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VOLUME 2



Italian

Survival Phrases

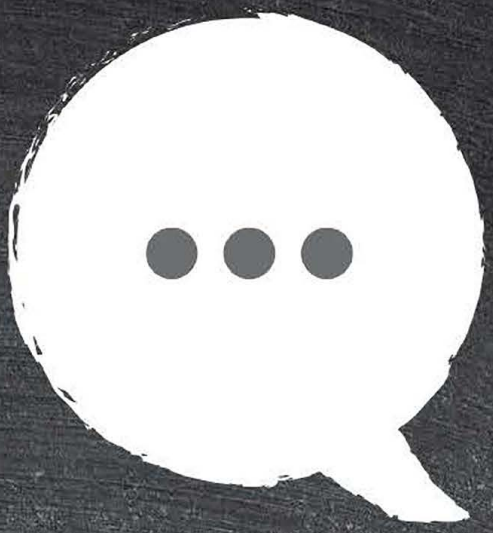


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LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #31 Directions

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#31

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ITALIAN

1. vada dritto
2. giri a destra
3. giri a sinistra
4. giri a destra al semaforo
5. È sulla destra.
6. È sulla sinistra.

ENGLISH

1. go straight
2. turn right
3. turn left
4. turn right at the light
5. It's on the right.
6. It's on the left.

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender

sinistra	left	noun	feminine
semaforo	traffic light	noun	masculine
andare	to go	verb (irregular)	
destra	right	noun	feminine
girare	to turn, go around, circle, wander	verb	
dritto	straight	adverb	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Mantieni la sinistra e ferma l'auto dopo il semaforo. "Keep the left and pull over after the traffic light."	**Attento, il semaforo era rosso!** "Watch out, the traffic light was red!"
I miei amici vanno in vacanza in Sardegna. "My friends go on holiday to Sardinia."	**Siamo andati a Venezia.** "We went to Venice."
Siamo andati in vacanza. "We went on vacation."	**Vai a casa?** "Are you going home?"
Vorrei andare a ballare. "I would like to go dancing."	**Andiamo al cinema?** "Shall we go to the cinema?"
Gira a destra dopo il semaforo. "Turn right after the traffic lights."	**Ieri ho girato per la città.** "Yesterday, I went around the city."

Dopo la scuola vieni dritto a casa.

"After school come straight home."

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

In today's lesson we'll introduce you directions that will help you find the place you are looking for. Previously we introduced, "Is there a place near here?" and "Where is there a something?" But while we can now ask, we haven't addressed understanding the answer? Today we're going to work on understanding what is said. So today we'll go over basic directions. First we have, "go straight."

In Italian "go straight" is *vada dritto*. The first word *vada* means "go" used in the formal way of speech, in fact it's the third singular person of the verb *andare*. This is followed by *dritto*, which in English is "straight". So all together we have *vada dritto*. Literally this means "go straight".

Let's take a look at the next expression to turn.

Let's cover "turn right" which in Italian is *giri a destra*. The first word *giri* means "turn" used always in the formal way of speech, then you have the preposition *a* "to" followed by *destra* "right".

So all together we have *giri a destra*. Literally this means "turn to right", but it's translated as "turn right".

Now let's go and work on "turn left"; in Italian "turn left" is *giri a sinistra*.

Let's try now with "Turn right at the light" which in Italian is *Giri a destra al semaforo.*

After *giri a destra* "turn right" which we have just seen, you have *al semaforo* "at the light". First you have *al* which in English is "at the" and then you have *semaforo* "light or crosslight".

"It's on the right" in Italian is *è sulla destra*. The first word *è* means "is" and it comes from the verb *essere* in the third person singular. Then you have *sulla* which means "on the" (definite

article feminine singular) and finally *destra* “right”. So all together we have *è sulla destra*.

“It’s on the left” in Italian is *è sulla sinistra.* The only difference is the word *sinistra* in place of *destra*. The first word *è* means “is” and it comes from the verb *essere* third person singular. Then you have *sulla* which means “on the” (definite article feminine singular) and finally *sinistra* “left”. So all together we have *è sulla sinistra*.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

To get your destination you could even simply ask “How do I get to destination?”

Come arrivo a destinazione?

Tip#2

Other useful words to use when asking directions are:

Rotonda – “roundabout”
Palazzo – “building”
Strisce pedonali – “zebra crossing”
Angolo – “corner”

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #32
Can You Take My/Our Picture?

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ITALIAN

1. Può scattarci una foto?
2. Puoi scattarci una foto?
3. Può scattarmi una foto?
4. Puoi scattarmi una foto?

ENGLISH

1. Can you take our picture?
2. Can you take our picture?
3. Can you take my picture?
4. Can you take my picture?

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class
foto	photo, picture	noun
scattare una foto	to take a picture	phrase

SAMPLE SENTENCES

È una bella foto. "It's a beautiful picture."	**Posso scattare una foto?** "Can I take a picture?"

Mi può scattare una foto.

"Can you take a picture?"

GRAMMAR

Language Tip/

In today's lesson we'll introduce a phrase that for sure will come in handy for capturing your memories on film or memory card. Italy is full of beautiful sceneries, and obviously you will take a lot of pictures of landscapes and monuments but I have no doubts that in some moments you'll want to be in the picture or have everyone in your party. Therefore, there are times when the question, "Can you take our/my picture?" will be invaluable!

In Italian "Can you take our picture?" is *Può scattarci una foto?* The first word *può* means "can you", third person singular of the verb *potere* "can" used in the formal way of speech. This is followed by *scattarci*, which in English is literally "to set off" but in this case it's translated as "take our picture." *Scattarci* is made up of the infinitive of the verb *scattare* and *ci* which literally means "us – to us". This is followed by *una* "a" indefinite article feminine and *foto* "picture". *Foto* is the short form of *fotografia* and it's used quite often. So to recap here, we have *Può scattarci una foto?*. Literally this means "Can you take us a picture?"

If you are on your own and you want to ask "Can you take my picture?" in Italian you just need to replace *scattarci* with *scattarmi* so you would have *Può scattarmi una foto?*

What if you jump into a young person and you don't need to use the formal level of speech? It's very easy because the only element that changes is the verb. So *può* changes into *puoi* "can you", second person singular of the verb *potere* "can". So all together you will have *Puoi scattarci una foto?* "Can you take our picture?" Or if you are traveling alone *Puoi scattarmi una foto?*

In English, before someone takes a picture, the person taking the picture may say, "1, 2, 3.

Cheese.” In Italian you might hear the same but maybe counting opposite before the picture is taken, so the person taking the picture may say *tre due uno cheese*. So to recap here, we have the numbers from three to one and cheese. *Tre due uno cheese*. Literally this means “three two one cheese”.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

Nowadays with all these new technologies most people use digital cameras which give them the chance to see immediately the picture just taken. Before there used to be old film cameras, so people, to make sure they had a good picture and so a memory not out of focus, they often used to say the phrase: “Può scattarne un’altra?”

So as you have seen “to take a picture” is translated *Scattare una foto*, apart from this expression you could also use *fare una foto* which literally means “to do – to make a picture” so you would ask:

- *Può farci una foto?* Can you take our picture?
- *Puoi farci una foto?* Can you take our picture?

- *Può farmi una foto?* Can you take my picture?
- *Puoi farmi una foto?* Can you take my picture?

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #33
Can I Take Your Picture?

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ITALIAN

1. Posso scattarle una foto?
2. Posso scattarti una foto?
3. Posso scattarvi una foto?
4. Posso scattare una foto qui?

ENGLISH

1. Can I take your picture? (formal)
2. Can I take your picture? (informal)
3. Can I take your picture? (plural)
4. Can I take a picture here?

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class
qui	here	adverb
potere	can	verb
foto	photo, picture	noun
scattare una foto	to take a picture	phrase

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Rimango qui ad aspettarti. "I'll stay here waiting for you."	**Vieni qui.** "Come here."
Devi fare i compiti. "You must do your homework."	**Non ci posso credere!** "I can't believe it."
È una bella foto. "It's a beautiful picture."	**Posso scattare una foto?** "Can I take a picture?"
Mi può scattare una foto. "Can you take a picture?"	

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

How many times have you been in one of your trips with your camera trying to immortalize particular moments. In Italy it can happen so often that not only a landscape can arouse your curiosity, but also many people! So I know you don't want to renounce to your marvelous album in Italy, that's why today we will cover some phrases related to the one we saw in the previous lesson: "Can you take my picture?" *Può scattarmi una foto?*

But now you would like to ask for permission: "Can I take your picture?" which in Italian is *Posso scattarle una foto?*

The first word *posso* means "can I". This is followed by *scattarle*, which in Italian is "take a picture of you" (formal). *Scattarle* comes from the verb *scattare*, literally to "set off", translated here as "to take a picture", and *le* at the end of the word is referred to "you" formal and literally means "you – to you" formal. Then you have *una* "a" indefinite article feminine followed by *foto* "picture". So to recap here, we have *Posso scattarle una foto?*. Literally this means "Can I take a picture of you?"

If you are able to socialize immediately and you feel Italian people can all be like friends, or

even if you simply meet some young people you can use *Posso scattarti una foto?* “Can I take your picture?”. In this sentence what has changed is the verb. In place of *scattarle* you have *scattarti* which means “take a picture of you” (informal), so *le* changes into *ti*. And all together we have *Posso scattarti una foto?*

Once I went to the *Festival di San Remo* which is the Italian music festival, very famous and very esteemed by the Italian people, and there I met Matteo and Thomas, the two components of the group Zero Assoluto and I asked them: *Posso scattarvi una foto?* “Can I take your picture?” (of you two or more people). So as you can see we just changed the verb as in the previous sentence. In place of *scattarti* “take a picture of you” (you second person singular), this time we used *scattarvi* “take a picture of you” (you second person plural). And all together we have *Posso scattarvi una foto?*

What if you are in a museum or an art gallery, or in a shop and you want to try and ask: “Can I take a picture here?” which in Italian is *Posso scattare una foto qui?* The first word *posso* comes from *potere* “can” and means “can I”. It is followed by *scattare* “take a picture” which now you know very well. Then you have *una foto* “a picture” and finally you have *qui* "here" *qui*. So all together *Posso scattare una foto qui?*

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

Taking someone else's picture is not a common thing to do, and it might be misunderstood as an invasion of privacy.

So please never forget the basic etiquette and try to be respectful and kind.

Here you can find some useful expressions you can use when talking in this situations:

Per favore – “Please”
Scusi, Mi scusi – “Excuse me” (formal)
Scusa, Scusami – “Excuse me” (informal – casual)
Grazie mille – “Thanks a lot” (informal - casual)
Grazie infinite –“Thank you very much” (formal)

Tip#2

If you are lucky during you trip and you meet a famous Italian actor or actress, someone

whose picture you can't miss at all, I advice you to try and sound the more respectful you can. So try to use some of these sentences :

La disturba se le scatto una foto? – "Do I disturb you if I take your picture?" (formal)
Ti disturba se ti faccio una foto? - "Do I disturb you if I take your picture?" (informal)
Le dà fastidio se scattiamo una foto insieme? - "Do you mind if I take your picture?" (formal)
Ti dà fastidio se scattiamo una foto insieme? - "Do you mind if I take your picture?" (informal)
Posso avere una foto con lei? – "Can I take a picture with you?" (formal)
Posso avere una foto con te? - "Can I take a picture with you?" (informal)

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #34
How Do You Say This in Italian?

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#34

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ITALIAN

1. Come si dice fork in italiano?
2. Come si dice questo in italiano?
3. Come si dice quello in italiano?
4. Come si traduce in italiano happy birthday?

ENGLISH

1. How do you say 'fork' in Italian?
2. How do you say this in Italian?
3. How do you say that in Italian?
4. How do you translate 'happy birthday' in Italian?

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class
quello	that	adjective
tradurre	to translate	verb
questo	this (masculine singular)	demonstrative adjective
dire	to say, to tell	verb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Andiamo a vedere quello spettacolo? "Shall we go see that show?"	**Quello costa un euro.** "That costs one euro."
Potresti tradurmi questo, per favore? "Could you translate this for me, please?"	**Questo è un fiore.** "This is a flower."
Questo libro è interessante. "This book is interesting."	**Questo panino.** "This sandwich."
Hai detto a Elisa che stiamo arrivando? "Have you told Elisa we are coming?"	**Mi ha detto che domani non viene.** "She told me she's not going to come tomorrow."
Hanno detto che vanno al cinema. "They said they're going to the cinema."	

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

Communication skills are important and when you learn a foreign language like Italian, learning can be even fun. So trying to speak the local language becomes one more challenge in your trip. So when in Italy take advantage of all the moments you can speak and practice with Italian people. Today we'll introduce you to a phrase that will provide you with the tools to learn from the people around. Obviously this doesn't mean that you have to leave your dictionary at home, but don't forget that you can use Italian language itself to learn in a more fun and interactive way. For today we're going to need a word, as we're going to cover "How do you say something in Italian?" So let's use *forchetta*

In Italian "How do you say fork in Italian?" is *Come si dice fork in italiano?* The first word *come* means "how". This is followed by *si dice*, which is the impersonal form of the verb *dire* "to say"

and in English could be literally translated as “it is said”. It is followed by the word you say in your own language, so in this case “fork”, and then finally you have *in italiano*, “in Italian”.

So together we have *Come si dice fork in italiano?* which literally means “How is fork said in Italian?”

You can also use this expression without using any English. To accomplish this you can use the expression “How do you say this in Italian?” In Italian “this” is *questo*. So, in Italian “How do you say this in Italian?” is *Come si dice questo in italiano?* The structure is exactly the same of the previous sentence, in place of 'fork' we have the demonstrative adjective *questo* “this” and so all together we have *come si dice questo in italiano?* which you can say while pointing at something.

To ask “How do you say that in Italian?” simply substitute the word *questo* with *quello* “that” and you will have *Come si dice quello in italiano?* “How do you say that in Italian?”.

But wait, it’s your Italian friend’s birthday and you want to wish him happy birthday but you don’t know how to say it so try and ask *Come si traduce in italiano happy birthday?* “How do you translate happy birthday in Italian?”. The first word is *come* and it means *how*. Then you have *si traduce* which is the impersonal form of the verb *tradurre* “to translate” which here is translated as *si traduce*. Finally you have *in italiano* which you have previously seen and then the word or expression you wish to be translated. So all together we have *Come si traduce in italiano happy birthday?*

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

More simply, you can also say: *come si chiama questo?* “what’s this called?” or *come si chiama quello?* “what’s that called?”

Omitting the part *in italiano* and using the verb *chiamarsi* “to be called” in place of the verb *dire* to say.

Tip#2

If you have some Italian friends who you can practice with, try to play a game.

Give your friend your dictionary and tell him/her to ask you *dimmi come si dice… in italiano* “tell me what’s the Italian for…”, and see how many Italian words you know. *In bocca al lupo!*

“break your legs!”

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #35
Can You Write It Down?

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#35

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ITALIAN

1. Può scriverlo per favore?
2. Me lo può scrivere per favore?
3. Come si pronuncia questo?
4. Ha carta e penna?

ENGLISH

1. Can you write it down please?
2. Can you write it down please?
3. How do you pronounce this?
4. Do you have a paper and pen?

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
penna	pen	noun	feminine
pronunciare	to pronounce	verb	
carta	paper	noun	feminine
scrivere	to write	verb	
come	how	interrogative word	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Porto sempre una penna con me. "I always carry a pen with me."	**Ho dimenticato come pronunciare questa parola!** "I forgot how to pronounce this word!"
Questo aeroplano è fatto di carta. "This airplane is made of paper."	**Le scriverò una lettera d'amore!** "I will write her a love letter!"
Come è il tempo a Roma? "How's the weather like in Rome?"	**Come ti chiami?** What is your name?
Come stai? How are you?	**Come stanno?** How are they?
Come state? How are you? (second person plural)	

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

In the previous lesson we covered how to ask “How do you say this in Italian?” *Come si dice questo in Italiano?*, do you remember? Today, because we don’t want you to be off guard in any kind of situations in Italy, we are going to introduce you to a new phrase that is very important to help you focus your skills, not on the sounds, but on the writing. So let’s start this new lesson.

In Italian “Can you write it down please?” is *Può scriverlo per favore?* The first word *può* means “can you”, it comes from the verb *potere* “can” and in this case is used in the formal way of speech.

This is followed by *scriverlo*, which in Italian is “write it”. It comes from the verb *scrivere* “to

write” plus *lo* which means “it”. Finally we have *per favore* “please”. So to recap here, we have *può scriverlo per favore?*. Literally this means "can you write it please?".

Next we have another way to express the same meaning.

Me lo può scrivere per favore? “Can you write it down please?” The first word *me* means “me – to me” and it’s followed by *lo* which we have just seen and means “it”, next you have *può*, which we have seen previously, and means “can you”, then you have *scrivere* “to write”. So all together we have *me lo può scrivere per favore?* Literally this means “can you write it to me?” and it’s translated “can you write it down?”

Once you have it, it can happen that you have the written words but you have no idea how to pronounce them. In Italian “How do you pronounce this?” is *Come si pronuncia questo?*. The first word *come* means “how”. This is followed by *si pronuncia* which in English “is prononunced”, then you have *questo* which you know very well and is “this”.

So to recap here, we have *Come si pronuncia questo?*. Literally this means “How is this pronounced?”

It might happen that people are not carrying any piece of paper or a pen so before asking *può scriverlo per favore?* try *Ha carta e penna?* The first word *ha* means you have (third person singular) from the verb *avere* “to have”, used in the formal way of speech then you have *carta* which in English is "paper". Then you have *e* “and”, and finally *penna* “pen”.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

When in Italy, please remember that normally most people will always be available and ready to help you, so don’t be shy and ask:

Ha un pezzo di carta? - “Do you have a piece of paper?” or
Ha una penna o una matita? “Do you have a pen or a pencil?” or
Potrebbe dirmi come si legge qui? “Could you tell me how to read this?”

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #36
How Do You Read This?

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ITALIAN

1. Come si legge questo?
2. Come si pronuncia questo?
3. Che significa?

ENGLISH

1. How do you read this?
2. How do you pronounce this?
3. What does it mean?

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class
pronunciare	to pronounce	verb
significare	to mean, entail, signify	verb
leggere	to read	verb
questo	this (masculine singular)	demonstrative adjective
come	how	adverb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Ho dimenticato come pronunciare questa parola! "I forgot how to pronounce this word!"	**Cosa significa questo?** "What does this mean?"
Leggo il giornale in biblioteca. "I read the newspaper in the library."	**Leggo la sera prima di dormire.** "I read in the evening before going to sleep."
Leggo il giornale. "I'm reading the newspaper."	**Questo è un fiore.** "This is a flower."
Questo libro è interessante. "This book is interesting."	**Questo panino.** "This sandwich."
Dimmi come usare il telecomando. "Tell me how to use the remote control."	**Come è il tempo a Roma?** "How's the weather like in Rome?"
Come ti chiami? What is your name?	**Come stai?** How are you?
Come stanno? How are they?	**Come state?** How are you? (second person plural)

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

In the previous lessons we introduced you to some phrases you can use when in Italy and this is the last lesson of the series we dedicated to learning from people around.

Today we are going to cover “How do you read this?

In Italian “How do you read this?” is *Come si legge questo?* The first word *come* means “how”. This is followed by *si legge*, which in English literally means “it’s read” and here it’s translated “do you read”. *Si legge* is another impersonal form, in this case of the verb *leggere* “to read”. This is followed by the demonstrative adjective *questo* which in English is “this”. And all together we have *Come si legge questo?*. Literally this means “How is this read?”

If you are pointing at something, probably on a book, on a newspaper, or simply a street sign you might also like to ask: “How do you pronounce this?”.

In Italian “How do you pronounce this?” is *Come si pronuncia questo?*

The first word is *come*, which you have just seen and means “how”, then you have *si pronuncia* which literally means “it’s pronounced”. So to recap we have *Come si pronuncia questo?* which literally means “How is this pronounced?”

After you have learned the reading and the pronounciation you will probably want to know about the meaning. So why don’t you try and ask: *Che significa?* “What does it mean?”

The first word *che* means “what”, this is followed by *significa* which in English means “it means”. So all together we have *Che significa?*. Literally this means “What does it mean?”.

The pronounciation of Italian vowels is very straightforward, in fact these five vowels have to be pronounced exactly as they are read.

They are A E I O U.

For example the pronounciation of the vowel A is the same in all the words like:

Gatto – “cat”
Casa – “house”
Mamma – “mum”
Barca – “ship”

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

Here are some exceptions to the pronunciation rules in

For the vowels we have *vocale aperta* (literally open vowel) and *vocale chiusa* (literally

closed vowel) and this rule is valid only for the vowels O and E.

One example of *O chiusa* is in the word *more* (“blueberry”); the 'o' should sound more like the vowel sound in the English "mall".

Contrast this with the O *aperta* in the word *amore* ("love"); the 'o' in this word should sound closer to the English word "bald".

Tip#2

Don’t forget that in Italian you often have many choices to express the same concept. Here are some alternatives for what you have just learnt.

Come si legge questa parola? – “How do you read this word?”
Come si legge questa frase? – “How do you read this sentence?”
Come si legge quella scritta? – “How do you read that writing?”
Che significa questa frase? – “What does this sentence mean?”

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #37
Hotel 1

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ITALIAN

1. Ho una prenotazione.
2. Vorrei una camera.
3. Il suo nome per favore.
4. Può fare lo spelling?

ENGLISH

1. I have a reservation.
2. I would like a room.
3. Your name please.
4. Can you spell it?

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
fare lo spelling	to spell	verb	
camera	room	noun	feminine
nome	name	noun	
prenotazione	booking, reservation	noun	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Mi potresti fare lo spelling? "Could you spell that for me?"	**Vivo qui vicino.** "I live near here."
Ho dimenticato il nome di quella ragazza. "I forgot the name of that girl."	**Sara, hai ricevuto la conferma della prenotazione dell'albergo a Toronto?** "Sara have you received the confirmation of the hotel booking in Toronto?"

Hai fatto la prenotazione?

"Did you book?"

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

In today's lesson we'll help you check-in! In Italy there are hotels, bed and breakfasts, hostels and also *agriturismi* or "farm holidays" located in the most beautiful areas of the country, like Tuscany, Umbria and Lazio. *Agriturismi* are always my favourite option. There you can stay and taste the local food, ride horses, swimming in the pool, walk in the woods. There are many activities for people who decide to have a different holiday and go far away from the cities. But let's not waste time and go to see today's phrases!

In Italy when you get to a hotel and you want to check-in there are two possible phrases you could use. If you have already booked the room and you want to say "I have a reservation" in Italian it is *Ho una prenotazione.* The first word *ho* means "I have". This is followed by *una* "a", feminine indefinite article followed by *prenotazione* "reservation". So all together we have *Ho una prenotazione* which literally means "I have a reservation".

If you have not booked the room yet the phrase "I would like a room" in Italian is *Vorrei una camera.* The first word *vorrei* means "I would like". It is followed by *una* "a" which we have seen and then *camera* "room".

So all together we have *Vorrei una camera* which literally means "I would like a room".

Afterward you will most likely be asked "Your name please" which in Italian is *Il suo nome per favore.* The first word *il* is "the", the definite article for masculine nouns. Then you have *suo* which in this case mean "your", possessive adjective for masculine nouns. It is followed by *nome* "name" a masculine noun. Finally you have *per favore* "please". So let's hear the entire phrase now *Il suo nome per favore* which literally means "Your name please".

You might also be asked "Can you spell it?" which in Italian is *Può fare lo spelling?*. The first word *può* means "you (formal level of speech)". Then you have *lo* "the", definite article for masculine nouns starting with the group *SP*. And finally the adopted English word "spelling".

The Italian language has adopted many foreign words, especially from the English.

From the simple words like *hotel* we have absorbed real ways of saying and mostly verbs that we use together with the verb fare "to do-to make". For example:

fare jogging - "to go jogging"
fare bird-watching - "bird-watching"
fare free-climbing - "to do free-climbing"
fare spinning - "to do spinning"

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

In Italy at the reception while you check-in you might be asked also some questions related to the room you prefer:

Per quante persone – “How many people?”
Per quante notti – “How many nights?”
Preferisce una con balcone? – “Would you like a room with balcony?”

Tip#2

Una camera – “One room”
Due camere – “Two rooms”
Una doppia – “One double (-bedded) room”
Una singola – “One single"
Una suite matrimoniale – “One bridal suite”

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #38
Hotel 2

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#38

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ITALIAN

1. A che ora è il check-out?

2. Posso avere altro sapone?

ENGLISH

1. What time is checkout?

2. Can I have some more soap?

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
altro	another, else	adjective	
sapone	soap	noun	masculine
avere	to have	verb	
potere	can	verb	
ora	time, hour	noun	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Prendo un altro cioccolatino. "I'll take another chocolate."	**Ho finito il sapone.** "I've finished the soap."

Ho un gatto nero. "I have a black cat."	**Hai venti anni?** "Are you twenty years old?"
Devi fare i compiti. "You must do your homework."	**Non ci posso credere!** "I can't believe it."
E' ora di andare a letto. "It's time to go to bed."	**A che ora arrivi?** "What time will you arrive?"

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

In today's lesson we'll introduce you some more useful phrases for hotels and the like. The first phrase is "What time is checkout?" which in Italian is *a che ora è il check-out?* As you can see "check-out" is one more word we have adopted in our vocabulary and we use often use it very easily. The first word *a* means "at". This is followed by *che* which in Italian is "what". Then you have *ora* which means "time". After you have *è* which is "is" followed by *il* "the", the definite article for masculine nouns and finally the English word check-out.

So to recap here, we have *a che ora è il check-out*. Literally this means "at what time is the check out?".

Let's take a look at some words you could need while staying in a hotel because there will be times when you need more of certain things.

There are a few more words that might come in handy.

"Towel" *asciugamano*
"Toothbrush" *spazzolino*
"Toothpaste" *dentifricio*
"Shampoo" *shampoo*
"Soap" *sapone*

So let's try and ask "can I have some more soap?". This is *posso avere altro sapone?* The first word is *posso* and it means "can I". Next you have *avere* "to have". Then you have *altro* which literally means "other". Finally you have the thing you are looking for *sapone* "soap". So all together we have *posso avere altro sapone?* which literally means "can I have other soap?"

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

Apart from the English word "check out" used in the phrase A che ora è il check out? There is one more phrase you can often use: *A che si deve lasciare la camera?*

In this phrase you use *si deve*, the impersonal form of the verb *dovere* "must – to have", to express that is an obligation.

Tip#2

The word "towel" in Italian is translated *asciugamano* and the definite article to use with this word is *lo* because it starts with a vowel and it is a masculine noun. This word *asciugamano* is actually one word made up of two: *asciuga* from the verb *asciugare* "to dry" and *mano* "hand". So all together *asciugamano*. Because it is a *nome composto* (a compound word) there is a dilemma regarding its plural.

Normally the singular nouns ending in *O* have their plural ending in *I*, but for compounds this rule is sometimes

So there are some people who say *gli asciugamani* and some others who say *gli asciugamano*.

Mysteries of the Italian language…

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #39
Post Office

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#39

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ITALIAN

1. Vorrei inviare questo a Buenos Aires.
2. Vorrei inviare questa cartolina a Buenos Aires.
3. Vorrei inviare questa lettera a Buenos Aires
4. Vorrei inviare questo pacco a Buenos Aires.

ENGLISH

1. I would like to send this to Buenos Aires.
2. I would like to send this postcard to Buenos Aires.
3. I would like to send this letter to Buenos Aires.
4. I would like to send this package to Buenos Aires.

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
pacco	package	noun	
cartolina	postcard	noun	
lettera	letter	noun	feminine
inviare	to send	verb	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Questo pacco è davvero pesante. "This package is really heavy."	**Da dove viene questa cartolina?** "Where is this postcard from?"
Quando arriverai in Italia inviami una cartolina. "When you'll be in Italy send me a postcard!"	**Questa lettera è per te.** "This letter is for you."
Mia madre mi ha inviato quelle foto. "My mother sent me those pictures."	

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

My dear listeners today we're going to take a trip to the post office. Now the post office in Italy is *ufficio postale*. The corporate colour is yellow and outside the post office you find the writing *Poste Italiane*.

So today we're going to work on getting your postcards, letters and packages home. The expression we need to accomplish this is "I'd like to send this to" and then the desired destination. For today's lesson we'll use Buenos Aires.

In Italian “I would like to send this to Buenos Aires" is *Vorrei inviare questo a Buenos Aires*. The first word *vorrei* means “I would like”. This is followed by *inviare*, which in English is “to send”. Then you have *questo*, a demonstrative adjective meaning “this”. So we have *Vorrei inviare questo vorrei inviare questo*. Finally we have *a* which means “to” followed by the name of the city you are sending to. And now all together we have *Vorrei inviare questo a Buenos Aires*. Literally this means “I would like to send this to Buenos Aires. Let's take a look at the next words. We were talking about packages, letters and postcards so let’s try to send a postcard!

“Postcard” in Italian is *cartolina*; “I would like to send this postcard to Buenos Aires” in Italian

is *vorrei inviare questa cartolina a Buenos Aires*. Notice the position of *questa cartolina* which means "this postcard".

Now let's try "letter" which in Italian is *lettera*. "I would like to send this letter to Buenos Aires" in Italian is *Vorrei inviare questa lettera a Buenos Aires*. So as you can notice we simply substitute the word for "letter" *lettera* with the Italian word for "postcard" *cartolina*, introduced in the previous phrase. Now let's go and try to send a package. In Italian "I would like to send this package to Buenos Aires" is *Vorrei inviare questo pacco a Buenos Aires*, "package" in Italian is *pacco*. So all together we have *vorrei inviare questo pacco a Buenos Aires*.

Now the package requires a closer look which we'll do in the next lesson.

If you already have your letter or your postcards ready for sending you don't need to look for a post office. You just need to find a mailbox or a letterbox which in Italy you can recognize by its dark red colour. You find them throughout the neighbourhoods all over the country. You can see the sign *poste* and a notice with the time-table for collection *ultimo ritiro* and then the time and the days of collection. *Ultimo* means "last", while *ritiro* means "collection". So all togehter we have *ultimo ritiro*.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

In Italian you can easily hear these words referring to a mailbox: *casella postale* or *buca delle lettere*. To have your letters or postcards ready to be sent, you need to buy stamps, which you can find at a tobacco shop. Please remember that prices for postcards and letters are different. So before buying stamps be sure to ask for *francobolli per cartoline* "stamps for postcards" or *francobolli per lettere* "stamps for letters".

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #40
Post Office 2

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ITALIAN

1. Vorrei inviare questo pacco a Buenos Aires.

2. Cosa c'è nel pacco?

3. Che contiene il pacco?

ENGLISH

1. I would like to send this package to Buenos Aires.

2. What's in the package?

3. What does the package contain?

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class
pacco	package	noun
inviare	to send	verb
contenere	to contain	verb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Questo pacco è davvero pesante.	**Mia madre mi ha inviato quelle foto.**
"This package is really heavy."	"My mother sent me those pictures."

Questa scatola contiene i miei vecchi LP.

"This box contains my old LPs."

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

Today we're going to work on getting your package one step closer to its intended destination. In the previous lesson we discussed the phrase "I would like to send this package to Buenos Aires" which was *vorrei inviare questo pacco a Buenos Aires*. Again the location is interchangeable.

When sending a package though, you will probably have to explain what's in the package. You may even be asked, "What's in the package?" which in Italian is *cosa c'è nel pacco?* The first word *cosa* means "what". It is followed by *c'è*, which in English is "there is". This is followed by *nel* which is the Italian for "in the" and then finally we have *pacco* which you already know, "package". So to recap here, we have *che c'è nel pacco?*. Literally this means what is there in the package?

So all together we have *cosa c'è nel pacco?*

If you want to be sure to name all the things you are sending correctly, bring a dictionary, you might need it when the clerks ask you about the content.

Another way in which you can be asked "what's in the package" is *che contiene il pacco?* which literally means "what does the package contain?". The first word *che* means "what", then you have *contiene* "it contains". Finally you have *il, the* definite article for masculine nouns "the" and *pacco* "package". All together we have *che contiene il pacco?* which literally means "what does the package contain?".

Please remember that even in Italy, as in many other countries there are some rules for things you can or you cannot send. So you can learn about these issues visiting the Italian post website www.posteitaliane.it

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

If your package is not really big you might be asked: *cosa c'è nel pacchetto?*.

Pacchetto literally means "little package".

While sending a package from *Poste Italiane* your package will be weighted and measured because prices depend on weight and dimensions. So it will be better for you having a certain knowledge of the contents and an idea of the weight.

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Survival Phrases #41
Foreign Exchange

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ITALIAN

1. C’è un bancomat qui vicino?
2. Dove posso cambiare dei soldi?
3. In piccolo taglio per favore.
4. Mi può cambiare per favore?

ENGLISH

1. Is there an ATM near here?
2. Where can I exchange currency?
3. Smaller denominations please.
4. Break this please.

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
vicino	near, close	adjective	
cambiare	to change, to shift, to exchange	verb	
taglio (soldi)	denomination	noun	
soldi (plural)	money, funds	noun	masculine

bancomat	ATM	noun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Abitiamo vicino alle poste. "We live near the post office."	**Vivo qui vicino.** "I live near here."
Per la fine dell'anno voglio cambiare macchina. "By the end of the year, I want to change my car."	**Ho cambiato l'assegno in banconote di piccolo taglio.** "I've changed the check in small denomination paper money."
Con questo nuovo lavoro posso guadagnare molti soldi. "With this new job, I can earn a lot of money."	**Domani ritirerò soldi al bancomat.** "I'll withdraw money at the ATM tomorrow."

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

Exchanging money in Italy is quite convenient. One can exchange money at airports, banks, or withdraw money from an ATM. Rates applied when withdrawing money from an ATM are likely to be quite good; however, when using an ATM it is advisable to make one large withdrawal as you may be charged by both the local bank and your home one. So first things first, let's find a location that will exchange money.

First, let's review some previous phrases and patterns we've already covered.

In Italian “Is there an ATM near here?” is *c’è un bancomat qui vicino?*

Now to ask for a bank, we can just replace the word for ATM with bank and the phrase works just fine. “Is there a bank near here?” is *c’è una banca qui vicino?* The only thing that changes is the thing you are looking for. In this case it’s *banca* “bank”. Careful because *banca* is a feminine noun so we have changed also the indefinite article *un* with *una*. So to recap we have *una banca* and all together *c’è una banca qui vicino?*.

For times when there is neither a bank nor an ATM, you can ask, "Where can I exchange currency?" which in Italian is *dove posso cambiare dei soldi?*. The first word *dove* means "where". This is followed by *posso*, which in English is “can I”. Then you have *cambiare* “to change-exchange”. So to recap here, we have *dove posso cambiare*. Literally this means “where can I change”. Let's take a look at the next words *dei soldi* which literally means "some money".

So all together we have *dove posso cambiare dei soldi?*. Literally this means “where can I change some money?”

Exchanging currency is pretty straightforward. One extremely useful phrase is, "Smaller denominations please." as it's usually beneficial to have smaller amounts of currency on you for paying for the bus fare, taxi fare, etc.

In Italian “Smaller denominations please” is *in piccolo taglio per favore.* The first word is very easy, *in* and it means exactly the same “in”. Then you have *piccolo* “small”. It is followed by *taglio* which means "denomination". Finally you have *per favore* “please”.

So all together we have *in piccolo taglio per favore*. Literally this means “in small denomination please”.

Finally, you can also use the phrase “Break this please” to indicate you would like smaller amounts of the currency. In Italian “Break this please.” is *mi può cambiare per favore?* The first word *mi* means “me-to me”. This is followed by *può*, which in English is “can you” (formal level). The we have *cambiare* which we have previously seen, “to change-exchange” and then finally *per favore* “please”.

So all together we have *mi può cambiare per favore?*. Literally this means “can you change me please?”

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

“Small denominations” – *piccolo taglio*

“High denominations” – *grosso taglio*

“Small denomination banknotes” – *banconote di piccolo taglio*

“High denomination banknotes” – *banconote di grosso taglio*

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #42
Buying a Phone Card

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ITALIAN

1. Avete schede telefoniche?
2. Una scheda telefonica da cinque euro per favore.
3. Una scheda telefonica da dieci euro per favore.
4. C'è una cabina telefonica qui vicino?

ENGLISH

1. Do you have telephone cards?
2. A five Euro telephone card please.
3. A ten Euro telephone card please.
4. Is there a payphone near here?

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
carta telefonica	telephone card	phrase	
scheda telefonica	telephone card	phrase	
dieci	ten	numeral	masculine
Euro	Euro	noun	masculine
cinque	five	numeral	masculine

cabina telefonica	payphone	phrase
vicino	near, close	adjective

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Potresti comprarmi una carta telefonica per favore? "Could you buy me a telephone card please?"	**Ho dieci anni.** "I am ten years old."
Tornerò in Giappone fra dieci giorni. "I'll move back to Japan in ten days."	**Ho letto dieci pagine del libro.** "I've read ten pages of the book."
Sono quattro Euro. It's four Euros.	**Cinque euro.** "Five euros."
Sono le cinque. It's five o'clock.	**Ho cinque auto!** "I have five cars!"
La Fiat Punto ha cinque posti. "The Fiat Punto has five seats."	**Sto cercando una cabina telefonica.** "I'm searching for a payphone."
Non è permesso utilizzare fuochi d'artificio vicino agli edifici. "It is not allowed to use fireworks near buildings."	**Abitiamo vicino alle poste.** "We live near the post office."
Vivo qui vicino. "I live near here."	

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

While most people wouldn't or couldn't step outside without their cell phones, when visiting another country, sometimes it's a little too far for your local carrier. In recent years you can rent a cell phone when you get to Italy, and we'll cover this in another lesson, but the good old pay phone is still an option when you're traveling in Italy.

Now in Italy public phones don't take coins only phone cards. You can buy 5 or 10 Euro telephone cards, and today we'll work on asking for them. You can purchase these cards at tobacco shops.

Before asking for a card, you may want to find out if they have the cards. In Italian, "do you have telephone cards?" is *avete schede telefoniche?* The first word *avete* means “do you have”. This is followed by *schede*, which in Italian means “cards”. Finally we have *telefoniche* which is adjective “telephone”.

So all together we have *avete schede telefoniche?*.

The answer to this will be “yes” *si* or “no” *no*. In the case that they have the cards, you'll want to ask for one of the denominations we talked about.

Let's start with a 5 Euro card.

In Italian, "A 5 Euro telephone card please" is *una scheda telefonica da cinque euro per favore.* The first word *una* means “a” indefinite article for feminine nouns. This is is followed by *scheda* which we have just seen and in Italian is “card”. Then you have *telefonica* “telephone”. It’s followed by *da* which is the Italian for “of”. Then finally you have *cinque euro* which means “five euros”.

Let’s hear the entire phrase now *una scheda telefonica da 5 euro per favore*. Literally this means “a phone card of five euros please”.

For 10 euro card you have just to change the value in this way *una scheda telefonica da dieci euro per favore.*

If you are looking for a payphone you will have to ask *c’è una cabina telefonica qui vicino?* which means “is there a payphone near here?” The first word *c’è* means “is there”. Then you have *una* “a”. This is followed by *cabina* which literally means “booth”. Then you have

telefonica which we have just seen in the previous phrase and in Italian is the adjective "telephone". So to recap we have *c'è una cabina telefonica* which means "is there a payphone". Then, something you have already learned in the survival phrase number 30: *qui vicino* which means "near here". So all together we have *c'è una cabina telefonica qui vicino?* which literally means "is there a phone booth near here?"

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

"Tobacco shop" in Italian can be:
- *tabaccaio*
- *tabacchino*
- *tabacchi*

So remember that if you want to buy a phone card, you can always ask:

- *scusi dov'è un tabacchino/tabaccaio/tabacchi?* "Excuse me where is a tobacco shop?"
- *dove posso trovare un tabacchino/tabaccaio/tabacchi?* "where can I find a tobacco shop?"
- *c'è un tabacchino/tabaccaio/tabacchi qui vicino?* "Is there a tobacco shop near here?"

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #43 Renting a Cellphone

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ITALIAN

1. Vorrei affittare un telefono.
2. Vorrei affittare due telefoni.
3. Vorrei affittare tre telefoni.

ENGLISH

1. I would like to rent a cellphone.
2. I would like to rent two telephones.
3. I would like to rent three telephones.

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
affittare	to let, rent	verb	
telefono	telephone	noun	masculine
costare	to cost	verb	
chiamata	call	noun	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Voglio affittare questo appartamento.	**Il telefono sta squillando.**
"I want to rent this apartment."	"The telephone is ringing."

Il telefono non funziona. "The telephone isn't working."	**Questo libro costa dodici euro.** "This book costs twelve euros."
Questi stivali costano duecento euro. "These boots cost two hundred euros."	**La giacca costa cento euro.** "The jacket costs one hundred euros."
Quanto costa quello? "How much is that?"	**Ieri sera ho ricevuto tre chiamate.** "I received three calls yesterday night."

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

In today's lesson we'll cover renting a cell phone, an indispensable tool for the modern day traveller! In Italy you can rent a phone at many locations, including the airport. So it may be more convenient to just pick one up there. There are many reasons to pick up a cell-phone, and with the number of public phones decreasing due to lack of use, renting a cell-phone is becoming an indispensable part of one's travels.

If you're coming from the States, cell-phones won't work as US phones are on a different frequency than European GSM.

In order to rent a phone you will need to leave a deposit.

In Italian "I would like to rent a cellphone" is *vorrei affittare un telefono*. The first word *vorrei* means "I would like". This is followed by *affittare*, which in Italian is "to rent". So to recap here, we have *vorrei affittare*. Literally this means "I would like to rent". Let's take a look at the next word *un telefono* which literally means "a phone".

So all together we have *vorrei affittare un telefono*. Literally this means "I would like to rent a phone".

In this day and age, there may be instances when you need to rent more than one phone.

Such as you may want a phone for each member of the family. In this case, you would add the number of phones you want: "I would like to rent 2 phones" is *vorrei affittare due telefoni.*

"I would like to rent 3 phones" is *vorrei affittare tre telefoni.*

Two important questions related to your plan are "Are incoming calls free?" and "How much are calls to the U.S.?"

"Are incoming calls free?"is *le chiamate in entrata sono gratuite?*

And, "How much are calls to the U.S.?" is *Quanto costano le chiamate verso gli Stati Uniti?* The word for “U.S.” is *Stati Uniti*, “United States”.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

To rent something in Italian can also be translated as *noleggiare* instead of affittare.

So at the airport while renting a mobile you can ask: *vorrei noleggiare un telefono.*

Tip#2

In Italy “cell phone” is literally *telefono cellulare*, but everyone prefers the shortest version which is *cellulare*, so if you ask for a mobile rent you can also say: *vorrei noleggiare un cellulare*.

Something very funny is that normally in spoken Italian you can also hear *telefonino* while talking about the mobile phone. *Telefonino* is literally “little phone”, and mobile phones are often referred to with this word.

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Survival Phrases #44 Admissions

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ITALIAN

1. Un biglietto per favore.
2. Tre biglietti per favore.
3. Cinque biglietti per favore.
4. Il suo biglietto per favore.

ENGLISH

1. A ticket please.
2. Three tickets please.
3. Five tickets please.
4. Your ticket please.

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
per favore	please	adverb	
cinque	five	numeral	masculine
tre	three	numeral	masculine
biglietto	ticket, note, card, banknote	noun	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Potrei avere del caffè, per favore? "Could I have some coffee, please?"	**Sono le cinque.** It's five o'clock.
Ho cinque auto! "I have five cars!"	**La Fiat Punto ha cinque posti.** "The Fiat Punto has five seats."
Sono le tre. It's three o'clock.	**Ha tre anni.** "He is three years old."
Ho comprato tre libri. "I bought three books."	**Questo biglietto aereo è molto costoso.** "This flight ticket is very expensive."
Ho un biglietto per te. "I have a card for you."	

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

There is so much to do and see in Italy, and there are times when access to some must-see places requires an admission ticket. So today we're going to work on getting you through the gate, as we'll take a look at buying tickets. In Italian, ticket is *biglietto* let's break it down by syllable *bi-gliet-to*, now let's hear it one more time *biglietto*.

In Italian "one ticket please" is *un biglietto per favore.* The first word *un* means "one". This is followed by *biglietto*, which in Italian is "ticket". So to recap here, we have *un biglietto*. Literally this means "a ticket". Let's take a look at the next word which you know very well *per favore* and it means "please". So all together we have *un biglietto per favore*. Literally this means "a ticket please".

We'll work on getting tickets for the rest of the party now.

Let's recap numbers from one to ten.

"one" - *uno*
"two"- *due*
"three"- *tre*
"four" - *quattro*
"five" - *cinque*
"six" - *sei*
"seven" - *sette*
"eight" - *otto*
"nine" - *nove*
"ten" – *dieci*

So "three tickets please" in Italian is *tre biglietti per favore*. The first word *tre* means "three". This is followed by *biglietti*, which in Italian is "tickets". So to recap here, we have *tre biglietti*. Literally this means "three tickets". Let's take a look at the next word which you've just seen *per favore* and it means "please". So all together we have *tre biglietti per favore*. Literally this means "three tickets please".

"Five tickets please" in Italian is *cinque biglietti per favore*.

Very often may be asked *il suo biglietto per favore*, "your ticket please" in order to show your ticket, not only at the entrance, so keep these admissions with you until you leave the place you are visiting.

The first word is *il* "the" definite article for masculine nouns. Then you have *suo* "your", this is followed by *biglietto* "ticket", and finally you have *per favore* "please".

So all together we have *il suo biglietto per favore* which literally means "your ticket please"

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

In Italy there is a famous ticket seller, its name is TicketOne and there you can find any kind of ticket: tickets to concerts, the theatre, sports events, museums and art galleries. This dealer is a kind of brick and mortar business which provides you different ways to buy tickets.

You can purchase from TicketOne at these

1. Internet

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #45
Do You Have an English Version?

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45

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ITALIAN

1. Ha una guida in inglese?
2. Avete una guida in inglese?
3. Ha una guida in francese?
4. Ha una guida in giapponese?

ENGLISH

1. Do you have an English information guide?
2. Do you have an English information guide?
3. Do you have a French information guide?
4. Do you have a Japanese information guide?

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
giapponese	Japanese	noun, adjective	
francese	French	adjective	
inglese	English	noun	masculine
guida	information guide	noun	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

I kimono giapponesi sono conosciuti in tutto il mondo. "Japanese kimonos are known all over the world."	**Ai giapponesi piace mangiare pesce fresco.** "Japanese like to eat fresh fish."
Mi piace il pane francese. "I like French bread."	**Sono francese.** "I am French."
Parli inglese? "Do you speak English?"	**Questa è la guida di Roma.** "This is Rome's information guide."

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

In today's lesson we'll introduce you to crucial phrase for travellers who are interested in learning more about the tourist attractions you're going to visit. Learning about the history and the cultural significance of places you visit can be just as rewarding as seeing them. Today we'll cover "Do you have an English information guide?"

In Italian "Do you have an English information guide?" is *ha una guida in inglese?* The first word *ha* means "you have" in the formal level of speech. This is followed by *una*, which in English means "a". Then you have *guida* which means "guide". So to recap here, we have *ha una guida*. Literally this means "do you have a guide". Let's take a look at the next words. We have *in* which is exactly the same in English "in" and finally you have *inglese* "English". So all together we have *ha una guida in inglese?*. Literally this means "do you have a guide in English?".

So, of course, if you want to practice Italian and buy an Italian guide, you can simply accomplish this by asking: *Ha una guida?*

But to ask for a different language, we can just replace the word for "English" with any other word for a language and it works just fine. Let's try "French", in Italian "Do you have a French

information guide?" is *ha una guida in francese?*. The only thing that changes is the thing you are looking for. In this case it's *francese*.

Let's try now with a Japanese guide! It's not so unlikely that info guides can be even in Japanese because Italy is visited every year and in every time of the year by a huge number of Japanese tourists. So "do you have a Japanese information guide?" is *ha una guida in giapponese?* "Japanese" in Italian is *giapponese*. So all together we have *ha una guida in giapponese?*

As you can see in these phrases we were in the formal level of speech and for this reason we used the third singular person. In many cases it can be correct even if you use the second person plural, while referring to the person who you are speaking to, as a group. So you could also ask: *avete una guida in inglese?* which also means "Do you have an English information guide?". The only thing that changes is the verb at beginning of the phrase. Here we have *avete* in place of *ha*. So all together we have *avete una guida in inglese?*

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

Nowadays modern info guides are not only printed info guides but they can be also audio guides. So when entering a place you're visiting you might be asked:

Vuole un'audio-guida? or *vuole una guida audio?* which both mean "do you want an audio-guide?"

If you are not offered one and you know there are you can ask for it using nearly the same phrase of today:

Ha un'audio-guida in inglese? or *ha una guida audio in inglese?* which both mean "do you have an English audio-guide?"

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #46
How Do You Eat This?

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#46

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ITALIAN

1. Come si mangia questo?
2. Può aggiungerci qualcosa?
3. È piccante?

ENGLISH

1. How do you eat this?
2. Could you add something to this?
3. Is this hot?

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class
mangiare	to eat	verb
piccante	hot, spicy	adjective
aggiungere	to add	verb
qualcosa	something	indefinite pronoun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Hai mangiato bene? "Did you eat well?"	**È meglio non mangiare troppo.** "It's better not to eat too much."

Mangio molto. "I eat a lot."	**Mi piace mangiare cibo piccante.** "I like to eat spicy food."
Aggiungi dei posti a tavola. "Add some seats at the table."	**Aggiungi un pò di sale.** "Add a bit of salt."
Vorrei mangiare qualcosa di dolce. "I'd like to eat something sweet."	**Hai qualcosa da mangiare?** "Do you have something to eat?"

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

In Italy there are many delicious dishes! We've already covered how to order them, but now how to eat them! That, however, is not always so straightforward. So in today's lesson we'll learn how to ask “how do you eat this?"

In Italian “How do you eat this?” is *come si mangia questo?* The first word *come* means “how”. This is followed by *si*, which is in Italian is a pronoun to make impersonal phrases. Then you have *mangia* which means “eats”. So to recap here, we have *come si mangia*. Literally this means “how is it eaten”. Let's take a look at the next word *questo* which means “this”.

So all together we have *come si mangia questo?*. Literally this means “how is this eaten?”

There are other instances when you may want to add some sauce, etc. to your dish. In this case you can ask “Could you add something to this?” which in Italian is *può aggiungerci qualcosa?* So, the first word is *può* which means “can you”. It’s followed by *aggiungerci* which is the verb *agguingere* “to add” plus *ci* a pronoun which substitutes “this”. So literally this means “add to it”. This is followed by *qualcosa*, which in English is “something”.

So all together we have *può aggiungerci qualcosa?*. Literally this means “can you add to it something?”

Finally, something that may come in handy for everyone out there adverse to hot things. Italian cuisine is not known for being spicy but if you are visiting some southern areas probably you will find some typical spicy dishes. The question "is this hot?" in Italian is *è piccante?* The first word *è* means “is”. This is followed by *piccante*, which in English is “hot-spicy” *pic-can-te piccante*.

So all together we have *è piccante?*. Literally this means “is spicy?”.

T

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

Italian dishes are renowned for being hearty and full of carbohydrates and vitamins, so if you’re not used to the western cuisine and you are afraid to not be able to finish a big portion that is normally served you could ask: *si può avere una porzione piccola?* “can I have a small portion?”.

Tip#2

Let’s learn how to name in Italian the cutlery pieces:

Forchetta – “fork”
Coltello – “knife”
Cucchiaio - “spoon”
Cucchiaino – “coffee spoon”

What if need one more of these pieces?

Può portarmi un altro/un’altra (item)? which means “can you bring another item?

Forchetta is the only female noun, so be creful to use *un altro* “another” masculine or *un’altra* “another” feminine.

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #47
I'm a Vegetarian

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#47

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ITALIAN

1. Sono vegetariano.
2. Non mangio carne.
3. Non mangio formaggio.
4. In questo c'è la carne?

ENGLISH

1. I'm a vegetarian.
2. I don't eat meat.
3. I don't eat cheese.
4. Is there meat in this?

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class
formaggio	cheese	noun
carne	meat, flesh	noun
vegetariano	vegetarian	adjective

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Mi piace mangiare il prosciutto con il formaggio. "I like to eat ham with cheese."	**I vegetariani non mangiano la carne.** "Vegetarians don't eat meat."
Sono vegetariano. "I am a vegetarian."	

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

Today's lesson is not only for all of the vegetarians out there but it's also for anyone with an adversity to a particular food! There are many reasons a person won't eat a particular food, and there may be instances when communicating this is necessary. Today we'll go over some phrases to make sure you don't get any unwanted surprises on the plate.

In Italian “I am vegetarian” is *sono vegetariano.* The first word *sono* means “I am”. This is followed by *vegetariano*, which in English is "vegetarian". So to recap here, we have *sono vegetariano*. Literally this means “am vegetarian”.

Another way you can communicate you don't eat a particular food is by saying just that!

In Italian “I don't eat meat” is *non mangio carne.* The first word *non* means “don’t”. This is followed by *mangio*, which in English is “eat”. So to recap here, we have *non mangio*. Literally this means “(I) don’t eat”. Let's take a look at the next word *carne* which means "meat".

So all together we have *non mangio carne*. Literally this means “(I) don’t eat meat”.

This sentence pattern can be used for other kinds of food by simply changing just one word! So let's take a look at some other possibilities. Let's try “cheese” which in Italian is *formaggio*. Now let's try the phrase with this word.

“I don't eat cheese” in Italian is *non mangio formaggio*.

If you want to make sure that some food doesn't have an ingredient you can't or you don't want to eat, you should simply ask about it. For example if you want to make sure that a meal doesn't have meat you should ask: *in questo c'è la carne?*

The first word *in* means "in" then you have *questo* which means "this" and it's clearly referred to the thing you are pointing in the menu or the meal you are talking about to the waiter. This is followed by *c'è* which you have already seen and means "there is". *C'è c'è*. Finally you have *la* "the" definite article for female nouns and *carne* "meat". So all together we have *in questo c'è la carne?* which literally means "in this is there meat?"

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

Sono diabetico – "I'm a diabetic"
Sono vegetariano – "I'm a vegetarian"
Sono vegano – "I'm a vegan"
Sono celiaco – "I'm a celiac"
Sono astemio – "I don't drink alcohol"
Sono intollerante al lattosio – "I'm lactose intolerant"
Sono allergico alle uova – "I'm allergic to eggs"

Tip#2

Use one of these patterns when you simply want to say that you don't eat or drink something for other reasons apart from illnesses.

Non bevo vino – "I don't drink wine"
Non bevo latte– "I don't drink milk"
Non bevo birra– "I don't drink beer"
Non mangio carne – "I don't eat meat"
Non mangio pesce – "I don't eat fish"

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #48
Help!

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#48

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ITALIAN

1. Aiuto!
2. Aiutatemi!
3. Qualcuno mi aiuti!

ENGLISH

1. Help!
2. Help me!
3. Someone help me!

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class
aiutare	to help, aid, assist	verb
ambulanza	ambulance	noun
chiamare	to call	verb
polizia	police	noun
vigili del fuoco	firemen	noun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Grazie per l'aiuto. "Thanks for the help."	**Puoi aiutarmi, non trovo più il mio gatto.** "Can you help me: I can't find my cat anymore."
Ti posso aiutare? "Can I help you?"	**L'hanno portato all'ospedale in ambulanza.** "They brought him to the hospital by ambulance."
Hai chiamato tuo fratello? "Did you call your brother?"	**Chiamami più tardi.** "Call me later."
Ho chiamato la polizia. "I called the police."	**In caso di incendio chiamare i vigili del fuoco.** "In case of fire call the firemen."

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

In today's lesson we'll introduce you to some phrases that hopefully you won't have to use. When travelling to Italy while the threat of physical violence is not prevalent, one should always be careful. In addition, this phrase is not limited to threatening situations, but can also be used in the unfortunate event that you or someone around you is in the need of immediate assistance. Today we'll learn how to call for help.

In Italian "Help!" is *Aiuto!* Literally this means "help".

There is another way to call for help and it's *Aiutatemi!* Literally this means "Help me!".

If you need to call the police shout: *Polizia!*. Literally this means "police!"

Even if everyone wishes that nothing bad or dangerous happens while on holiday in Italy, it's better if you know some important useful phrases to use in case of emergency.

Very similar to *aiutatemi* is the phrase *Qualcuno mi aiuti!* The first word *qualcuno* means "someone". It's followed by *mi* which in English means "me-to me". Then finally you have *aiuti* "help". So all together we have *Qualcuno mi aiuti!* which literally means "Someone help me!"

The phone number for the police in Italy is 112, you can easily call it from a public phone or a cell phone. So make sure to rent a mobile when you're in Italy, otherwise make sure that in an emergency situation you know how to ask for a public phone.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

In case you need an ambulance: *Chiamate un'ambulanza!* – "Call the ambulance!"

In case of robbery or bag snatch: *Chiamate la polizia!* – Call the police!

In case of blaze: *Chiamate i vigili del fuoco!* – "Call the firemen!"

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #49 Medical Assistance

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ITALIAN

1. Per favore portatemi in ospedale.

2. Per favore portatemi da un dottore.

3. Ho bisogno di una farmacia.

ENGLISH

1. Please take me to a hospital.

2. Please take me to a doctor.

3. I need a pharmacy.

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
farmacia	pharmacy	noun	feminine
ospedale	hospital	noun	masculine
dottore	doctor	noun	masculine
portare	to take	verb	
ricetta medica	medical prescription	phrase	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Durante la notte una farmacia è sempre aperta. "During the night a pharmacy is always open."	**Sto cercando un ospedale.** "I'm looking for a hospital."
Voglio diventare un dottore. "I want to become a doctor."	**Ho portato il libro ad Antonio.** "I took the book to Antonio."

Ho la ricetta medica per queste medicine.

"I have the medical prescription for these medicines."

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

In today's lesson we'll introduce you to some phrases useful in the case you need medical assistance. When travelling sometimes the body takes a little time to adjust, and the immune system is no different. So today we'll go over some phrases that will help get you to a location where you can get medical assistance. We'll start with the phrase "Please take me to the hospital"

In Italian "Please take me to the hospital" is *per favore portatemi in ospedale*. The first word *per favore* and you know it very well, it means "please". This is followed by *portatemi* which in English literally means "bring me".

So to recap here, we have *per favore portatemi*. Literally this means "please bring me".

Let's take a look at the next two words that are *in ospedale* which literally mean "in hospital" *in ospedale*.

So all together we have *per favore portatemi in ospedale*. Literally this means "please, bring me in hospital" and it's translated as "please take me to the hospital".

Now if you need to see a doctor and would like someone to take you, you can use the following phrase. “Please take me to the doctor” which is *per favore portatemi da un dottore*. So as you can see this phrase is very similar to the previous one, you have *per favore portatemi* “please take me” and then *da un dottore* which literally means “to a doctor”, so in this phrase the only thing that changes is *da un dottore* in place of *in ospedale*.

If things aren’t too bad, perhaps you only need to get to a pharmacy. In Italian “I need a pharmacy” is *ho bisogno di una farmacia.* The first word is *ho* and it means “I have”. It’s followed by *bisogno* which is the Italian to translate “need”. After that you have *di* which literally means “of” . So to recap here we have *ho bisogno di* which is translated as “I need” and then finally you have *una farmacia* “a pharmacy”.

All together *ho bisogno di una farmacia*. Literally this means “I have need of a pharmacy”.

Be careful because for some medicines you might need a medical prescription. So make sure to see a doctor who will give you the right prescription in order to buy medicines at the pharmacy.

Then you might be asked: *ha la ricetta?* “Do you have a medical prescription?”

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

Ricetta stands for *ricetta medica* “medical prescription” and normally it’s a red paper where the doctor writes down the names of the medicines you need.

Tip#2

To call the ambulance in Italy you have to dial the number 118 which is on 24 hours a day and seven days a week. This number is nationwide available and it provides the first aid in case of emergencies.

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #50 Explaining Symptoms

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ITALIAN

1. Ho mal di testa
2. Ho mal di stomaco.
3. Una medicina per il raffreddore perfavore.

ENGLISH

1. I have a headache.
2. I have a stomach ache.
3. A medicine for a cold please.

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
mal di testa	headache	noun, phrase	masculine
mal di stomaco	stomach ache	noun	
febbre	fever	noun	feminine
raffreddore	cold	noun	masculine
naso otturato	stuffed nose	noun	
avere la nausea	nauseous	phrase	
mal di gola	sore throat	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Non soffro spesso di mal di testa, per fortuna. "I don't suffer from headhaches very often, luckily."	**Non soffro mai di mal di testa.** "I never suffer from headache."
Ho un mal di testa terribile. "I have a terrible headache."	**Quando bevo qualcosa di freddo mi viene il mal di stomaco.** "When I drink something cold I get stomache."
Ieri ho avuto un brutto mal di stomaco. "Yesterday I had a bad stomach ache."	**Ti misuro la febbre.** "I'll measure your fever."
Ogni inverno prendo il raffreddore. "Every winter I get a cold."	**Ti prenderai un raffreddore!** "You will catch a cold!"
Questa zuppa potrebbe alleviare il tuo naso otturato. "This soup may ease your stuffed nose."	**Ho la nausea.** "I am nauseous."
Ho mal di gola. "I have a sore throat."	

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

Once you are in the pharmacy you will need to explain how you feel in order to let the pharmacist give you the right medicines. In today's lesson we'll work on explaining symptoms so you can get the proper treatment and any medicine you may need.

Let's try to make a list of all the possible things you might need.

In Italian “cold medicine” is *medicina per il raffreddore.* “A cold medicine please” in Italian is *una medicina per il raffreddore per favore*. The first word *una* means “a”, the indefinite article for feminine nouns, then you have *medicina* which means “medicine”, this is followed by *per* the preposition “for”. And finally *il* “the” the definite article for masculine nouns and *raffreddore* “cold”. Lastly *per favore* “please”. All together we have *una medicina per il raffreddore per favore* which literally means “a medicine for the cold please”.

Let’s try and see how to explain your symptoms.

In Italian “I have a headache” is *ho mal di testa*. The first word “ho” means “I have”. This is followed by *mal*, which is the abbreviation of *male* and in English can be translated as “pain”. Then we have *di* “of”. So to recap here, we have *ho mal di*. Literally this means “I have pain of”. Let's take a look at the last word, *testa,* which means “head”.

So all together we have *ho mal di testa*. Literally this means “I have pain of head” and in this case is translated as “I have a headache”.

Normally the structure *ho mal di* is used to name various symptoms, so for example “I have a stomachache” in Italian is *ho mal di stomaco*. So as you can see the only thing that changes is the word *stomaco* “stomach”, in place of *testa* “head”.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

We'll look at some more phrases with the same pattern; namely, “I have” stays the same and only the symptom changes. So let's go over some other symptoms:

“I have a fever” – *ho la febbre*
“I have a cold” – *ho il raffreddore*
“I have a sore throat” – *ho mal di gola*
“I have a stuffed nose” – *ho il naso otturato*
“I am nauseous” – *ho la nausea*

The next phrase may be hard to listen to, but if it happens to you, you'll be extremely glad we went over it! In Italian the expression “I have diarrhea” is *ho la diarrea*.

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #51
Allergies

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#51

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ITALIAN

1. Sono allergico alle arachidi.
2. Sono allergico alle uova.
3. Sono allergico al latte.
4. Ho una reazione allergica.

ENGLISH

1. I am allergic to peanuts.
2. I am allergic to eggs.
3. I am allergic to milk.
4. I am having an allergic reaction.

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
allergico	allergic	adjective	
arachidi	peanuts	noun	
gambero	shrimp	noun	masculine
uovo	egg	noun	masculine
latte	milk	noun	masculine

reazione	reaction	noun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Sono allergico alla polvere. "I am allergic to dust."	**Mi piace il burro di arachidi.** "I like peanut butter."
Il mio piatto preferito sono i gamberi. "My favourite dish are shrimps."	**Ci sono molti modi di cuocere le uova.** "There are a lot of ways to cook eggs."
Mi piace il latte fresco. "I like fresh milk."	**Il suo tempo di reazione è abbastanza lento.** "His reaction time is pretty slow."

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

In today's lesson we'll cover a phrase that will be essential for those of you who have allergies to something. Letting other people know about your allergy is vital to a fun and healthy trip. In today's phrase we'll go over “I'm allergic to something”.

To start, we'll need something that we're allergic to. In some cases, allergies to peanuts can be extremely dangerous so let's start from there.

In Italian “I am allergic to peanuts” is *sono allergico alle arachidi*. The first word *sono* means “I am”. This is followed by *allergico*, which in English is “allergic”. So to recap here, we have *sono allergico*. Literally this means “I am allergic”. Let's take a look at the next word *alle* which means “to the” for plural feminine nouns. This is followed by *arachidi* which means “peanuts”. So all together we have *sono allergico alle arachidi*.

Literally this means “I am allergic to the peanuts”.

Now let's go over some other common allergies. Let's try shrimp. The Italian word for shrimp is *gamberetti*. So “I am allergic to shrimps” is *sono allergico ai gamberetti*. Notice that the only thing that changes here is *ai gamberetti* in place of *alle arachidi,* while the rest is the same.

Let’s try with eggs which in Italian is *uova*.

“I am allergic to eggs” is *sono allergico alle uova.*

Let’s try with milk which in Italian is *latte.*

“I am allergic to milk” is *sono allergico al latte*

In case you have to go to the doctor or to the hospital during your trip to Italy you might be asked about your conditions and if you have any allergies make sure to get the right treatment.

In Italian “Do you have any allergies?” is *ha qualche allergia?.* The first word *ha* means “do you have”. Then you have *qualche* which in English is “any”, this is followed by *allergia* which means “allergy”. So all together we have *ha qualche allergia?*. This literally means "Do you have any allergy?"

In Italian “I am having an allergic reaction” is *ho una reazione allergica*. The first word *ho* means “I have”. This is followed by *una*, which in English is “a” indefinite article for feminine nouns. Then you have *reazione* which means “reaction”. And finally *allergica* which in English is “allergic”.

So all together we have *ho una reazione allergica*. Literally this means “I have an allergic reaction”.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

The word “egg” in Italian is *uovo* and it’s a masculine noun.

The definite article for *uovo* is *lo* which before a noun starting with vowel loses the *o* and takes the apostrophe.

So “the egg” is *l’uovo*.

This word is an exception in the Italian language because its plural becomes feminine *uova*.

So “the eggs” in Italian is *le uova*.

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #52 Introducing Yourself

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#52

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ITALIAN

1. Come sta?
2. Mi chiamo.
3. Piacere di conoscerla.
4. Come stai?
5. Piacere di conoscerti.

ENGLISH

1. How do you do?
2. My name is ...
3. Pleased to meet you.
4. How do you do?
5. Pleased to meet you.

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class
piacere	pleasure	noun
conoscere	to know	verb
come	how	interrogative word

SAMPLE SENTENCES

E' stato un piacere "It was a pleasure."	**Ho avuto il piacere di incontrare tuo fratello.** "I had the pleasure of meeting your brother."
Conosci qualche cantante italiano? "Do you know any Italian singers?"	**Ieri sera ho conosciuto un attore molto importante.** "Yesterday evening, I met a very important actor."
Conosci il mio amico Mario? "Do you know my friend Mario?"	**Come è il tempo a Roma?** "How's the weather like in Rome?"
Come ti chiami? What is your name?	**Come stai?** How are you?
Come stanno? How are they?	**Come state?** How are you? (second person plural)

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

Whatever the reason for travelling to Italy, you won't leave the country without having met people, so it's a must to learn how to introduce yourself and how to respond to people introducing themselves.

The best way to introduce ourselves is maybe by reviewing the parts of a conversation. As you know we have a polite version, the one where we use the formal level of speech, and the other one where we use the informal level.

Let's cover the formal version first.

In Italian "How do you do?" is *come sta?*. The first word *come* means "how", *co-me come*, this is followed by *sta* which in English literally means "you stay", *sta, sta*. So all together we have *come sta?* which literally means "How do you stay?" and it's translated as "How do you do?"

After *come sta* we will cover "My name is…" and we will use my name this time, so "my name is Cinzia" is *mi chiamo Cinzia*. The first word *mi* means "me" and it's followed by *chiamo* which in English is "call". So to recap here we have *mi chiamo* which literally means "I call myself" then you have the name, in this case Cinzia. All together we have *mi chiamo Cinzia* which literally means "I call myself Cinzia".

After that we will cover "Nice to meet you" which in Italian is *piacere di conoscerla*. The first word *piacere* literally means "pleasure". Then you have *di* "of", and finally you have *conoscerla* which in English is "know you". All together we have *piacere di conoscerla* which literally means "pleasure of knowing you".

Let's look over the informal level now. It's very straightforward because you need to change just few things.

Come sta? "How do you do?" becomes *come stai?* since you are using now the second person singular in place of the third person singular of the formal level.

The second part doesn't change at all, in fact we have also in the informal level *mi chiamo Cinzia*. "My name is Cinzia".

Instead, in place of *piacere di conoscerla* "nice to meet you", in the informal level we have *piacere di conoscerti* so the only thing that changes is once again the verb, the first part *piacere di* is the same, then you have *conoscerti* in place of *conoscerla* so all together we have *piacere di conoscerti*.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

A variation of these first encounters phrase is when someone is introducing you another person.

Posso presentarle "qualcuno"?- "May I introduce you to "someone"?" (formal level)

Ti presento "qualcuno" – "I introduce you someone" (informal level)

Tip#2

Mi chiamo… is the answer to the question *Come si chiama?* "What's your name?" (if you are speaking at the formal level, or *Come ti chiami?* "What's your name?" (if it's informal).

Normally you have this pattern:

A- *Piacere io mi chiamo NAME, e tu/lei?*
B- *Io mi chiamo NAME, piacere di conoscerti/conoscerla*

A- Nice to meet you, my name is NAME and what's your name?
B- My name is NAME, nice to meet you.

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #53
Renting a Car

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#53

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ITALIAN

1. Vorrei noleggiare una macchina.
2. Vorrei noleggiare un motorino.
3. Vorrei noleggiare una motocicletta.
4. Quando devo restituirla?
5. Posso restituirla a Roma?

ENGLISH

1. I would like to rent a car.
2. I would like to rent a scooter.
3. I would like to rent a motorbike.
4. When must I return it?
5. Can I return it at Rome?

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
macchina	car	noun	feminine
noleggiare	to rent	verb	

motocicletta	motorcycle	noun	feminine
motorino	scooter	noun	masculine
restituire	to give back, to return	verb	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Le famiglie in Italia di solito hanno 2 macchine. "Families in Italy usually own two cars."	**La mia macchina non è nuova.** "My car is not new."
Sono venuto in macchina. "I came by car."	**Ieri ho provato una macchina nuova.** "Yesterday I tried a new car."
Ho deciso di noleggiare un camper per il viaggio. "I decided to rent a camper for the trip."	**Noleggiamo una barca!** "Let's rent a boat!"
Vorrei noleggiare una motocicletta. "I'd like to rent a motorcycle."	**Devi avere almeno 14 anni per guidare il motorino.** "You have to be at least 14 years old to ride a scooter."
Ho preso di nascosto il motorino di mia sorella. "I secretly took my sister's scooter."	**Voglio comprare un motorino.** "I want to buy a scooter."
Restituiscimi la mia matita! "Give me back my pencil!"	

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

In today's lesson we'll introduce you to a phrase that will help you getting to the places you need to be! In some places trains and subways are the way to travel, but it's also very useful to know how to rent a car, scooter, or bicycle.

In Italian "I would like to rent a car" is *vorrei noleggiare una macchina*. The first word *vorrei* is one of the words we already covered in some previous lessons and it means "I would like". This is followed by *noleggiare*, which in English is "to rent". So to recap here we have *vorrei noleggiare*. Literally this means "I would like to rent". Let's take a look at the next word *una* which means "a". This is followed by *macchina* which is the Italian for "car".

All together we have *vorrei noleggiare una macchina*. Literally this means "I would like to rent a car".

Now we'll look at the words for other vehicles to open up your transportation options. In Italian the word for scooter/moped is *motorino*. And the phrase "I would like to rent a scooter/moped" is *vorrei noleggiare un motorino*.

"Motorbike" in Italian is *motocicletta*. And the phrase "I would like to rent a motorbike" is *vorrei noleggiare una motocicletta*.

If you're renting something, it's also important to know when you must return it! Therefore we're giving you a phrase you can use to make sure you return it on time.

In Italian "When must I return it?" is *quando devo restituirla?*. The first word *quando* means "when". This is followed by *devo*, which in English is "must I". And then we have *restituirla* which means "return it".

So all together we have *quando devo restituirla?*. Literally this means "when must I return it?".

And finally, you may want to return it at a different location. In Italian "Can I return it at (location)?" is *posso restituirla a (location)?*. Let's imagine you want to return it Rome, so we should have *posso restituirla a Roma?*. The first word *posso* means "can I" *posso*. This is followed by *restituirla*, which we have just seen and it means "return it". So to recap here, we have *posso restituirla*. Literally this means "can I return it?". Let's take a look at the next word *a* which literally means "at", and then we finally have the location *Roma* "Rome".

So all together we have *posso restituirla a Roma?*. Literally this means “can I return it in Rome?”

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

A car rental in Italian is *Autonoleggio*.

This word is made up by two nouns joined together: *auto* which means “car” and *noleggio* which means “hiring”.

Tip#2

The verb “to rent” can be translated as *noleggiare*, *affittare*, and also *prendere in affitto*.

In the case you are renting a car, the verb *noleggiare* works just fine, but you won’t be wrong if you use the other two verbs.

But be careful because if you want to rent a house because you have to use one of the other two verbs *affittare* or *prendere in affitto*.

So “I would like to rent an apartment for this summer” in Italian would be *vorrei prendere in affitto un appartamento per questa estate*.

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #54
The Weather

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4 Cultural Insight

#54

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ITALIAN

1. Che tempo farà domani?
2. Pioverà.
3. Nevicherà.
4. Ci sarà il sole.
5. Tirerà vento.

ENGLISH

1. What will the weather be tomorrow?
2. It will rain.
3. It will snow.
4. It will be sunny.
5. It will be windy.

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
tempo	time, weather, tense	noun	
piovere	to rain	verb	

nevicare	to snow	verb	
sole	sun	proper noun	masculine
vento	wind	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Oggi è bel tempo. "Today, the weather is good."	**Scusami, non ho tempo per aiutarti.** "Sorry, I have no time to help you."
In Italia piove spesso in primavera e autunno. "In Italy it often rains in spring and in autumn."	**Le previsioni dicono che domani pioverà.** "The forecast says tomorrow it'll rain."
Domani dovrebbe nevicare. "It should snow tomorrow."	**Il sole sta tramontando.** "The sun is setting."
Chi semina vento raccoglie tempesta. "Making your bed and having to sleep in it."	

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

Whether or not the weather will cooperate, is an important issue on which many plans are made and cancelled. It can happen sometimes that you are planning a long trip and you want to be sure that your walks and your tours around Italian cities will be safe and dry!

In this lesson, we'll cover a phrase that will help you finalize your plans, if they depend on the weather.

In Italian “what will the weather be tomorrow?” is *che tempo farà domani.* The first word *che* means “what”. This is followed by *tempo*, which in English is “weather”. Then you have *farà* which is the future of the verb *fare*, “to do” and it literally means “will it do”. So to recap here, we have *che tempo farà*. Literally this means “what weather will it do?”. Finally you have *domani* which means “tomorrow”.

So all together we have *che tempo farà domani?*. Literally this means “what weather will it do tomorrow?” and it has to be translated as “what will the weather be tomorrow?”.

Let's go the possible answers. In Italian “it will rain” is *pioverà*.

“It will snow” is *nevicherà.*

“It will be sunny” is *ci sarà il sole*. The first word *ci* means “there” and it’s a pronominal particle. This is followed by *sarà* which means “will be”, then you have *il* which means "the", *il*. Finally we have *sole* which is the Italian for “sun”. So all together we have *ci sarà il sole* which literally means “there will be the sun” and it has to be translated as “it will be sunny”.

“It will be windy” is *tirerà vento*. The first word *tirerà* means “it will blow”.

This is followed by *vento* which in English is “wind”. All together we have *tirerà vento.* Literally this means “it will blow wind” and it has to be translated as “it will be windy”.

In case you're somewhere where the weather can change very quickly, you can ask, “what will the weather be today?” *che tempo farà oggi?*. As you can see we have the same pattern of the phrase we have previously seen, *che tempo farà* which literally means “what weather will it do?” and then *oggi* “today” in place of *domani* “tomorrow”. All together we have *che tempo farà oggi?* which literally means “what weather will it do today?” to translate as “what will the weather be today?”.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

When talking about the weather we have the verb always at its impersonal form. There are some verbs in particular, the so-called *impersonali intransitivi* “intransitive impersonal” that are:

Piovere – to rain
Nevicare – to snow

Grandinare – to hail

So in the grammatical analysis the verb *piovere* “to rain” actually has no subject.

And so we have:

piove – it’s raining
nevica – it’s snowing
grandina – it’s hailing

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #55
What Time Is It?

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#55

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ITALIAN

1. Che ore sono?
2. Sono le tre e venti.
3. Sono le cinque e cinquantacinque.
4. Sono le otto e trentaquattro.
5. È mezzogiorno.
6. È l’una.
7. Sono le due e un quarto.

ENGLISH

1. What time is it?
2. It's three-twenty.
3. It's five fifty-five.
4. It's eight thirty-four.
5. It's midday.
6. It's one o'clock.
7. It's a quarter past two.

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
una	one o'clock	noun	
mezzanotte	midnight	noun	feminine
trentaquattro	thirty-four	cardinal number	
cinquantacinque	fifty-five	numeral	masculine
venti	twenty	numeral	masculine
ora	time, hour	noun	feminine
dodici	twelve o'clock	noun	
undici	eleven o'clock	noun	
dieci	ten o'clock	noun	
nove	nine o'clock	noun	
otto	eight o'clock	noun	
sette	seven o'clock	noun	
sei	six o'clock	noun	
cinque	five o'clock	noun	
quattro	four o'clock	noun	
tre	three o'clock	noun	
due	two o'clock	noun	
mezzogiorno	noon, midday	noun	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Ti aspetterò fino a mezzanotte. "I'll wait for you until midnight."	**Quell'episodio di Lost dura solo trentaquattro minuti.** "That episode of Lost lasts only thirty-four minutes."
La mia TV ha cinquantacinque canali. "My TV has fifty-five channels."	**Ho venti nuovi numeri di telefono nella mia rubrica.** "I've got twenty new phone numbers in my phone book."
Ho mangiato venti caramelle. "I ate twenty candies."	**A che ora è il tuo spettacolo?** "What time is your play?"
E' ora di andare a letto. "It's time to go to bed."	**A che ora arrivi?** "What time will you arrive?"
Usciamo domenica sera verso le otto. "We will go out Sunday night around eight."	**Ci vediamo a mezzogiorno.** "I'll see you at noon."
È mezzogiorno! "It's noon!"	

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

No matter where you are, you will always have some place to be! Today we'll look at a question that will give you the tools to find out how much time you have left to get there. We'll also give you the tools to understand!

In Italian "What time is it?" is *che ore sono?* The first word *che* means “what”. This is followed by *ore*, which in English is “hours”. Then you have *sono* which literally means “are they”.

So all together we have *che ore sono?*. Literally this means “what hours are they?.

Let's go over hours here. Hours in Italian is *ore, ore* but you will never listen to this word while asking for the time. When talking about hours o'clock you just have to say the number and that’s it.

1 o'clock *una*
2 o'clock *due*
3 o'clock *tre*
4 o'clock *quattro*
5 o'clock *cinque*
6 o'clock *sei*
7 o'clock *sette*
8 o'clock *otto*
9 o'clock *nove*
10 o'clock *dieci*
11 o'clock *undici*
12 o'clock *dodici*

Let’s cover how to answer now!

In Italian at the question *che ore sono?* You answer *sono le...* and then the time. Let’s try with six o’clock. “It’s six o’clock” in Italian is *sono le sei.* The first word *sono* means “they are” *sono*, then you have *le* “the”, definite article for feminine plural nouns. So to recap we have *sono le* which literally means “they are”, finally you have the time, that is the number *sei,* “six o’clock”. All together we have *sono le sei*.

Let's go over minutes here. “Minutes” in Italian is *minuti*. In Italian you first say the number for “hours” followed by the conjunction *e* and then the number for “minutes”.

For example “It’s 3:20” in Italian is *sono le tre e venti*.

“It’s 5:55” *sono le cinque e cinquantacinque*.

“It’s 8:34” *sono le otto e trentaquattro*

Be careful because in Italian we have some interesting exceptions even for the time.

“It’s midday” in Italian is *è mezzogiorno*

“It’s midnight” is *è mezzanotte*

“It’s 1 o’clock” is *è l’una è l’una*

So, as you can see, for these three hours we don’t use *sono* “they are”, but we use *è* “it is”.

Lastly “quarter” in Italian is *quarto* so “It’s 2,15” in Italian can also be *sono le due e un quarto sono le due e un quarto*.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

Let’s imagine we split the watch into two halves. If you are in the right half when saying the time, you will always have the number of hours followed by the conjunction *e* and then the number of minutes, while in the other half you will have the number of hours followed by *meno* which literally means “less” followed by the number of minutes which are needed to reach the hour.

So for example 8:55 would be *otto meno cinque*, 6:40 *sette meno venti* and so on.

The only exception in this case is regarding 35 minutes past the hour. in fact you don’t use *meno* but *e*. So 5:35 would be *cinque e trentacinque.*

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #56
What Time Does It Open?

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#56

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ITALIAN

1. A che ora apre?
2. A che ora chiude?
3. A che ora è servita la colazione?
4. A che ora inizia lo spettacolo?
5. A che ora arriviamo?
6. a che ora parte il treno?

ENGLISH

1. What time does it open?
2. What time does it close?
3. What time is breakfast served?
4. What time does the show start?
5. What time do we arrive?
6. What time does the train leave?

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class

aprire	to open	noun
chiudere	to close, to lock	verb
colazione	breakfast	noun
spettacolo	show, performance, sight	noun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

E' Natale, apriamo i regali!" "It's Christmas: let's open the presents!"	**Fa troppo caldo, apri la finestra?** "It's too hot; can you open the window?"
Devo aprire il negozio alle otto del mattino. "I have to open the store at 8:00 o'clock a.m."	**Ha chiuso la porta.** "He closed the door."
Per colazione ho mangiato le uova. "I ate eggs for breakfast."	**Lo spettacolo di ieri sera è stato molto bello.** "Yesterday's show was very nice."
Goditi lo spettacolo! "Enjoy the show!"	

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

In today’s lesson we’ll introduce you to a phrase that you'll need on several occasions! While in Italy there will be lots of food to try, many things to buy and places to see. We all know you

want to see the sights, and this phrase is essential to plan your days.

In Italian “What time does it open?” is *a che ora apre?*. The first word *a* means “at”. This is followed by *che*, which in Italian is “what”. Then we have *ora* which in English is “hour”. So to recap, we have *a che ora*. Literally this means “at what hour”. And it should be translated as “what time”. Let's take a look at the next word *apre* which means “open”.

So all together we have *a che ora apre?*. Literally this means “at what hour does it open?” and it should be translated as “what time does it open?”.

It's also really important to know when places close! The worst thing to encounter is a closed sign hanging in front of a place you wanted to see!

In Italian “What time does it close?” is *a che ora chiude?*. So as you can see you have the same structure of the previous phrase *a che ora* to translate “what time” and then you have *chiude* “close” in place of *apre* “open”. So all together we have *a che ora chiude?* which literally means “at what hour does it close?” and is translated as “what time does it close?”.

The same pattern *a che ora* can be used in many other situations.

In a hotel when you want to ask: “what time is the breakfast served?” which in Italian is *a che ora è servita la colazione?*

“What time does the show start?” *a che ora inizia lo spettacolo?*

“What time does the train leave?” *a che ora parte il treno?*

“What time do we arrive?” *a che ora arriviamo?*

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

The easiest way to tell if a shop is open or closed is by looking at the sign hanging on the door.

APERTO “OPEN” and *CHIUSO* “CLOSED”.

On these signs you might also be able to read *orario di apertura* “opening hours” and the different times during the week.

Other words you might come across are *mattina* “morning” and *pomeriggio* “afternoon”.

In some case there can be different opening schedules depending on the season; so you can find *orario estivo* “summer opening hours” or *orario invernale* “winter opening hours”.

Tip#2

If you see people inside a shop and you want to make sure that it’s open before walking in, simply ask: *è aperto?* which means “Is it open?” and you might be answered *si è aperto* “yes it’s open” or *no è chiuso* “no, it’s closed”.

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #57
I Like It!

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#57

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ITALIAN

1. Mi piace.
2. Mi piace molto.
3. Mi pialce moltissimo.
4. Non mi piace.

ENGLISH

1. I like it.
2. I like it a lot.
3. I like it very much.
4. I dont like it.

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class
piacere	to like	verb
molto	very, really	adjective

SAMPLE SENTENCES

A Paola non piace il pollo. "Paola doesn't like chicken."	**Il tuo vestito è molto chic.** "Your dress is very chic."

È molto caro.

"It's very expensive."

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

In today's lesson we'll introduce you to a phrase you'll use countless times on your journey! For everyone out there who likes Italian food, this is the word you want to know so that you keep getting more of it!

In Italian "I like it" is *mi piace.* The first word *mi* means "to me". This is followed by *piace* which in English is "it likes". So to recap here, we have *mi piace*. Literally this means "it likes to me" but it is translated as "I like it".

If you want to say that you really like something, then you can use this phrase.

In Italian "I really like it" is *mi piace molto*. This phrase is essentially the same. There is just one additional word added. That word is *molto*. This word is an adverb and literally means "a lot". So the literal meaning of the entire phrase would be "it likes to me a lot" and it's translated as "I really like it".

In Italian to express we really really like something, we also use the superlative of *molto* which is *moltissimo*. So we say *mi piace moltissimo* which in English could be translated as "I like it very much".

In the event that you don't like something "I don't like it" is *non mi piace*. The first word *non* means "not". This is followed by the phrase we just covered for "I like it" *mi piace* so to build the negative form, you just need to add at the beginning of the phrase *non*, and you will have *non mi piace*.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

In Italian the structure “I like it” is not very straight forward as in English where you have:

SUBJECT (who) + LIKE/DON’T LIKE + OBJECT (what).

Example: I like pizza

In Italian it changes and it becomes much more complicated because we have:

COMPLEMENT (who) + PIACERE/NON PIACERE + SUBJECT (who)

Example: Mi piace la pizza.

It becomes complicated if you turn the complement *MI* in *A ME*.

So “I like pizza” can also be translated with *a me piace la pizza*.

Tip#2

In Italian to express the sentence “I really like it” there are some patterns often used by young people in the spoken language:

Mi piace un sacco literally meaning “I like it a sack”
Mi piace un casino literally meaning “I like it a mess”
Mi piace una cifra literally meaning “I like it a cipher”

Then even if you don’t use the pattern *mi piace* in Italian we have many other ways

Mi fa impazzire “I’m mad about it”
Lo adoro “I adore it”
Lo amo “I love it”

Instead *non mi piace proprio* and *non mi piace per niente* are used to traslate “I don’t like it at all”.

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #58 Adjectives

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#58

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ITALIAN

1. È delizioso.
2. È piccante.
3. È freddo.
4. Fa caldo.
5. Fa freddo.
6. È lontano.
7. È vicino.
8. Non è piccante.
9. È caldo.

ENGLISH

1. It's delicious.
2. It's hot.
3. It's cold.
4. It's hot.
5. It's cold.

CONT'D OVER

6. It's far.

7. It's near.

8. It's not hot.

9. It's hot.

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
delizioso	delightful, delicious	adjective	
piccante	hot, spicy	adjective	
caldo	hot	adjective	masculine
freddo	cold	noun	masculine
lontano	far, distant	adjective	
vicino	near, close	adjective	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

I primi piatti in questo ristorante sono deliziosi. "In this restaurant, first courses are delicious."	**Questa torta è deliziosa.** "This cake is delicious."
Mi piace mangiare cibo piccante. "I like to eat spicy food."	**La sabbia è molto calda.** "The sand is very hot."

Questa bibita è molto fredda. "This drink is very cold."	**Il vento è freddo.** "The wind is cold."
Ho freddo. "I am cold."	**Voglio andare lontano da qui.** "I want to go far from here."
Sono lontano da casa. "I'm far from home."	**Abitiamo vicino alle poste.** "We live near the post office."
Vivo qui vicino. "I live near here."	

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

In today's lesson we'll cover some high-frequency adjectives to help you express yourself in various situations.

In Italian "It's delicious" is *è delizioso.* The first word *è* means "is".

This is followed by *delizioso*, which in English is "delicious". So to recap, in Italian when describing something you use the verb "to be" third person singular *è*, and then the adjective.

Now let's go over some other adjectives that you can use with the pattern just introduced. Let's try hot, hot as spicy. In Italian "It's hot" is *è piccante*. The word for hot is *piccante*.

Instead if you are referring to the temperature "it's hot" in Italian is *è caldo*. The word for "hot" in this case is *caldo*.

The opposite is *è freddo*. So the word for "cold" in Italian is *freddo*.

Be careful because in Italian we don't use the same pattern for temperature and weather.

If you are referring to the weather in Italian “it’s hot” is *fa caldo.* Literally this means “it does hot”.

So “it’s cold” in Italian would be *fa freddo*. Literally this means “it does cold”

In Italian “it’s far” is *è lontano*. The word for “far” is *lontano*.

The opposite “it’s near” is *è vicino*. The word for “near” is *vicino.*

If you are talking about a person there are some main adjectives we need to cover like:
“tall” *alto*
“short” *bass*
“fat” *grasso*
“thin” *magro*

If you are talking about a girl “she’s beautiful” in Italian is *è bella*, while if you are talking about a man you would say *è bello.*

Now let's take a look at the negative. In Italian “It's not hot” is *non è piccante*. The negation is formed by *non* plus the pattern we have just seen *è piccante*. So all together we have *non è piccante*.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

The adjective “nice” in Italian can be translated as:

buono if you are talking about food (this pasta is really nice – questa pasta è davvero buona)
buono/bello if you are talking about weather (what a nice weather today – che bel tempo oggi)
gentile/buono/simpatico if you are talking about a person (Luca is a really nice guy – Luca è davvero un ragazzo gentile).

Tip#1:

The adjectives buono and cattivo in Italian can be used with two different meanings:

- talking about food they could be translated as “tasty” buono and “poor” cattivo

- talking about people they could be translated as “good” buono and “bad” cattivo.

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #59 Nationality

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#59

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ITALIAN

1. Mi chiamo Michael.
2. Sono americano
3. Sono americana.
4. È americano.
5. È americana.
6. Sono spagnolo.
7. Sono spagnola.
8. Di dove sei?

ENGLISH

1. My name is Michael.
2. I'm American. (male)
3. I'm American. (female)
4. He's American.
5. She's American.
6. I'm Spanish. (male)

CONT'D OVER

7. I'm Spanish. (female)

8. Where do you come from?

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class
essere	to be	verb
americano	American	adjective

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Io sono Desirèe. "I am Desirèe."	**Era una bella giornata.** "It was a beautiful day."
Questa estate è troppo calda. "This summer is too hot."	**Siamo italiani.** "We are Italians."
Dove sono Luigi e Laura? "Where are Luigi and Laura?"	**La mia amica è Americana.** "My friend is American."
Mike è americano. "Mike is American."	

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

In today's lesson we'll cover a phrase you will be able to use in all those moments you are

introducing yourself or even your friends and you are talking about your own country and the place you come from.

First of all let's review how to introduce ourselves.

In Italian "My name is Michael" is *mi chiamo Michael*. So here we have *mi chiamo* "my name is" literally meaning "I call myself" and then the name *Michael*.

Now let's go and cover how to say where you're from!

In Italian "I'm American" is *sono americano*. The first word *sono* means "I am". This is followed by *americano*, which in English is "American". To recap here, we have just two words: a verb *sono* and an adjective *americano*.

All together we have *sono americano* "I am American".

In Italian "I'm Spanish" is *sono spagnolo*. Now let's hear it once again *sono spagnolo*. So as you can see the verb doesn't change, you have always *sono* "I am" and then the only thing that changes is the nationality. So you have *spagnolo* in place of *americano*.

This phrase is the way you answer to the question: *di dove sei?* which in English is "where do you come from?". The first word *di* means "of", *di*, then you have *dove* which in English is "where", so to recap here we have *di dove* which literally means "of where". Now let's take a look at the next word *sei* which means "are". All together we have *di dove sei?* which literally means "of where are you?" but it has to be translated as "where do you come from?".

Be careful because in many cases the adjective for nationality can change according to the gender.

So if the person who speaks is a girl, "I'm American" will be *sono americana*, and *sono spagnola*.

If you are introducing a friend the verb changes. So "He's American" in Italian is *è americano*. So the adjective doesn't change but the verb does. You have *è* which means "is" in place of *sono* "I am". All together we have *è americano*.

While "she's American" would be *è americana.*

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

Let's see some nationalities.

Be careful because some adjectives are the same for both genders.

American *americano/a*
Argentinean *argentino/a*
Australian *australiano/a*
Belgian *belga*
Canadian *canadese*
African *africano/a*
Cuban *cubano/a*
Danish *danese*
Egyptian *egiziano/a*
Finnish *finlandese*
French *francese*
German *tedesco/a*
Greek *greco/a*
Indian *indiano/a*
Indonesian *indonesiano/a*
Irish *irlandese*
Israeli *israeliano/a*
Italian *italiano/a*
Jamaican *giamaicano/a*
Japanese *giappones*
Mexican *messicano/a*
Norwegian *norvegese*
Peruvian *peruviano/a*
Polish *polacco/a*
Portuguese *portoghese*
Russian *russo/a*
Scottish *scozzese*
Spanish *spagnolo/a*
Turkish *turco/a*
Vietnamese *vietnamita*
Welsh

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #60 Congratulations!

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ITALIAN

1. Congratulazioni
2. Auguri
3. Buon compleanno
4. Buon Anno
5. Buon Natale
6. Buona Pasqua

ENGLISH

1. Congratulations
2. Congratulations
3. Happy birthday
4. Happy new year
5. Merry Christmas
6. Happy Easter

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender

complimenti	congratulations	noun	
compleanno	birthday	noun	masculine
buono	good	adjective	masculine
Natale	Christmas	noun	masculine
Pasqua	Easter	noun	feminine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Ho passato l'esame! Complimenti! "I passed the exam. Congratulations!"	**Quando è il tuo compleanno?** "When is your birthday?"
Ieri era il mio compleanno. "Yesterday was my birthday."	**Il cibo italiano è buono.** "Italian food is good."
Non è buono. "It isn't good."	**A Natale le famiglie si riuniscono a pranzo.** "On Christmas families get together for lunch."
Buon Natale! "Merry Christmas!"	**Buona Pasqua!** "Happy Easter!"

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

Today we are going to introduce you to some phrases ideal for special occasions that you can use with Italian speakers anywhere in the world! So whether you are sending an e-mail across the globe, or saying it in person, the following phrases for celebratory events will allow

you to express your sentiments in Italian. In Italy the custom of exchanging regards and good wishes is very important, usually Italians shake each others' hands and kiss each others' cheeks.

In Italian “Congratulations” is *Congratulazioni.* This word literally means “congratulations” and it’s used in many special occasions like a career move, after passing an exam, to a wedding and so on.

But the most famous word and even the one more often used is *Auguri*. This word literally means “wishes” and can be used in every kind of occasion and event. You can say *Auguri* for a birthday, at Christmas, Easter, for a birth etc.

“Happy birthday” in Italian is *Buon compleanno.* The first word *buon* means “good”. This is followed by *compleanno*, which in English is “birthday”. All together we have *buon compleanno*. Literally this means “good birthday”.

But now let’s go and see what to say specifically in some other different events which is very straightforward.

“Happy New Year” in Italian is *Buon Anno*. The first word is *buon* and it means “good”, while the second is *anno* and it means “year” *anno*, so all together *Buon Anno* literally this means “good year”.

“Merry Christmas” is *Buon Natale.* So as you can see the first word is always *buon* “good” then here you have *Natale* which means “Christmas”.

“Happy Easter” is *Buona Pasqua*. So this time we have *buona* “good”, but it’s matched with a feminine noun so it’s a feminine adjective followed by *Pasqua* which means “Easter”. So all together we have *Buona Pasqua*.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

One common Italian way to give our best wishes is: *per cento anni* literally meaning “for a hundred years”, because it’s like you were wishing to extend the joy and the happiness of that particular moment for another hundred years.

Tip#2

And for my final tip I want to seize the opportunity to give you my congratulations for all the work we have done together and for the big effort you have done to start and continue learning this language, I wish you all the best.

Le mie migliori congratulazioni e vi auguro tutto il meglio.

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