	Estoy cansado.	1.96	0.88	0.66	-0.06	.72
C	34	Hoy estoy hecho una mierda.	1.89	0.94	0.95	0.47	.77
	35	Me pesan las piernas/los brazos.	1.95	0.94	0.77	0.09	.73
	36	Hov mi cuerpo no me responde.	1.59	0.83	1.43	1.63	.78
Irrelevant	37	¿Qué haré esta noche?	2.27	0.95	0.57	0.06	.74
Thoughts	38	Tengo hambre.	2.64	0.91	0.19	-0.12	.75
0	39	Me apetecería una ducha	1.89	0.94	0.89	0.03	.79
	40	Tengo muchas otras cosas que hacer	1.48	0.75	1.56	1.89	.85

Table 2Content, Descriptive Statistics and Standardized Factor Loadings

Note. For all the items, the minimum observed value was 1 and the maximum was 5; SD: Standard Deviation; Skew.: Skewness, Kurt.: Kurtosis; Loading: Standardized factor loading in model M3. All factor loadings had standard errors ranging from 0.03 to 0.07 and were statistically different from zero with p < .001. Find the English version of the items in Zourbanos et al. (2009; Table 1).

Table 3Fit Statistics for the Models in the Study

Mod	el	χ^2	df	CFI	TLI	RMSEA (90% CI)	χ^2 diff
M 1	8-Factor model	1046.89	712	.93	.93	.04 (.0405)	
M2.	Zourbanos et al.'s Second-Order-Factor Model	1231.64	731	.90	.89	.05 (.0506)	101.68
M3.	3 factors SAS-2	160.42	87	.98	.98	.06 (.0407)	
M4.	M1 with M3	1845.34	1375	.94	.94	.04 (.0304)	

Nota. df = degrees of freedom; CFI = comparative fit index; TLI = Tucker-Lewis index; RMSEA = root mean square error of approximation; $\chi^2_{diff} = \chi^2$ difference with the less restrictive model (M1); M1= ASTQS: model with eight first-order factors; M2 = ASTQS: model with eight first-order factors; M3 = SAS-2: 3-factor model; M4= structural model that includes M1 and M3. All the χ^2 values presented in this table were statistically significant at p < .001.



Figure 1. First-Order-Factor model (M1). *Note*. All correlations presented in the Figure are standardized. All r < .16 are significant at p < .05; all r > .16 are significant at p < .001.



Figure 2. Structural model (M4). *Note*. All correlations presented in the Figure are standardized. All r < .20 are significant at p < .05; all $r \ge .20$ and $\le .25$ are significant at p < .01; all $r \ge .25$ are significant at p < .001.