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TRAVEL TO ITALY

Conversation Cheat Sheet

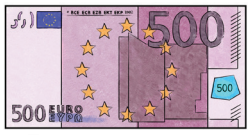
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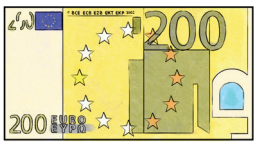
MONEY & SHOPPING

Is there an ATM nearby?
C'è un bancomat qui vicino?

How much is ~?
Quanto costa ~?



five hundred euros
cinquecento euro



two hundred euros
duecento euro



hundred euros
cento euro



fifty euros
cinquanta euro



twenty euros
venti euro



ten euros
dieci euro



five euros
cinque euro



two euros
due euro

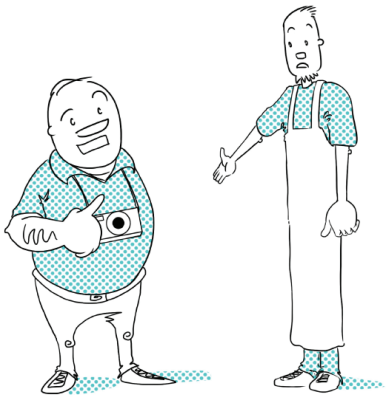


one euro
un euro

AROUND TOWN

Where is ~?
Dov'è ~ ?

I'd like to go to ~.
Vorrei andare a ~.





Cinque Terre
Cinque Terre



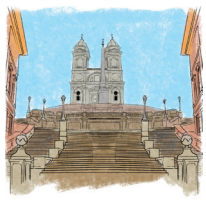
Coliseum
Colosseo



Galleria Borghese
Galleria Borghese



Sicily Island
Sicilia



Spanish Steps
Scalinata della Trinità dei Monti



Trevi Fountain
Fontana di Trevi

SURVIVAL PHRASES

Please take me to ~.
Per favore mi porti a ~.

Where is the station?
Dov'è la stazione?

Where is the restroom?
Dov'è il bagno?

COMMUNICATION

Hello.
Ciao.

Excuse me.
Scusi.

I'm sorry.
Mi dispiace.

Nice to meet you.
Piacere.

Please.
Per favore.

Yes.
Sì.

I am ~.
Sono ~.

Thank you.
Grazie.

No.
No.



ASKING QUESTIONS

Do you understand?
Capisce?

I understand.
Capisco.

I don't understand.
Non capisco.

Do you speak English?
Parla inglese?

Yes, I do.
Sì.

No, I don't.
No.

Can you eat this?
Può mangiare questo?

Of course.
Certo.

No, I can't eat it.
No, non posso mangiarlo.



ORDERING FOOD



lasagne
lasagne



tiramisu
tiramisù



parmigiana
parmigiana



bagna cauda
bagna cauda



beef
pork



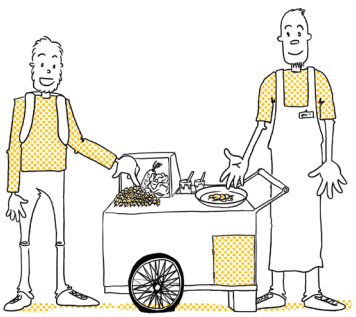
beef
manzo



polenta
polenta

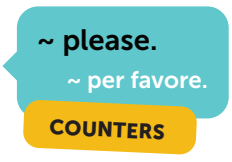


pizza
pizza



COUNTERS

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
un, uno, una	due	tre	quattro	cinque	sei	sette	otto	nove	dieci



FAMILY & RELATIVES
Conversation Cheat Sheet



FAMILY RELATIONS

What kind of person is your ~?
Che tipo di persona è tuo ~?


grandmother
nonna


grandfather
nonno


uncle
zio


cousin
cugino


aunt
zia


me
io


father
padre


mother
madre


younger sister
sorella minore


older sister
sorella maggiore


older brother
fratello maggiore


younger brother
fratello minore

How's your mother?
Come sta tua madre?

My mother is well.
Mia madre sta bene.

FAMILY RELATIONS


husband
marito


wife
moglie


son
figlio


daughter
figlia

Forward my greetings to your ~.
Salutami tuo ~.

PETS

I have a ~.
Io ho un ~.

dog
cane

cat
gatto

bird
uccello

fish
pesce

bunny
coniglio

snake
serpente

FIRST MEETING

Nice to meet you.
Piacere di conoscerti.

Where are you from?
Di dove sei?

Can I sit here?
Posso sedermi qui?

What's your name?
Come ti chiami?

I'm from Rome.
Sono di Roma.

What is this?
Cos'è questo?

How are you?
Come stai?

This is for you.
Questo è per te.

How long will you stay?
Quanto tempo resterai?

I've heard a lot about you.
Ho sentito molto parlare di te.

How many people are there in your family?
Quante persone ci sono nella tua famiglia?

It was nice to meet you.
È stato un piacere conoscerti.

HOLIDAYS AND OBSERVANCES

What do you do on ~?
Cosa fai per ~?

When is ~?
Quando è ~ ?

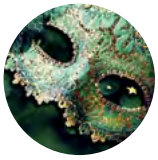
Please tell me more about ~.
Per favore, dimmi di più su ~ .



Mardi Gras
Martedì Grasso



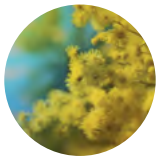
Liberation Day
Festa della Liberazione



Carnival
Carnevale



Republic Day
Festa della Repubblica



Woman's Day
Festa della Donna



Ferragosto
Ferragosto



Easter
Pasqua



New Year's Day
Vacanze di Capodanno

CELEBRATIONS

Happy birthday!
Buon compleanno.

April Fools!
Pesce d'Aprile!

Merry Christmas!
Buon Natale!

Congratulations!
Congratulazioni.

Happy Halloween!
Felice Halloween!

Happy New Year!
Buon anno nuovo!

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DINING LIKE A CHAMP

Conversation Cheat Sheet

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Phrases You Need to Know at the Dining Table ›››

I have a reservation at nine.
Ho una prenotazione per le nove.

Do you have a table for two?
Avete un tavolo per due?

May I have a menu?
Potrei avere il menù?

May I order?
È possibile ordinare?

What do you recommend?
Che cosa mi consiglia?

I'll have this, please.
Prendo questo, per favore.

Excuse me.
Mi scusi.

My order hasn't come yet.
Il piatto che ho ordinato non è ancora arrivato.

Check, please.
Il conto, per favore.

Top Words You'll Need at the Restaurant ›››

POINT & SPEAK
PUNTA & PARLA

~ please.
~ per favore.



appetizer
antipasto



main dish
primo



dessert
dolce



chicken
pollo



beef
manzo



pork
maiale



salad
insalata



seafood
frutti di mare

What are today's specials?
Quali sono i piatti del giorno?

Can I have a drink menu?
Posso avere il menù delle bevande?

Can I have some more ~?.
Posso avere ancora del ~.

Counters

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
uno	due	tre	quattro	cinque	sei	sette	otto	nove	dieci

How to Choose The Best Foods to Fit Your Preferences

With ~, please.
Con ~, per favore.

Without ~, please.
Senza ~, per favore.

meat	fish	vegetables	butter	sugar	olive oil
carne	pesce	verdure	burro	zucchero	olio d'oliva

bell pepper	onions	wine	cheese	tomato	alcohol
peperone	cipolle	vino	formaggio	pomodoro	alcol

Does this dish contain any~?
In questo piatto c'è del ~?

I can't eat/drink ~.
Non posso mangiare/bere ~.

Please remove ~ from this dish.
Per favore, togliete ~ da questo piatto.

Table Request In The Restaurant

Can you bring me (a) ~?
Può portarmi (un) ~?

I need (a) ~.
Ho bisogno di (un) ~.

spoon	fork	knife	napkin	salt	black pepper
cucchiaio	forchetta	coltello	tovagliolo	sale	pepe nero

water	bread	drink	menu	coffee	dessert
acqua	pane	bevanda	menù	caffè	dolce

Complimenting and Criticizing the Food

It's delicious!
È delizioso!

It looks tasty.
Sembra gustoso.

It's very good.
È buonissimo!

It's overcooked.
È scotto.

It lacks salt.
Manca il sale.

It's raw!
È crudo!

It smells so nice.
Ha un odore così buono.

This is not fresh.
Questo non è fresco.

It's too spicy.
È troppo piccante.

Food Allergies & Restrictions!

I am allergic to ~.
Sono allergico a ~.

meat	eggs	milk	peanuts	shellfish	wheat	soy	fish
carne	uova	latte	arachidi	molluschi	grano	soia	pesce

I am a vegetarian.
Sono vegetariano.

I am a vegan.
Sono vegano.

I can't eat pork.
Non posso mangiare carne di maiale.

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LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #1
Thank You!

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2 Formal Italian
2 English
2 Informal Italian
2 English
3 Vocabulary
3 Sample Sentences
3 Grammar
4 Cultural Insight

1

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FORMAL ITALIAN

1. Grazie.
2. Grazie mille.
3. La ringrazio.

ENGLISH

1. Thank you.
2. Thank you very much. / Thanks a lot.
3. I thank you.

INFORMAL ITALIAN

1. Grazie.
2. Grazie mille.
3. Ti ringrazio.

ENGLISH

1. Thank you.

CONT'D OVER

2. Thank you very much.

3. I thank you.

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class
mille	a thousand	cardinal number
grazie	thank you	exclamation
ringraziare	to thank	verb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Mille anni fa non avevamo elettricità. "A thousand years ago we didn't have electricity."	**Grazie, ciao.** "Thank you, bye."
Grazie dell'informazione. "Thank you for the information."	**Vi ringraziamo per il vostro aiuto.** "We thank you for your help."
Ti ringrazio del tuo aiuto. Di nulla. "Thanks for you help. No problem."	

GRAMMAR

Wherever your destination maybe, manners are a must! And in this respect, Italy is no different. So in our very first lesson, we'll be teaching you a simple phrase that is bound to come in handy throughout your trip to Italy. I can't stress this enough, a little a bit of language can go such a long way!

In Italian "thank you". is *grazie*. Let's break it down by syllable *gra-zie*.

You can emphasize *grazie* by adding *mille* which means literally "a thousand" but Italians use it to say "lots of". You could say *grazie mille*, which would be equivalent to "Thank you very much" or "Thanks a lot". *Grazie mille*. Let's break it down by syllable *gra-zie mil-le*.

In Italian there are other ways to express one's gratitude, but they are all variations using *grazie* which is a noun, and the verb *ringraziare*, which means "to give thanks" or "to be grateful".

There will be occasions where you will really want to show your appreciation. During occasions such as these, you can use the verb *ringraziare*.

I thank you is in Italian *ti ringrazio*. Let's break it down by syllable *ti rin-gra-zio*. The first word *ti* means "you", "to you". This is followed by the verb, *ringrazio*, which is the form for I of the verb *ringraziare* which means "to thank". Let's break it down by syllable *rin-gra-zio*.

When speaking to an older person or someone you've just met, you should always use the formal level of speech. The phrase is essentially the same. All you need to do is substitute *ti* with *La*, and the phrase will sound like this *La ringrazio*;, formal "I thank you". This way you are treating the person you are talking to with respect. Let's break it down by syllable *La rin-gra-zio*.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

By far, *grazie* is the most common way to say "thank you". Remember, when in doubt, keeping it simple is always your safest bet. You don't have to worry about formal or informal situations; *grazie* can be used with just about anyone, anywhere and anytime. You say *grazie* when the waiter brings your food or drinks; when the clerk in the hotel takes your luggage to your room (of course, throwing in a tip won't hurt either!); when somebody welcomes you, or congratulates you. It doesn't matter his/her profession or age; *grazie* or *grazie mille* will always be an appropriate response.

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #2
You're Welcome!

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3 Grammar
4 Cultural Insight

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FORMAL ITALIAN

1. Prego.
2. Di nulla.
3. Di niente.

ENGLISH

1. You're welcome.
2. It's nothing.
3. It's nothing.

INFORMAL ITALIAN

1. Prego.
2. Di nulla.
3. Di niente.
4. Non c'é di che.

ENGLISH

CONT'D OVER

1. You're welcome.
2. It's nothing.
3. It's nothing.
4. You're welcome.

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class
Prego.	You're welcome.	expression
non	not	adverb
niente	nothing	pronoun
nulla	nothing	pronoun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Prego. Buona serata. "You're welcome. Have a good evening."	**Non andare!** "Don't go!"
Non vengo con te. "I'm not going with you."	**No, non è di Londra.** "No, she isn't from London."
Niente di speciale. "Nothing special."	**Non vedo niente.** "I see nothing."
Niente per te! "Nothing for you!"	**Non voglio nulla da te.** "I want nothing from you."

GRAMMAR

In today’s lesson we’ll continue to learn more phrases that will help you with basic etiquette. Italians are exceptionably hospitable, and phrases of gratitude and those related are used quite often. Though during your trip in Italy, you may not get the chance to use *Prego*, the phrase for "You're welcome", there’s a very good chance you'll hear it.

In Italian "You're welcome." is *Prego*. Let's break it down by syllable *Pre-go*.

You can also respond to someone that has thanked you by using two very similar expressions. They are *di nulla* and *di niente* which both literally mean "it's nothing".

di nulla let's break it down by syllable *di nul-la*.

di niente let's break it down by syllable *di nien-te*.

Remember, both *di nulla* and *di niente* mean "it's nothing".

Another way of responding to a phrase of gratitude is *non c'è di che* which literally means "there is nothing to it" but we can render into "You are welcome".

Let's break it down by syllable *non c'è di che*.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Of the expressions we have seen, please keep in mind that *Prego*, *di nulla* and *di niente* can be used in any situation, formal or informal, while *non c'è di che* is to be used only in informal situations.

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #3 Please!

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FORMAL ITALIAN

1. Per favore.

2. Questo per favore.

3. Quello per favore.

ENGLISH

1. Please.

2. This please.

3. That please.

INFORMAL ITALIAN

1. Per favore.

2. Questo per favore.

3. Quello per favore.

ENGLISH

1. Please.

CONT'D OVER

2. This please.

3. That please.

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class
quello	that	adjective
questo	this (masculine singular)	demonstrative adjective
favore	favor	noun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Andiamo a vedere quello spettacolo? "Shall we go see that show?"	**Quello costa un euro.** "That costs one euro."
Questo è un fiore. "This is a flower."	**Questo libro è interessante.** "This book is interesting."
Questo panino. "This sandwich."	**Mi faresti un favore?** "Could you do me a favor?"

GRAMMAR

Today's phrase will help you take matters into your own hands! In today's lesson we'll take a look at the word "Please", which will be very important when you need to ask for something.

In Italian "Please" is *Per favore*. Let's break it down by syllable *Per fa-vo-re*.

The easiest way of using "Please" is to point at something while saying *Per favore*, but let's try and build this up a bit, shall we? Let's start with the expression, "This please." which in Italian is *Questo per favore*.

In English, "This" comes before "please" and also in Italian the order is the same. So we have *Questo per favore* Let's take a look at the word for "This". "This" in Italian is *Questo*. Let's break it down by syllable *Que-sto*.

Looking at the word for "This", warrants a look at the word for "That" which is *Quello*. The phrase "That please." is *Quello per favore*. Let's break it down by syllable *Que-llo per fa-vo-re*.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Please remember that also in Italy it is a little rude to point at things and especially at people. If it is necessary to point to something in order to better explain what one wants then it is accepted, but pointing at the direction of someone and especially to a person's face is a very aggressive stance. Furthermore when pointing it is better to have one's arm, hand and finger pointing in a relaxed way. Pointing with a stiff finger may seem intimidating.

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #4
Basic Greetings

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2 English
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3 Sample Sentences
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4

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ITALIAN

1. Ciao.
2. Salve.
3. Buon giorno.
4. Buon pomeriggio.
5. Buona sera.

ENGLISH

1. Hello and Goodbye informal.
2. Hello informal and formal.
3. Good morning.
4. Good afternoon.
5. Good evening.

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class
ciao	hello, hi, bye	greeting expression
salve	hello (formal or informal)	greeting expression

buon giorno	good morning, good day, good afternoon	greeting expression
buon pomeriggio	good afternoon	greeting expression
buona sera	good evening	greeting expression

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Ciao mamma! "Hi, mom!"	**Ciao, Laura.** "Hello, Laura."
Salve, mi chiamo Franceso Russo. "Hello, my name is Francesco Russo."	**Buon giorno signore.** "Hello, sir."
Buon giorno Signor Martini. "Good morning, Mr. Martini."	**Buon giorno, Luca.** "Good day, Luca."
Buon pomeriggio, Anna. "Good afternoon, Anna."	**Buona sera Signor Martini.** "Good evening, Mr. Martini."
Buona sera, Giovanni. "Good evening, Giovanni."	

GRAMMAR

Today we'll cover basic greetings for the appropriate time of the day. As there are quite a few to cover, let's jump right in:

In Italian the word *Ciao* can be used as a universal greeting. It's used both when greetings and when partings. The word *Ciao* means "Hello" and "Goodbye".

In Italian "Good Morning" is *Buon giorno.* Let's break it down by syllable *Buon gior-no.* The

first word *Buon* means "Good". This is followed by *giorno*, which in Italian is "day". *Buon giorno*

In Italian "Good afternoon" is *Buon pomeriggio* let's break it down by syllable *Buon po-me-rig-gio.* The second word *pomeriggio* means "afternoon". This is preceded by *Buon*, which in Italian is "Good". *Buon pomeriggio.*

Please remember that *Buon giorno* can have both meanings of "Good morning" and "Good afternoon", so if you really want to specify "afternoon" use *Buon pomeriggio* otherwise a simple *Buon giorno* will do from the morning to the evening.

And finally we have the evening greeting which in Italian is *Buona sera*. Let's break it down by syllable. *Buo-na se-ra*. The first word *Buona* means "Good". This is followed by *sera*, which in Italian is "evening". *Buona sera*.

At the workplace it is common to greet your colleagues with a simple *Ciao*. And with your superiors or someone older than you, you might say *Salve*. Let's break it down by syllable *Sal-ve*.

It’s also very common to use *Salve* with customers and with people you don’t know.

Now let me repeat again that *Buon giorno* can be used from morning all the way to the evening, when *Buona sera* is then used. *Ciao* instead can be used all the time. Even at night time.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

It's very common for Italians to exchange kisses on both cheeks when saying "hello" and "goodbye." Kisses are typically exchanged among people who know but it is not uncommon for
an Italian that you are meeting for the first time to kiss you as well. Wait and follow their lead in order to avoid any awkwardness.

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #5
Parting greetings (Goodbye)

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2 Formal Italian
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4 Grammar
5 Cultural Insight

5

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FORMAL ITALIAN

1. Arrivederci.
2. Buona sera.
3. A presto.
4. A dopo.
5. A più tardi.

ENGLISH

1. Goodbye.
2. Good evening.
3. See you soon.
4. See you later.
5. See you a little later.

INFORMAL ITALIAN

1. Arrivederci.
2. Buona sera.

CONT'D OVER

3. A presto.

4. A dopo.

5. A più tardi.

ENGLISH

1. Goodbye.

2. Good evening.

3. See you soon.

4. See you later.

5. See you a little later.

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class
dopo	after, afterwards, later	adverb
arrivederci	goodbye	parting greeting
presto	soon, early	adverb
buona sera	good evening	greeting expression
tardi	late	adverb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Parliamo dopo la lezione. "We talk after the lesson."	**Se vuoi ci possiamo vedere dopo cena.** "If you want, we can see each other after dinner."
Arrivederci. Torni presto. "Goodbye. Come back soon."	**Se vogliamo andare al mare, dobbiamo partire presto.** "If we want to go to the sea, we have to leave early."
Buona sera Signor Martini. "Good evening, Mr. Martini."	**Buona sera, Giovanni.** "Good evening, Giovanni."
Arrivi sempre tardi in ufficio. "You always arrive late at the office."	**Ieri notte sono tornato tardi.** "Last night I came back late."
Scusa, ho fatto tardi. "Sorry, I'm late."	

GRAMMAR

Today we'll introduce parting greetings.

A parting expression that can be used for all occasions is *Arrivederci* which literally means "Goodbye". Let's break it down by syllable Ar-ri-ve-der-ci.

Let's take a look at another expression. The word *Ciao* as seen in the previous lesson, also means "Goodbye".

When parting or saying goodbye at night there is the greeting *Buona sera*. Let's break it down by syllable *Buo-na se-ra*. Let's take a look at the components. The first word *Buona* means "Good". This is followed by *sera*, which in Italian is "evening". *Buona sera.*

In Italian another way of saying "Goodbye" is *A presto*. Let's break it down by syllable *A*

pres-to. This actually means "See you soon".

There are also several phrases for saying "See you later". A more casual way of saying "See you later" in Italian is *A dopo*. Let's break it down by syllable *A do-po*.

Then there's "See you a little bit later" which in Italian is *A più tardi.* Let's break it down by syllable *A pi-ù tar-di*.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Italians, especially those living in small cities, are very habitual people. So don't be surprised if after just a few times of going to a restaurant or shop, waiters or shopkeepers use *A presto* instead of *Arrivederci*, for they are pretty sure you will be coming back.

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #6
Where is the bathroom?

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FORMAL ITALIAN

1. Dov’è il bagno?
2. Dove sono i servizi?
3. Posso usare il bagno per favore?

ENGLISH

1. Where is the bathroom?
2. Where is the bathroom?
3. May I please use the bathroom?

INFORMAL ITALIAN

1. Dov’è il bagno?
2. Dove sono i servizi?
3. Posso usare il bagno per favore?

ENGLISH

1. Where is the bathroom?

CONT'D OVER

2. Where is the bathroom?

3. May I please use the bathroom?

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
usare	to use, employ, exercise, exploit	verb	
dove	where	interrogative word	
essere	to be		
il	the (masculine singular)	article	
bagno	bathroom	noun	masculine
i	the (masculine plural)	article	
servizi	services, bathroom	noun (uncountable; plural)	
potere	to be able, can	verb	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Chi ha usato il mio bicchiere? "Who used my glass?"	**Dove andiamo?** Where are we going?
Dove sei stato? Where have you been?	**Dove sei?** Where are you?

Dove abiti? Where do you live?	**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?"	**Il pavimento è sporco.** "The floor is dirty."
Il fine giustifica i mezzi. "The end justifies the means."	**Il prosciutto cotto è quello rosa.** "Prosciutto cotto (cured ham) is the pink one."
La spazzola è nel bagno. "The hairbrush is in the bathroom."	**I piatti sono sporchi.** "The dishes are dirty."
Dove sono i servizi? "Where is the bathroom?"	**Posso entrare?** "Can I come in?"
Posso aiutarti? "Can I help you?"	

GRAMMAR

In today's lesson we'll cover an extremely important phrase, "Where is the bathroom?"

In Italian "Where is the bathroom?" is *Dov'è il bagno?*, let's break it down by syllable *Do-v'è il ba-gno?*.

Let's take a look at the components. The first word *Dov'è* means "Where is". Let's breakdown this word and hear it one more time. *Do-v'è*.

This is followed by *il*, which in Italian is one of the ways to say "the".

Finally comes the last word *bagno* which means "bathroom". Let's break this word down as well. *Ba-gno*.

So to recap, we have *Dov'è il bagno?*. Literally this means "Where is the bathroom?".

There is a more formal way to ask "Where is the bathroom?", it is *Dove sono i servizi?* which also means "Where is the bathroom". Let us break it down by syllable *Do-ve so-no i ser-vi-zi?*.

The words *Dove sono* mean "Where are". *Do-ve so-no*. This is followed by *i* which is another way to say "the" in Italian. Followed by *servizi*, *ser-vi-zi*.

Now please note that *servizi* is the contraction of *servizi igienici* that means "toilet facilities".

Now when you finally get to the bathroom there may be one last hurdle. In some instances, only Italian words are written on the doors! What to do, what to do?

The word "men" is *uomini* . The word for "women" is *donne*.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

When traveling there may not be so many public bathrooms for tourists to use. Which means your best option is to either stop at a cafe or a restaurant to use their bathrooms. Understandably, cafe owners aren't too keen on having people stop in just to use their bathroom. So, to be polite, you might buy a bottle of water or order a cappuccino before asking *Dov'è il bagno?* or *Posso usare il bagno per favore?* This last phrase means "May I please use the bathroom?"

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #7
Can You Speak English?

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FORMAL ITALIAN

1. Parla inglese?

ENGLISH

1. Can You Speak English? formal

INFORMAL ITALIAN

1. Parli inglese?

ENGLISH

1. Can You Speak English? informal

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
parlare	to talk, speak	verb	
inglese	English	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Non mi parli più? "You're not speaking to me anymore?"	**Tu parli troppo, Marco.** "You speak too much, Marco."

Parli inglese?

"Do you speak English?"

GRAMMAR

In today's lesson we'll cover another extremely important phrase, "Can you speak English?"

Using this phrase as opposed to speaking English at someone is important for many reasons. For one, if the party you're speaking to doesn't understand English, at least they'll be able to understand what you're asking.

Furthermore, it shows a lot respect on your part, that you've made an effort to learn even a little bit of the language. So, for these reasons and many more, we're going to cover this very important phrase.

In Italian "Can you speak English?" is *Parla inglese?* Let's break it down by syllable *Par-la in-gle-se?*.

The first word *parla* means "speak". Let's breakdown this word and hear it one more time. *par-la*

This is followed by *inglese*, which in Italian is "English". *in-gle-se*

The phrase that we just learned is in the formal tense. Which means you should always use the above phrase in situations with people you don't know or elders.

When speaking to younger people, it's acceptable to use the informal tense. In which case, you will say in Italian *Parli inglese?*. While the difference is minimal, the significance is very important. Now we'll break it down by syllable *Par-li in-gle-se?*.

So before we move on please remember that *Parla* followed by a word for a language is the formal way to ask if somebody speaks that language, while *Parli*, again followed by a word for a language is the informal way to ask "do you speak" that language.

So *Parli* is more direct, do not use it with people you don't know or with elders.

Now for a change let's try a different language. How about Spanish. "Can you speak

Spanish?" *Parla spagnolo?* The word for "Spanish" is *spagnolo*. Let's breakdown this word and hear it one more time. *spa-gno-lo*.

Here just the word for the language changes, the rest is the same.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Nowadays in Italy English is studied at schools, so the number of speakers is increasing; however, there are still many people who don't speak English.

One time a friend of mine that was in Milan, got lost from the subway or underground station on the way back to her hotel. She needed to ask for directions but she thought that her hotel was far from where she was and receiving directions in Italian was going to be rather difficult for her to decipher. So she stopped at the newsstand and asked the owner for help. Naturally, her Italian was very basic so the first thing she asked him was, *Parla inglese?*. Thankfully, because he worked rather close to the main train station where there is often lots of tourist traffic, the nice man spoke enough English to lead her in the right direction and back to her hotel.

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #8
I don't understand

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FORMAL ITALIAN

1. Non capisco.
2. Non lo so.
3. Cosa significa?

ENGLISH

1. I don’t understand.
2. I don’t know.
3. What does it mean?

INFORMAL ITALIAN

1. Non capisco.
2. Non lo so.
3. Cosa significa?

ENGLISH

1. I don’t understand.

CONT'D OVER

2. I don’t know.

3. What does it mean?

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class
significare	to mean, entail, signify	verb
non	not	adverb
capire	to understand, comprehend, see, figure out	verb
cosa	what	interrogative word
sapere	to know	verb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Cosa significa questo? "What does this mean?"	**Non andare!** "Don't go!"
Non vengo con te. "I'm not going with you."	**No, non è di Londra.** "No, she isn't from London."
Ho capito le tue intenzioni. "I understood your intentions."	**Non hai capito nulla.** "You haven't understood anything."
Cosa facciamo domani sera? "What shall we do tomorrow evening?"	**Cosa mangi?** "What are you eating?"

Cosa hai detto? "What did you say?"	**Sai che ore sono?** "Do you know what time it is?"
Sai come prenotare un biglietto per il treno? "Do you know how to book a train ticket?"	**Sai dove andare?** "Do you know where to go?"
Non so niente. "I don't know anything."	

GRAMMAR

Today we shall see a very useful phrase that is "I don't understand". It is very useful because many times, you won't immediately understand what people are saying.

In Italian "I don't understand" is *Non capisco*, let's break it down by syllable *Non ca-pis-co*.

The first word *Non* means "I don't".

This is followed by *capisco*, which in Italian is "understand". *ca-pis-co*

So to recap, we have *Non capisco*. Literally this means "I don't understand".

Now let's take a look at another phrase *Non lo so* which means "I don't know".

Another way to express that you don't understand is asking someone "What does it mean?" This phrase in Italian is *Cosa significa?*, let's break it down by syllable *Co-sa si-gni-fi-ca?*.

The first word *Cosa* means "what". Let's breakdown this word and hear it one more time. *Co-sa*.

This is followed by *significa*, which in English is "it means". *si-gni-fi-ca*.

So to recap here, we have *Cosa significa?* Literally this means "What does it mean?"

CULTURAL INSIGHT

When engaged in a conversation with Italians, you're more than likely not to understand everything that's being said to you. This could be for a number of reasons: the accent, how fast the person is speaking or the vocabulary that the person is using. If this happens, don't be afraid to say, *Non capisco*. Italians will be more than happy to try offer an explanation for what was just said. Or maybe you've understood the general sense of a phrase but there was a word someone used that you have never heard before. To find out the meaning of this new word, simply ask the person, *Cosa significa?* In English this means, "What does it mean?"

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #9
Can you repeat that please?

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FORMAL ITALIAN

1. Può ripetere per favore?
2. Lentamente per favore.
3. Può ripetere ancora?

ENGLISH

1. Can you repeat that please?
2. Slowly please.
3. Can you repeat again?

INFORMAL ITALIAN

1. Può ripetere per favore?
2. Lentamente per favore.
3. Può ripetere ancora?

ENGLISH

1. Can you repeat that please?

CONT'D OVER

2. Slowly please.

3. Can you repeat again?

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class
lentamente	slowly, easy, step by step	adverb
ripetere	to repeat, restate, iterate	verb
potere	can	verb
ancora	still, yet, again	adverb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Può parlare lentamente? "Can you speak slowly?"	**Domani ripetiamo l'esperimento.** "Tomorrow we're repeating the experiment."
Devi fare i compiti. "You must do your homework."	**Non ci posso credere!** "I can't believe it."
Ho ancora sonno! "I am still sleepy!"	

GRAMMAR

There will be many times when the Italian around you, or coming at you, is fast and furious, and you may not catch any or all of it. In instances like this asking the speaker to say it again

can prove the difference between understanding a crucial piece of information or spending the rest of the day trying to figure out what was just said.

The following phrase will not only give you a better sense of the language but it will also help you tune your ear as well!

In Italian "Can you repeat that please?" is *Può ripetere per favore?*, let's break it down by syllable *Può- ri-pe-te-re per fa-vo-re?*.

The first word *Può* means "Can you". This word is followed by *ripetere*, which in English is "repeat". *ri-pe-te-re*

Let's take a look at the next expression *per favore* which means "please". *per fa-vo-re*

So all together we have *Può ripetere per favore?*. Literally this means "Can you repeat please?".

At times, even repeating the words, isn't enough to understand the speaker. This is often due to how fast the person is speaking. For instances like this, you can use the phrase "Slowly please".

In Italian "Slowly please" is *Lentamente per favore*, let's break it down by syllable *Len-ta-men-te per fa-vo-re*.

The first word *Lentamente* means "slowly". Let's breakdown this word and hear it one more time. *Len-ta-men-te*. This is followed by *per favore*, which in English is "please".

The phrases we have seen can be used together "Can you repeat slowly please?" *Può ripetere lentamente per favore?*

Another option is "Can you repeat again?" which in Italian is *Può ripetere ancora?*, let's break it down by syllable *Può ri-pe-te-re an-co-ra?*.

This can be used together with "Slowly please". "Can you repeat again, slowly please?" which is *Può ripetere ancora, lentamente per favore?*

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Asking someone to repeat what they've just said is especially important when given directions to get you where you're going. If you happen to be lost, instead of stopping someone on the

street for directions, it's always best to stop in a store or a café and ask the people that work there. This is because, chances are, they are much more familiar with the neighborhood than the average passerby on the street. When giving directions, Italians tend to speak really fast especially if they assume you already speak the language. So, if there's something that you didn't understand or missed part of the sentence, you can say, *Può ripetere per favore?* This means as you've just learned, "Can you repeat that please?"

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #10 Apologies (I'm Sorry)

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FORMAL ITALIAN

1. Scusi
2. Mi dispiace
3. Non fa niente

ENGLISH

1. Excuse me, formal
2. I’m sorry
3. No problem, It doesn't matter

INFORMAL ITALIAN

1. Scusa
2. Mi dispiace
3. Non fa niente

ENGLISH

1. Excuse me, informal

CONT'D OVER

2. I’m sorry

3. No problem, It doesn't matter

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class
fare	to do, to make, to build	verb
non	not	adverb
niente	nothing	adverb
scusarsi	to be sorry, to forgive someone	reflexive verb
dispiacersi	to be sorry	reflexive verb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Cosa facevi quando eri in Italia? "What did you do when you were in Italy?"	**Vorrei fare un viaggio in Tailandia.** "I would like to make a trip to Thailand."
Faccio una telefonata. "I'm making a phone call."	**Che lavoro fai?** "What do you do?" / "What job do you do?"
Non andare! "Don't go!"	**Non vengo con te.** "I'm not going with you."
No, non è di Londra. "No, she isn't from London."	**Non fa niente. Davvero.** "No problem. Really."

Scusami, sono in ritardo. "Forgive me. I'm late."	**Mi dispiace moltissimo.** "I'm terribly sorry."

GRAMMAR

In today's lesson we'll cover phrases used for apologizing. Now, as you haven't quite mastered Italian it's probably very prudent to go over the phrases for apologizing as they just might come in handy.

We'll start with "I'm sorry" which in Italian is *Scusi*. Let's break it down by syllable *Scu-si*.

Please note that *Scusi* is the third singular person so it is used in the formal level of speech.

Talking to a friend, thus changing to the informal level of speech, you will use *Scusa*. Let's break it down by syllable *Scu-sa.*

Scusa and *Scusi* are used when you might have said, or done, something offensive, wrong or embarrassing.

BE CAREFUL!!! *Scusa* and *Scusi* can be used ALSO as "Excuse me".

Use this when you are trying to work your way through a crowd, say at the subway station, or when you are trying to get someone's attention in a store or asking for directions.

One more way to say "I am sorry" is *Mi dispiace*. The main difference between *Mi dispiace* and *Scusi*, or *Scusa* is that *Mi dispiace* is to be used when something regrettable has happened. So we can say that *Mi dispiace* is a little bit stronger than *Scusi* and *Scusa*.

Now, what if someone says *Scusi* or *Scusa* to you, after having done something wrong and you want to respond "No problem" or "It doesn't matter". In this case the proper response should be *Non fa niente*. Let's break it down by syllable *Non fa nien-te*. *Non fa niente* can be used for both levels of speech, formal and informal.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Now let's imagine a woman in an Italian *bar*, which in Italy is a café, ordering a cappuccino from the counter. She would say *Scusi, un cappuccino per favore* "Excuse me, a cappuccino please". Once when I was in a rush I walked into my favourite bar and went directly to the counter asking for an espresso, or in Italian, *caffè espresso* saying *Scusi, un caffè per favore* but the barman told me *Signorina, deve fare lo scontrino!* "Miss, you have to get the receipt". So be careful, because often in Italian cafés you must first pay for your purchase and after showing the receipt to the barista he will make your drink.

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #11
Restaurant 1 - Entering a restaurant

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ITALIAN

1. Buon giorno.
2. Buona sera.
3. Quante persone siete?
4. Siamo cinque.
5. Siamo quattro persone.
6. Una soltanto.

ENGLISH

1. Good day.
2. Good evening.
3. How many people are you?
4. We’re five.
5. We’re four people.
6. Only one.

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender

soltanto	only	adverb	
quanti	how many	adjective	
persona	person	noun	
buona sera	good evening	greeting expression	
essere	to be		
quattro	four	numeral	masculine
solo	only	adverb	
cinque	five	numeral	masculine
buon giorno	good morning, good day, good afternoon	greeting expression	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Ho dormito soltanto tre ore. "I've only slept three hours."	**Quanti anni hanno?** "How old are they?"
Quanti pantaloni hai? "How many trousers do you have?"	**Quanti anni avete?** "How old are you?"
Luca è una brava persona. "Luca is a good person."	**È la stessa persona di prima.** "It's the same person as before."
Buona sera Signor Martini. "Good evening, Mr. Martini."	**Buona sera, Giovanni.** "Good evening, Giovanni."
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?"
Sono quattro Euro. It's four Euros.	**Quattro euro per un panino? E' caro!** "Four euros for a sandwich? That's expensive!"
Ci sono quattro sedie. "There are four chairs."	**Ho studiato letteratura per quattro anni.** "I studied literature for four years."
Questa maglia costa solo cinque euro. "This shirt costs only five euros."	**Solo tre euro.** "Only three 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."	**Buon giorno signore.** "Hello, sir."
Buon giorno Signor Martini. "Good morning, Mr. Martini."	**Buon giorno, Luca.** "Good day, Luca."

GRAMMAR

There is a wide variety of Italian dishes, and your job as a visitor is to try as many different foods as possible! However, before you start eating you have to get the table! So in today's lesson we'll cover getting to the table in restaurant.

When entering a restaurant in Italy you will be greeted with *Buon giorno* which means "Good morning", "Good day" or *Buona sera* which is "Good evening".

In Italian the formal greeting when entering a place is *Buon giorno* if it's morning or afternoon

or if it’s evening *Buona sera.* Let's break them down by syllable *Buon gior-no, Buo-na se-ra*.

Now usually the first question you'll be asked when you enter a restaurant is "How many people in your party?" which in Italian is *Quante persone siete?*. The first word *Quante* means "How many". Let's breakdown this word *Quan-te*. This is followed by *persone* which in Italian means "people" *Per-so-ne*. It is then followed by *siete*, which in Italian is "are you". *sie-te*. *Quante persone siete?*

Now let's go over how to answer.
In Italian you would respond by telling the waiter or waitress *Siamo cinque* which in English means "We are five".

Let's breakdown these words and hear them one more time. *Sia-mo cin-que*. Now we’re going to review some numbers in Italian to help you refresh your memory in case your party happens to be smaller. So, to recap the numbers one through five here. *uno, due, tre, quattro, cinque*

You could also say "We are four people". which in Italian is *Siamo quattro persone*. Let's break it down by syllable *Sia-mo quat-tro per-so-ne*. The first word *Siamo* means "we are". This is followed by *quattro persone*, which in Italian is "four people.

If you are just one person the proper answer to the question *Quante persone siete?* would be *Una soltanto* which in English means "Only one". Let's breakdown these words *U-na sol-tan-to*.
The first word *Una* means "One" and it is referred to *persona* which in Italian is a feminine singular noun. Let's breakdown this word. *U-na*. The second word *soltanto* means "only". Let's breakdown this word *sol-tan-to*

CULTURAL INSIGHT

If you tell the waiter *Siamo tre persone* (we are three people) or more, don't be surprised if he replies with *c’è da aspettare* or "You have to wait". Restaurants are always popular, especially on weekends, and you will usually have to wait if you are in a group.

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #12
Restaurant 2 - How Many People?

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#12

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ITALIAN

1. Pronto
2. Posso fare una prenotazione per questa sera?
3. Quanti siete?
4. Due persone.
5. A che ora volete prenotare?
6. Alle otto per favore.

ENGLISH

1. Hello
2. Can I make a reservation for this evening?
3. How many people are you?
4. Two people.
5. At what time do you want to reserve?
6. At eight o'clock, please.

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender

otto	eight o'clock	noun	
prenotazione	booking, reservation	noun	feminine
fare	to do, to make, to build	verb	
potere	can	verb	
pronto	ready, hello (when picking up the phone)	interjection	
prenotare	to reserve	verb	
stasera	tonight	noun	
ora	time, hour	noun	feminine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Usciamo domenica sera verso le otto. "We will go out Sunday night around eight."	**Se non hai la prenotazione, dovrai aspettare due ore in fila per un tavolo.** "If you don't have the reservation, you will have to wait at least two hours for a table."
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?"
Fare una torta. "To prepare a cake."	**Cosa facevi quando eri in Italia?** "What did you do when you were in Italy?"
Vorrei fare un viaggio in Tailandia. "I would like to make a trip to Thailand."	**Faccio una telefonata.** "I'm making a phone call."
Che lavoro fai? "What do you do?" / "What job do you do?"	**Posso usare il bagno?** "Can I use the bathroom?"

Devi fare i compiti. "You must do your homework."	**Non ci posso credere!** "I can't believe it."
Siamo pronti per uscire? "Are we ready to leave?"	**Pronto. Chi parla?** "Hello. Who's speaking?"
Dobbiamo prenotare due mesi prima, se vogliamo lo sconto. "We have to reserve two months earlier, if we want the discount."	**Se possibile, prenota sempre in anticipo.** "If possible, always reserve in advance."
Ci vediamo stasera per cena! "See you tonight for dinner!"	**Stasera usciamo?** "Shall we go out tonight?"
Possiamo uscire insieme stasera? "Can we go out together tonight?"	**Stasera usciamo?** "Shall we go out tonight?"
Che ora è? "What time is it?"	**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?"

GRAMMAR

In the last lesson we learned how to get a table at a restaurant, but my dear listeners, please know that because of the popularity of Italian food, it can be difficult to get a seat, especially in the week-ends. So, the best thing to do is with no doubt to make a reservation for the time you want to go and eat.

So in today's lesson we'll cover making a reservation in a restaurant.

Normally if you make a phone call in order to make a reservation for the evening you would say *Pronto? Posso fare una prenotazione per questa sera?* "Hello? Can I make a reservation for this evening?"

Literally *pronto* means “ready” but it’s used as a greeting only on the phone, it can be used both in the formal and informal level of speech and it means “Hello”.
Let’s break it down by syllable *Pron-to*.

It is followed by *Posso*, which in English means "Can I", let’s break it down by syllable *Pos-so*.
Fare is the infinitive form of the verb "to do" and means in fact "do" let’s break it down by syllable *Fa-re*. It is followed by *una prenotazione* "a reservation" let’s break down these two words by syllable *u-na pre-no-ta-zio-ne*.
Una prenotazione "a reservation" is followed by *per questa sera* "for this evening". Let’s break down these three words and see them one by one:
Per, per "for".
Questa, que-sta "this" feminine.
And *sera*, *se-ra.*

Normally you’ll be asked how many people are in your party and the time of the reservation.
Quanti siete? "How many people are you?" Let’s break it down by syllable *Quan-ti sie-te?* which in Italian is another way to say *Quante persone siete?* that we have seen in the last lesson and has the same meaning of the English "How many people are you?"

Now let’s imagine you are a party of two and so in Italian you would use *Due persone* which in English means "Two people" *Du-e per-so-ne*.

And now let’s see how you can be asked the time of your reservation: *A che ora volete prenotare?* "At what time do you want to make a reservation?" *A che ora* means "At what time".
Let's breakdown these words. *A che o-ra*. It is followed by *volete* which in English correspond to "do you want".
Let's break it down by syllable *vo-le-te* and finally you have *prenotare* "to make a reservation".
Let's break it down by syllable *pre-no-ta-re*.
So let’s hear the entire sentence once again *A che ora volete prenotare?*

Now let’s go and answer the question! Let’s imagine you want to reserve a table at 8 o’clock.
Alle otto per favore. "At eight o’clock, please." *Alle otto* means "At eight". Let's break down these words. *Al-le ot-to*. *Alle otto* is followed by *per favore* "please". *Per favore* is composed by two words: *per* which means "for" and *favore* which in English means "favour" so let’s break it down by syllable *Per fa-vo-re*.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

As I mentioned before, Italian restaurants are very popular, and you will need to book on weekends or public holidays. Italians eat out quite often, I remember that when I was a child in Napoli, or Naples, with my family we used to love going to our favourite *pizzeria* in the week-ends and I remember once my dad just forgot to book and when we arrived it was so

crowd and busy and we had to wait almost half an hour to get the table and more than one hour to have our pizza! I remember that time I thought I could have died of hunger. So don't forget the reservation if you decide to go for a special typical Italian dinner in a restaurant.

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #13
Restaurant 3 - Is smoking allowed?

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2 Italian
2 English
2 Vocabulary
2 Sample Sentences
3 Grammar
4 Cultural Insight

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ITALIAN

1. Scusi, si può fumare qui?

2. Si, c'è una sala fumatori.

3. No, mi dispiace, è vietato.

ENGLISH

1. Excuse me, is smoking allowed here?

2. Yes, there is a smoking room.

3. No, I am sorry, it's forbidden.

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class
sala	hall, living room	noun
qui	here	adverb
una	a, an	indefinite article
fumatore	smoker	adjective
si	yes	adverb
potere	to be able, can	verb
fumare	to smoke	verb
vietare	to forbid, ban, prohibit	verb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Abbiamo prenotato due sale in questo ristorante. "We booked two rooms in this restaurant."	**Questa sala è molto spaziosa.** "This room is very spacious."
Rimango qui ad aspettarti. "I'll stay here waiting for you."	**Vieni qui.** "Come here."
Esco con una mia amica. "I'm going out with a friend of mine."	**Voglio una pesca.** "I want a peach."
Il nonno di Luca era un fumatore accanito. "Luca's grandfather was a heavy smoker."	**Sì, ci sono stato due volte.** Yes, I've been twice.
Sì, ho un iPhone. Yes, I have an iPhone.	**Sì, hai ragione.** "Yes. You're right."
Posso entrare? "Can I come in?"	**Posso aiutarti?** "Can I help you?"
Mio padre non fuma. "My father does not smoke."	**È vietato fumare all'interno degli ospedali.** "It's forbidden to smoke inside hospitals."

GRAMMAR

In the last lesson we learned how to make a reservation in a restaurant, and so now that you know how to get a table, you have another big issue to care about: if you want to enjoy your meal the smoking issue is very important. If you are a smoker and you enter a non-smoking establishment or if you are a non-smoker and enter a smoking establishment, this could ruin you meal.

So in today's lesson we'll cover how to ask for a smoking or non-smoking table.

Let's imagine first you are a smoker and before entering a restaurant you need to ask: "Excuse me, is smoking allowed here?" *Scusi, si può fumare qui?*

Scusi, as we have seen, is the formal translation of "Excuse me" and it's followed by *si può fumare qui*. *Si può* is the impersonal form of the verb *potere* "can", used at the third person and it is followed by *fumare* which in English means "to smoke", after you have *qui* "here". Let's breakdown these words. Si-può-fu-ma-re-qui.

Now let's go and see the possible answers
"Yes, there is a smoking room"*Si, c'è una sala fumatori*
In this sentence *si* "yes" is followed by *c'è* which in English means "there is", then we have *una* "a" and finally *sala fumatori* "smoking room".

Please don't forget that in Italian the adjective normally goes after the noun so first you have *sala* which is the Italian word for "room" and then *fumatori* which literally means *smokers* and is used to translate "smoking".

Let's breakdown these words *Si-c'è-u-na-sa-la fu-ma-to-ri*
No, I am sorry, it's forbidden *No, mi dispiace, è vietato*
In this sentence you find "I am sorry" *Mi dispiace* as a way to express kindness while you're about to be told it isn't allowed and in fact *Mi dispiace* is followed by *è vietato* "it's forbidden".
Let's breakdown these words *No-mi di-spia-ce è vie-ta-to*

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Even if you are in a smoking restaurant it is polite to ask the people in your party if they mind if you smoke. So to ask "Do you mind if I smoke?" you have as always two choices, one formal and one informal; if you were speaking to a friend you would then ask *Ti dà fastidio se fumo?* Instead if you are speaking politely you would use *Le dà fastidio se fumo?* Please note that there is a very small but important difference; in the first case you have the pronoun *ti* for the informal level of speech, while in the second case you have the pronoun *le* which is formal.

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #14
Restaurant 4 - At the Table

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2 English
2 Vocabulary
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ITALIAN

1. Scusi, un menù per favore.
2. Cosa desidera ordinare?
3. Vorrei una margherita e una frittura di pesce, per favore.
4. Cosa desidera da bere?

ENGLISH

1. A menu, please.
2. What would you like to order?
3. I would like a margherita and fried sea food.
4. What would you like to drink?

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
menù	menu	noun	masculine
desiderare	to wish, to want, to long for, to desire	verb	
ordinare	to order	verb	
bere	to drink	verb	
frittura	fried dish	noun	feminine

volere	to want, to wish, to demand	verb	
pesce	fish, seafood	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Un menù per favore. "A menu please."	**Desidera una macchina veloce o comoda?** "Would you like a fast or comfortable car?"
Cosa desideri per Natale? "What do you wish for Christmas?"	**Desidera altro?** "Would you like something else?"
Possiamo ordinare online? "Can we order online?"	**Perché non ordiniamo un espresso?** "Why don't we order an espresso?"
Ordiniamo un antipasto? "Shall we order an appetizer?"	**Mia madre non beve alcolici.** "My mother doesn't drink alcohol."
Bevo sempre un caffè dopo pranzo. "I always drink coffee after lunch."	**Beviamo un tè?** "Shall we drink tea?"
Bevo un po' di vino. "I drink some wine."	**Vorrei una frittura di pesce.** "I'd like some fried sea food."
Vorrei andare al cinema con te. "I'd like to go to the cinema with you."	**Voleva solo salutarti.** "She just wanted to say hi."
Volere la botte piena e la moglie ubriaca. "To have your cake and eat it, too."	**Mangio spesso il pesce.** "I often eat fish."

GRAMMAR

Finally you're at the table, at your seat. And now it's time to order!

So in today's lesson we'll cover how to ask for a menu and then order your food and drinks.

Normally to get the waiter's attention you can just raise your hand and simply say *Scusi!* "Excuse me" and then ask for a menu: *Un menù per favore* "A menu, please"

Let's hear the entire sentence. *Scusi, un menù per favore*.

And now let's break down the words by syllable *scu-si* which is followed by *un menù* which in English means "a menu"; *un* is the masculine indefinite article. *un-me-nù* and then finally we have *per favore* pleaseOnce you have looked at the menu you can finally call the waiter for the order.

Now a typical Italian menu is composed by *antipasto* "appetizer", *primo* "first dish" (which can be pasta or pizza), *secondo* "second dish" (which can be fish or meat) and then you have *contorno* "side dish" and finally *dolce* "dessert".

So you will be probably asked by the waiter *Cosa desidera ordinare?* "What would you like to order?"

Cosa is the Italian for "what" Let's break it down by syllable *co-sa*, it's followed by *desidera*, the third singular person of the verb *desiderare* which in English literally means "to wish", please note that it is used in a formal level of speech. Let's break it down by syllable *de-si-de-ra*. Then you have *ordinare* "to order" Let's break it down by syllable *or-di-na-re*.

The ideal way to answer this question would be starting with *Vorrei* "I would like" followed by the name of the things you want to eat. Let's break down this word *Vor-re-I*.

Now let's go and see some good dishes you can find on a typical Italian menu.
Carbonara
Margherita
Bistecca alla fiorentina
Frittura di pesce Fried sea food
Let's break down these words
Car-bo-na-ra
Mar-ghe-ri-ta
Bi-stec-ca al-la fio-ren-ti-na
Frit-tu-ra di pe-sce

Let's imagine you would like to order *Margherita* and *Frittura di pesce* you should say to the water:
Vorrei una margherita e una frittura di pesce, per favore "I would like a margherita and mixed fried fish"

Vorrei as we have seen means "would like" and it's simply followed by the name of the food you are ordering, please note that before *margherita* and *frittura* you find the indefinite female article *una* "a" which in Italian is very important and at the end of the sentence we add *per favore* "please", to be polite.

Then the waiter will ask you about the beverages.

Cosa desidera da bere? "What would you like to drink?" Let's break down these words.

Co-sa de-si-de-ra da be-re?
In this sentence *cosa desidera* is followed by *da bere* "to drink".

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Remember to stay tuned when the waiter is talking to you because in place of *Desidera* you could hear *vorrebbe* "would like" or *vuole* "want" especially if you go to some typical *trattorie* "eating houses" in Italy and they treat you in a friendly manner using informal speech. Instead of *Cosa desidera ordinare?* you might hear *Cosa vorrebbe ordinare? or Cosa vuole?* These are more casual ways of asking, and will be more common in typical *trattorie* or "eating houses". In *trattorie* staff will probably treat you in a more friendly manner, and will use this plain form of speech.

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #15
Restaurant 5 - Check Please!

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2 English
2 Vocabulary
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#15

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ITALIAN

1. Desidera altro?

2. Basta così grazie, il conto per favore.

ENGLISH

1. Would you like anything else?

2. I'm fine thanks, the check please.

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class
desiderare	to wish, to want, to long for, to desire	verb
basta così	that's enough	expression
conto	bill, check, tab	noun
il	the (masculine singular)	article
grazie	thank you	exclamation
altro	another, else	adjective
così	so, that, like this	adverb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Desidera una macchina veloce o comoda? "Would you like a fast or comfortable car?"	**Cosa desideri per Natale?** "What do you wish for Christmas?"
Desidera altro? "Would you like something else?"	**Vuoi ancora un po' di vino? Basta così, grazie.** "Would you like some more wine? That's enough, thank you."
Vorrei il conto. "I'd like the bill."	**Il pavimento è sporco.** "The floor is dirty."
Il fine giustifica i mezzi. "The end justifies the means."	**Il prosciutto cotto è quello rosa.** "Prosciutto cotto (cured ham) is the pink one."
Grazie, ciao. "Thank you, bye."	**Grazie dell'informazione.** "Thank you for the information."
Prendo un altro cioccolatino. "I'll take another chocolate."	**È così.** "It's like this."

GRAMMAR

In the last lesson we saw how to order at the restaurant and we learned how to get the waiter’s attention and then order your meal and the beverages.

Once you have the beverages and you finally have all the entrées you have ordered, you can start to enjoy the mouth-watering meal.

Normally if the waiter sees that you have finished he will come to your table and kindly ask:

Desidera altro? “Would you like anything else?”. Let’s break down these words: *De-si-de-ra al-tro?*

As we have already seen in the last lesson, is the third singular person of the verb *desiderare* which in English means “to wish” and in Italian is used quite often to in place of “would you like” so you will hear it for sure in the restaurants or in the cafés from waiters or barmen in the formal level of speech.

Altro literally means “other”, but in this specific case it is used to translate “anything else”

Well now after a proper Italian meal made up of *antipasto*, *primo, secondo, contorno* and dessert, you should be definitely fine and finally can say: *Basta così grazie, il conto per favore* “I’m fine thanks, the check please”.

Basta così is an important sentence and at the same time very particular because it could be the Italian version of “I’m fine thanks” but let’s go and see the literal meaning of the single words. *Basta* is a way to say “Stop” – “It’s enough” and it is followed by *così* which in English means “so” and then finally you have *grazie* “thanks”. Let’s break down these words: *Ba-sta co-sì gra-zie il con-to per fa-vo-re.*

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Usually you can ask for the check even without waiting for being asked from the waiter. Normally to get his attention you could just put your hand up and shout *Scusi, il conto per favore* “Excuse me, the check please”, and yes… shout… because it can often happen to find noisy and crowded establishments where you need the waiter to hear your voice. Then together with the shout, you know that we Italians are famous for many gestures and so we have one even to ask for the check, so you can simply mime writing with a pen on an imaginary paper while looking at the waiter.

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #16
Counting 1-10

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ITALIAN

1. 0 zero
2. 1 uno
3. 2 due
4. 3 tre
5. 4 quattro
6. 5 cinque
7. 6 sei
8. 7 sette
9. 8 otto
10. 9 nove
11. 10 dieci
12. Una persona
13. Cinque persone
14. Vorrei comprare due borse
15. Vorrei comprare una camicia

CONT'D OVER

16. Vorrei comprare un maglione

ENGLISH

1. One person
2. Five people
3. I would like to buy two bags
4. I would like to buy a shirt
5. I would like to buy a jumper

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
camicia	shirt	noun	feminine
persona	person	noun	
maglione	sweater, jumper	noun	
borsa	bag, handbag, purse	noun	
quattro	four	numeral	masculine
cinque	five	numeral	masculine
sei	six	numeral	masculine
sette	seven	numeral	masculine
otto	eight	numeral	masculine

nove	nine	numeral	masculine
dieci	ten	numeral	masculine
tre	three	numeral	masculine
uno	one	numeral	masculine
due	two	numeral	masculine
zero	zero, nought, nil	numeral	
comprare	to buy, to get	verb	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Quella camicia è molto bella. "That shirt is very nice."	**La camicia è pulita.** "The shirt is clean."
Luca è una brava persona. "Luca is a good person."	**È la stessa persona di prima.** "It's the same person as before."
Ieri ho comprato un maglione di cashmere. "Yesterday I bought a cashmere sweater."	**Ieri ho perso la borsa.** "Yesterday I lost my purse."
Sono quattro Euro. It's four Euros.	**Quattro euro per un panino? E' caro!** "Four euros for a sandwich? That's expensive!"
Ci sono quattro sedie. "There are four chairs."	**Ho studiato letteratura per quattro anni.** "I studied literature for four years."

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."	**Vorrei sei banane.** "I'd like six bananas."
Ho sei paia di scarpe. "I have six pairs of shoes."	**Il sette è un numero fortunato.** "Seven is a lucky number."
Ho studiato italiano per sette anni. "I've been studying Italian for seven years."	**Sono le otto.** It's eight o'clock.
Sono le otto, è ora di andare al lavoro. "It is eight o'clock; it is time to go to work."	**Oggi ho bevuto otto caffè.** "Today I drank eight coffees."
Andate nella camera numero nove. "Go to room number nine."	**Siamo in nove.** "We are nine people."
Siamo in nove. "We are in nine."	**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 le tre. It's three o'clock.	**Ha tre anni.** "He is three years old."
Ho comprato tre libri. "I bought three books."	**Ho un euro.** "I have one euro."

Sono il numero uno. "I'm the number one."	**Sì, ci sono stato due volte.** Yes, I've been twice.
Ho due fratelli. "I have two brothers."	**Ho visto due amici.** "I saw two friends."
Hai due possibilità. "You have two possibilities."	**Ieri notte ha fatto zero gradi centigradi.** "Last night, it was zero degrees Centigrade."
Ricomincerò da zero. "I'll start again from scratch."	**Peter ha comprato un iPhone.** "Peter bought an iPhone."

GRAMMAR

This lesson is very straightforward, as we're going to cover counting zero through ten. Let's jump right in.

0 *zero*
1 *uno*
2 *due*
3 *tre*
4 *quattro*
5 *cinque*
6 *sei*
7 *sette*
8 *otto*
9 *nove*
10 *dieci*

Counting things in Italian is very straightforward as the number is followed by the thing you are counting.

Furthermore numbers have no gender, except for the number “one” that is normally translated

as *uno*. In fact, it is also used as the indefinite article “a” / ”an” before nouns, so it can be *uno* or *un* (before masculine nouns) - *un’* (with apostrophe) – *una* (before feminine nouns). Just like in *un maglione* “a jumper”, *uno zoccolo* “a clog”, *una borsa* “a bag”, *un’ancora* “an anchor”.

For example, “one person” is *una persona*. Let’s break down these two words and hear them one more time.

U-na per-so-na

The number comes first, followed by the thing. To say “two people” you will say *due persone*. In this case *persone* is the plural of *persona*. In Italian as you have seen, nouns have singular and plural forms and they can be feminine or masculine. So we have *persona*, which is feminine singular and normally most of the feminine singular nouns ending with “a” change this ending into “e” for their plural.

If there are “5 people” you would have *cinque persone*
Numbers can be very useful especially when shopping in Italy.
Let’s imagine you are buying some presents to bring back to your country. For example imagine you would like to buy two bags in a nice shop.

"I would like to buy two bags" *Vorrei comprare due borse*
Let’s break down these words and hear them one more time *Vor-rei- com-pra-re- du-e bor-se.*

Vorrei is the Italian word for “I would like”, *comprare* is the Italian translation of the verb “to buy”, then you have the number *due* “two” followed by *borse* “bags”.

What about buying a nice smart shirt?
"I would like to buy a shirt" *Vorrei comprare una camicia.* In this case, we use *una*, since we are referring to *camicia* “shirt” in the singular form.
Camicia is a feminine singular noun. Let’s break down this word and hear it one more time. *Ca-mi-cia*
Let’s hear the entire sentence now. *Vorrei comprare una camicia*

Eventually, you change your mind, and decide to buy a *maglione*, a “jumper”. You would say *Vorrei comprare un maglione* “I would like to buy a jumper”. Please note that *maglione* is a masculine noun, so for this reason we have changed the indefinite article *una* in *un*. Let’s break down this word and hear it one more time. *ma-glio-ne*

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Normally you will have several chances to hear the numbers in the supermarkets in Italy while making the queue to buy the bread or the cold cuts. You can hear the delicatessen clerk or the bakery clerk shouting numbers like this:

Numero dodici! "Number twelve!" (12)

Numero sette! "Number seven!" (7)

One funny thing is that in Italy, especially in the South, numbers can have different meaning and many Italians play LOTTO choosing numbers referring to mysterious dreams or funny and unusual happenings. For example the number 90 symbolizes *la paura* "fear", the number 77 *i diavioli* "the devils", the number 17 *la disgrazia* "misfortune" and so on. So have a go and take your chances when you come to Italy!

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #17
Counting 10-100

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ITALIAN

1. 11 undici
2. 12 dodici
3. 13 tredici
4. 14 quattordici
5. 15 quindici
6. 16 sedici
7. 17 diciassette
8. 18 diciotto
9. 19 diciannove
10. 20 venti
11. 30 trenta
12. 40 quaranta
13. 50 cinquanta
14. 60 sessanta
15. 70 settanta

CONT'D OVER

16. 80 ottanta

17. 90 novanta

18. 100 cento

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
undici	eleven	numeral	masculine
novanta	ninety	cardinal number	
ottanta	eighty	cardinal number	
settanta	seventy	cardinal number	
sessanta	sixty	cardinal number	
cinquanta	fifty	cardinal number	
quaranta	forty	cardinal number	
trenta	thirty	cardinal number	
venti	twenty	numeral	masculine
diciannove	nineteen	numeral	masculine
diciotto	eighteen	numeral	masculine
diciassette	seventeen	numeral	masculine
sedici	sixteen	numeral	masculine
quindici	fifteen	numeral	masculine
quattordici	fourteen	numeral	masculine

tredici	thirteen	numeral	masculine
dodici	twelve	numeral	masculine
cento	a hundred	cardinal number	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Sono già le undici? "It's already eleven?"	**Mia nonna ha novanta anni.** "My grandmother is ninety years old."
Una partita di calcio dura novanta minuti. "A football match lasts for ninety minutes."	**Alla festa sono venute ottanta persone.** "Eighty people came to the party."
Ottanta persone stanno lavorando su questo progetto. "Eighty people are working on this project."	**Mio fratello è settanta chili.** "My brother is seventy kilograms."
Nonna è nata settanta anni fa. "Grandma was born seventy years ago."	**Mi piacciono le pettinature degli anni sessanta.** "I like the hair-styles of the sixties."
Ho conosciuto tua madre sessanta anni fa. "I met your mother sixty years ago."	**Su questo autobus ci sono cinquanta posti disponibili.** "There are fifty available seats on this bus."
Ho solo cinquanta centesimi. "I have only fifty cents."	**Possiamo pagare la macchina in quaranta rate!** "We can pay for the car in forty installments!"

Ho quaranta anni. "I am forty years old."	**Questo palazzo ha quaranta piani.** "This building has forty stories."
Ho comprato trenta figurine per il mio album. "I bought thirty trading cards for my album."	**Ho trenta anni.** "I'm thirty years old."
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."
Il treno partirà alle diciannove e dodici. "The train will leave at nineteen twelve."	**Ci vediamo alle diciotto e trenta circa.** "I'll see you around eighteen thirty."
La mia ragazza ha diciassette paia di scarpe differenti. "My girl has seventeen different pairs of shoes."	**Ho sedici paia di calzini.** "I have sixteen pairs of socks."
Ho letto quindici libri sull'Egitto. "I have read fifteen books about Egypt."	**Ho comprato un set di quattordici piatti.** "I've bought a set of fourteen dishes."
In Italia il tredici è un numero fortunato. "In Italy thirteen is a lucky number."	**Sono le dodici e dieci.** "It's ten past twelve."
L'ufficio postale è lontano cento metri dalla stazione. "The post office is one hundred meters from the station."	**Ho già letto questo passaggio cento volte!** "I've read this passage a hundred times already!"

GRAMMAR

Today we're going to continue on with counting as we cover 11-100.
Let's just quickly review 0 to 10.

zero
uno due
tre
quattro
cinque
sei
sette
otto
nov
dieci
In Italian counting from 11-20 is also very straightforward so let's jump right in.
11 *undici*
12 *dodici*
13 *tredici*
14 *quattordici*
15 *quindici*
16 *sedici*
17 *diciassette*
18 *diciotto*
19 *diciannove*
20 *venti*

Numbers from 21 to 99 are formed by combining the numbers we have already covered.
So you have the tens from *venti* “twenty” to *novanta* “ninety” and you simply add the numbers you learned in the previous lesson.

20 *venti*
30 *trenta*
40 *quaranta*
50 *cinquanta*
60 *sessanta*
70 *settanta*
80 *ottanta*
90 *novanta*
Let’s try with “forty two”
“Forty” is *quaranta* 40 and “two” is *due* so if you put them together you have *quarantadue* or

“forty two”.

Let’s break down this word and hear it once again: *qua-ran-ta-due*

Let’s try now with “seventy three”.

“Seventy” is *settanta* and “three” is *tre*. Put them together and finally you have *settantatre.*

You have *settanta* 70 “seventy” and *tre* 3 “three” so you put them together and finally you have *settantatre.*

Let’s break down this word and hear it once again: *set-tan-ta-tre*

And finally we have *cento*

100 *cento*

To count from *cento* onwards you just need to add after *cento* the units and the tens you have just learned.

Let’s try with some examples

109 *centonove*

176 *centosettantasei*

CULTURAL INSIGHT

So when walking randomly through famous shopping streets in Italy you will learn how to distinguish the Italian sizes for clothes which go from 38 (*trentotto*) to 62 (*sessantadue*) passing through 42 (*quarantadue*) and 44 (*quarantaquattro*) which are the equivalent of US 12 and 14.

When at the counter of an Italian supermarket, if you want to ask for cold cuts you can say both *100 grammi* or *un etto* as they both mean one hundred grams.

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #18
How much?

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#18

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ITALIAN

1. Quanto costa questo?
2. Quanto costa questa?
3. Quanto viene questa camicia?

ENGLISH

1. How much is this? (masculine)
2. How much is this? (feminine)
3. How much is this shirt?

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
camicia	shirt	noun	feminine
costare	to cost	verb	
questo	this (masculine singular)	demonstrative adjective	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Quella camicia è molto bella. "That shirt is very nice."	**La camicia è pulita.** "The shirt is clean."

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?"
Questo è un fiore. "This is a flower."	**Questo libro è interessante.** "This book is interesting."
Questo panino. "This sandwich."	

GRAMMAR

And now some useful Survival phrases for your funny days of unchecked shopping around Italian stores. Most stores will have a label with the price, but some won't. If, for example, you're in a DandG store in downtown *Roma*, it's unlikely that it will have a price on it.

You should remember that *Scusi* or "Excuse me" is almost always the first thing to say when you're talking to a shop clerk. After saying *Scusi*, you should say, *Quanto costa questo?* How much is this? In this sentence, the object you are referring to is masculine.

If it is feminine, you should instead say, *Quanto costa questa?* How much is this?

Quanto means “How much” and it’s followed by *costa*, which is the third singular person of the verb *costare* “to cost” The next word will be "questo" if the object is masculine, and *questa* if it's feminine. So if it’s something masculine you should use *questo* “this” masculine singular demonstrative adjective and if it’s something feminine you should then use *questa* “this” feminine singular demonstrative adjective.
Let’s break down these words by syllable:
quan-to co-sta que-sto ques-ta

But, dear listeners you perfectly know how the Italian language can be varied and wide-ranging so you won’t be surprised to hear that there are some more interesting ways to ask

“How much is this?” Don’t forget that Italian streets are full of stands and overall in little towns you can easily find local markets with many stands where you can buy absolutely everything. So let’s imagine that you are by a stand of clothes in a local market and you want to buy a shirt. After *Scusi* to get the stand-keeper’s attention you can say *Quanto viene questa camicia?* “How much is this shirt?” So, as you can see, we use *viene* in place of *costa*. *Viene* is the third singular person of the verb *venire* “to come”, *questa* “this” is followed by *camicia* which is a singular noun and means “shirt”. Let’s break down these words by syllable:
Quan-to vie-ne ques-ta ca-mi-cia?

CULTURAL INSIGHT

A quicker way to ask “How much?” is *Quant’è?* literally meaning “How much is?”. *Quant’è* is the shortest version of *Quanto è*, where you cut the *o* and use the apostrophe before *è*. Even in an Italian bar, café, for example after you ask for an espresso at the counter, you can ask the cashier *Un espresso per favore, quant’è?* “One espresso please, how much is it?”

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #19
Lower the price

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19

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ITALIAN

1. Scusi, quanto costa questo?
2. È troppo caro, mi fai un pò di sconto?
3. Costa troppo.
4. Ti do otto euro.

ENGLISH

1. Excuse me, how much is this?
2. It's too expensive, can you give me a discount?
3. It costs too much.
4. I'll give you eight euros.

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
sconto	discount	noun	masculine
caro	expensive	adjective	masculine
dare	to give	verb	
costare	to cost	verb	
questo	this (masculine singular)	demonstrative adjective	

otto	eight	numeral	masculine
Euro	Euro	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Può farmi uno sconto? "Can you give me a discount?"	**Questo arredamento sembra molto caro.** "This furniture looks very expensive."
Il biglietto è caro. "The ticket is expensive."	**Mi daresti una mano per favore?** "Could you give me a hand please?"
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?"
Questo è un fiore. "This is a flower."	**Questo libro è interessante.** "This book is interesting."
Questo panino. "This sandwich."	**Sono le otto.** It's eight o'clock.
Sono le otto, è ora di andare al lavoro. "It is eight o'clock; it is time to go to work."	**Oggi ho bevuto otto caffè.** "Today I drank eight coffees."
Sono quattro Euro. It's four Euros.	**Cinque euro.** "Five euros."

GRAMMAR

In Italy haggling is very common, especially in the *Bancarelle* which are little stands in little local markets or *Mercatini*. These little markets are temporary street markets where you can find everything, from food and clothes to antiquities. In these places you will be able to use the Survival Phrases you will learn in this lesson. Don't be afraid to use your Italian when speaking to the merchants because they are very funny and they can be very friendly and kind to potential customers. Are you ready to have fun at the *Bancarelle*?

Upon entering a *Bancarella* you will be struck by the variety of colorful stalls and you will be immediately attracted by something that interests you.

Normally if you are interested in buying something you would say: "Excuse me, how much is this?" *Scusi, quanto costa questo?* As soon as you're told the price you can start the bargaining to lower the price. Please note that this is one of the most typical situations in Italy, especially in the South of Italy where there is plenty of *mercatini* and *bancarelle*, so don't be shy and try to say: *È troppo caro, mi fai un pò di sconto?* "It's too expensive, can you give me a discount?"

In the first sentence you have *è* which is the third person singular of the verb *essere* "to be" followed by *troppo caro* which means "too expensive".

Then, in the second sentence you have *mi* which is a pronominal particle referred to "I", the first singular person and it means "me – to me", followed by *fai*, second singular person of the verb *fare* "to do", then you have *un pò di* "a little of" and finally you have *sconto* or "discount". Please note that in this specific case we use *tu*, that is the second singular person, even if you don't know the person you're talking to, so it's correct. In the *mercatini* everyone is friendly and no one cares to use the polite and formal level of speech.

Let's break down these words in these two sentences. *È trop-po ca-ro, mi fa-i un po' di scon-to?*

At this point the merchant will start haggling and the final result is in your hands!

Another way to express the feeling that something is too expensive and you want to start haggling is: *costa troppo costa troppo* which literally means "it costs too much". *Costa* is the third singular person of the verb *costare* "to cost" and *troppo* in this case can be translated as "too much". Let's break down these words: *co-sta trop-po*

Let's imagine that you are at a *bancarella*, you want to buy a bag and you want straight to suggest the merchant your price, and so establish your own price which is the one you will bargain for. The merchant has just told you that the bag costs 15 euros. You desperately want

that bag but it's too expensive and you want to try and suggest 8 euros.

After *Costa troppo,* you should say: *Ti do otto euro.* "I'll give you eight euros". *Costa troppo, ti do otto euro.*

Ti is another pronominal particle that refers to the second person singular, and is followed by *do* which is the first singular person of the verb *dare* "to give" and then you add the numbers according to the prices you have.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

If a merchant doesn't seem to be very agreeable to the bargaining you can just say: *L'ho visto a meno in un altra bancarella* "I've seen it in another stand costing less" and see if the merchant tries to stop you means that you have won the negotiation.
Careful, because normally you won't be able to challenge yourself and your Italian in a bargaining into a proper shop.
But please know that in a shop you can just say: *È un pò caro, avete qualcosa di più economico?* "It's quite expensive, do you have anything cheaper?" And so in this way you can request something more affordable for your pockets.

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #20
Currency

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#20

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ITALIAN

1. Ventotto euro e cinquantadue centesimi
2. Ventotto e cinquantadue
3. Quattro euro e novantanove centesimi
4. Quattro e novantanove

ENGLISH

1. Twenty-eight Euros and fifty-two cents
2. Twenty-eight fifty-two
3. Four Euros and ninety-nine cents
4. Four ninety-nine

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
quattro	four	numeral	masculine
centesimo	cent	noun	
Euro	Euro	noun	masculine
cinquanta	fifty	cardinal number	
ventotto	twenty eight	cardinal number	

novantanove	ninety nine	numeral

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Sono quattro Euro. It's four Euros.	**Quattro euro per un panino? E' caro!** "Four euros for a sandwich? That's expensive!"
Ci sono quattro sedie. "There are four chairs."	**Ho studiato letteratura per quattro anni.** "I studied literature for four years."
Luca mi ha prestato venti centesimi. "Luca lent me twenty cents."	**Sono quattro Euro.** It's four Euros.
Cinque euro. "Five euros."	**Su questo autobus ci sono cinquanta posti disponibili.** "There are fifty available seats on this bus."
Ho solo cinquanta centesimi. "I have only fifty cents."	**Al mio ultimo esame ho preso 28.** "I scored 28 in my final exam."
Sono cinque euro e novantanove. "It's five euros and ninety nine."	

GRAMMAR

In Italy the currency is the EURO. At time of writing the exchange rate is roughly 0.65 Euros to the US dollar and 1.54 US dollars to one Euro. While it is 1.26 Euros to the British Pound and 0.80 British Pounds to one Euro. The currency includes 5 10 20 50 100 200 and 500 Euro bills and 1 2 5 10 20 and 50 cent and 1 and 2 Euro coins. There are a hundred cents in one Euro.

Let's try to say prices in Italian. Lets start with EUR 28,52

The easy but long way is *ventotto euro e cinquantadue centesimi*. This is really straightforward. First we say the number of Euros, then *euro*, then *e*, number of cents and finally *centesimi*. As you can deduce, *centesimo* is the Italian word for "cent" and *centesimi* is it's plural.

The short way is *ventotto e cinquantadue*. In this case it might not be immediately clear which number is euros and which is cents but remember that the two numbers are separated by the conjunction *e* which means "and". So before the *e* you have always the euros and after the *e* you have the cents. The *e* is equivalent to "and" in English, so *ventotto e cinquantadue* is the equivalent of saying "twenty eight and fifty two".

Let us have one more example: EUR 4,99 *quattro e novantanove* or the long version *quattro euro e novanta nove centesimi*

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Be careful because in Italian the decimal separator is "," not "."
In Italian "," is *virgola* and "." Is *punto*.
So it won't be unusual to hear Italians saying *virgola* while typing decimal numbers.
The euro (€) has been the Italian currency since the 2002, when most countries of the EU adopted the Euro. Before the Euro the currency in Italy was the LIRA and the symbol was "£".
Don't get confused and don't think that you can pay in LIRE if you find some prices in EURO and then you find also the equivalent price in LIRE because it's just something to help elderly people to get used to the currency.

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #21
Internet Cafe

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#21

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ITALIAN

1. Scusi quant'è all'ora?
2. All'ora viene 2€.
3. All'ora sono 2€.
4. Posso fare una carta punti?

ENGLISH

1. Excuse me, how much is it per hour?
2. Per hour is 2€
3. Per hour is 2€.
4. Can I make a point card?

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class
carta punti	pointcard	noun
ora	time, hour	noun
potere	can	verb
fare	to do, to make, to build	verb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Ho una nuova carta punti. "I have a new pointcard."	**E' ora di andare a letto.** "It's time to go to bed."
A che ora arrivi? "What time will you arrive?"	**Devi fare i compiti.** "You must do your homework."
Non ci posso credere! "I can't believe it."	**Cosa facevi quando eri in Italia?** "What did you do when you were in Italy?"
Vorrei fare un viaggio in Tailandia. "I would like to make a trip to Thailand."	**Faccio una telefonata.** "I'm making a phone call."
Che lavoro fai? "What do you do?" / "What job do you do?"	

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

In this lesson we'll learn about a place crucial to your travels in this modern age: the Internet café!

Internet cafes can be found in almost every Italian town. I say almost and please don't be surprised, because some small towns might not have any means of connecting to the net.

Normally you find Internet cafes in the big main cities, but if you are in a very small town don't be scared and try to go back and get used to the old standards of communication.

In Italy an Internet café is called in the same way: *internet café* but you can also hear many young people calling it *internet point.*

This place in Italy is pretty different from the international Internet cafes everyone is used to; in fact young people normally surf the net at home and aren't used to going out in order to use the internet. Apart from this you have the chance to have your own Internet card which you can ask for at the counter and that gives you discounts every time you use it.

So let's imagine you're at the reception and you need to ask how much the connection is per hour.

Scusi quant'è all'ora? "Excuse me, how much is it per hour?" This sentence is made up by *scusi* and then *quant'è* which we have already seen in previous lessons followed by *all'ora*. Be careful because *all'ora* is made up by two words, even though it sounds as just one and it can be confused with the conjunction *allora* which means "then". This is not our case in fact the first word comes from *alla*, a feminine articled preposition without the ending *a*, but with the apostrophe because of the next word starting with a vowel: *ora* which is the Italian for "hour".

You will probably be answered with something like: *All'ora viene...* and then the price of the connection per hour, or even *All'ora sono...* and the price. Both sentences mean "Per hour is...".

In these phrases *all'ora* which you have just seen is followed by *viene*, the third singular person of the verb *venire* "to come", in the first case, and by *sono* the third person plural of the verb *essere* "to be" in the second case.

So these two sentences are very easy to understand and have both the same meaning and will be always followed by the price, so a number plus the word *euro*.

Let's imagine for example that the clerk says *All'ora sono due euro.* "Per hour is two euros".

So now you are ready to ask for a point card!

Posso fare una carta punti? "Can I make a point card?"

Posso is the first singular person of the verb *potere* "can", it's followed by the infinitive of the verb *fare* "to do" and then you have *una carta punti* "a point card". Please remember that in Italian it's usual to find the adjective after the noun, so *carta,* which is the Italian word for "card" comes first and then you have *punti* that is the plural of *punto* "point".

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

Internet cafes or internet points in Italy aren't very common, and facilities are limited. In fact you usually don't find soft drinks or snacks; normally local people don't go there to spend time drinking, surfing or reading comics, but usually the internet café is considered a place for visitors or tourists or for foreigners living in Italy who use this place even to make international phone calls, in fact a phone booth is never missing in an Italian internet café.

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #22
Riding the Bus 1

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#22

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ITALIAN

1. Scusi, un biglietto dell'autobus per favore.

2. Quanto costa un biglietto dell'autobus?

ENGLISH

1. Excuse me, a bus ticket please.

2. How much is a bus ticket?

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
per favore	please	adverb	
biglietto	ticket, note, card, banknote	noun	
autobus	bus	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Potrei avere del caffè, per favore?	**Questo biglietto aereo è molto costoso.**
"Could I have some coffee, please?"	"This flight ticket is very expensive."

Ho un biglietto per te. "I have a card for you."	**Se devi muoverti molto per la città puoi comprare un biglietto dell'autobus giornaliero.** "If you need to move around the city a lot, you can buy a one-day bus pass."

Quello è un autobus elettrico.

"That's an electric bus."

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

The bus is an important means of transportation. In many Italian cities, even the big ones, buses are used more than the subway. Usually buses are used to cover both long and short distances.

However, before starting your trip you probably need to buy a ticket. In Italy you can find bus tickets at a tobacco shop or a vending machine, normally located close to the bus stop. Please remember that local buses are different from the long distance ones. Normally if you buy a bus ticket it is valid for one ride in which you can go anywhere. Once you get off the bus, you will have to buy a new ticket for the return journey.

So let's imagine you are in Naples and you want to go from Central Station, *Stazione Centrale* to *Piazza Plebiscito*, one of the most famous squares of Napoli, in order to buy an espresso from the famous *Gambrinus* café. How can you get your bus ticket then?

Scusi, un biglietto dell'autobus per favore. "Excuse me, a bus ticket please".

First you have *scusi* excuse me, then *un biglietto* "a ticket" and then you have *dell'* which is the equivalent to "of the", it's an articled preposition with the apostrophe followed by a word starting with a vowel. Finally you have *autobus* "bus" and *per favore* "please".

So now, what if you want to know how much the ticket is?

You could simply use this sentence: *Quanto costa un biglietto dell'autobus?* How much is a bus ticket?

Quanto is an adjective and you can often find it in *Quanto costa* or *quant'è* "How much is it?" which we have already seen in some previous lessons when we went shopping around the stalls. So *quanto costa* means "How much is". Next you have *un biglietto* "a ticket"

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

One of the interesting aspects of the Italian language is its various and particular different ways to call things, in fact apart from *autobus* in Italian you can even hear buses called *pullman*. This name has originated from George Mortimer Pullman, an American businessman who invented the "pullman sleeping

So if you ask *Un biglietto del pullman per favore* "a bus ticket please" you won't be wrong at all and everyone will understand you.

Tip#2

In the region of Campania you can buy a ticket called UNICO which you can use all around the region on trains, buses, and trams. Its price depends on the kilometres of the route you want to ride.

So bear in mind that in all the major Italian cities you can find different types of tickets, ranging from simple one way tickets to weekly passes. So a little bit of forethought can save you a lot of money!

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #23
Riding the Bus 2

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#23

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ITALIAN

1. Scusi, va a…?
2. Scusi, va a Isola Garibaldi?
3. Scusi, ferma a Isola Garibaldi?
4. Quanto tempo ci vuole per arrivare a …?

ENGLISH

1. Excuse me, (does this bus) go to ...?
2. Excuse me, (does this bus) go to ...?
3. Excuse me, (does this bus) stop at Isola Garibaldi?
4. How long does it take to get to...?

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class
andare	to go	verb (irregular)
fermare	to stop, arrest, halt, book	verb
quanto	how long	adjective

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Sono andato all'ospedale veterinario. "I went to the animal hospital."	**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?"	**Fermati!** "Stop!"
Quanto ci vuole per arrivare a Roma? "How long does it take to get to Rome?"	

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

In the previous lesson we covered how to get a bus ticket. So now that you have your ticket, get ready to jump on your bus and start the tour. But wait a moment, before you get on the bus you need to confirm if it's going to your destination. We can accomplish this by asking *Scusi, va a…* "Excuse me, (does this bus) go to…" and then add in a destination. So, as you can see, you can omit "this bus" in Italian, because it's easy to understand that you are referring to it.

You have *scusi* which you know very well, then you have *va* which is the third person singular of the verb *andare* "to go" and then *a* which is the preposition "to".

Let's imagine now that you are in Milan and you have to go to *Isola Garibaldi,* a very famous place in Milan full of shops and clubs. What would you ask to the bus driver?

In place of *Scusi, va a Isola Garibaldi?*, you could also ask: *Scusi, ferma a Isola Garibaldi?* "Excuse me, (does this bus) stop at Isola Garibaldi?"

In this sentence you have the same structure of the other one, but the verb changes, instead of *andare*, which means "to go", we have *ferma* which is the third singular person of the verb *fermare* "to stop"

Imagine that you are visiting a city for the first time and you have no idea of the distances to cover to reach your favorite destinations and you need to ask the bus driver how long the bus takes.

Quanto tempo ci vuole per arrivare a… (your destination) "How long does it take to arrive to …?"

Quanto tempo is the Italian for "How long" and is made up by *quanto* which you have seen in the previous lesson and in English could be translated with "How much – How long", then you have *tempo* which means "time".

Ci vuole in Italian is used to translate the English "it takes", in this short sentence you have *ci* which is a pronominal particle and then *vuole* which is the third singular person of the verb *volere*, in English literally "to want".

Then you have *per* which literally means "for" and *per* in Italian is a preposition and it is often used to mark the final clause, and finally *arrivare a* which is made up of the infinitive of the verb *arrivare* "to arrive" followed by *a* an Italian preposition which means "to".

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

Please notice that the English prepositions "to" and "at" are very often both translated as the Italian preposition *a.*

As in the sentences *Questo autobus va a Isola Garibaldi* "This bus goes to Isola Garibaldi" and *Questo autobus ferma a Isola Garibaldi* "This bus stops at Isola Garibaldi".

Tip#2

When in Italy don't be surprised to find most of the buses you take full of every kind of people. Normally many people in cities like Rome and Naples take the bus and it can happen that

you can spend all the travel time in a narrow cramped space.

If you need to get off the next stop you can simply shout *Scusi, scendo alla prossima* “Excuse me, I'm getting off at the next stop” and try to find some space to walk through the crowd.

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #24
Riding the Bus 3

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#24

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ITALIAN

1. Qual'è la prossima fermata?

2. La prossima fermata è Piazza del Popolo?

ENGLISH

1. What is the next station?

2. Is Piazza del Popolo the next stop?

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class
fermata	stop	noun
prossimo	next, upcoming, forthcoming	adjective

SAMPLE SENTENCES

A quale fermata devo scendere? "At which stop do I have to get off?"	**La prossima volta guido io.** "Next time, I'll drive."
Prendiamo il prossimo treno. "Let's get the next train."	

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

In the previous lesson we learned how to ask the bus driver if the bus covers your destination.

Once on the bus, you'll hear announcements informing the passengers about where the bus will stop next. In Italy, it will be normal that most of the announcements you hear, are only in Italian. In the case that there is no English announcement, you may not catch the location just announced. So the phrase "What is the next stop?" may be indispensable.

Qual'è la prossima fermata?

The first word is *qual'* which is the contracted form of *quale* which is the Italian for "which" or "what". Since it is followed by *è*, which is a vowel, we cut off the final *e* of *quale* to use just

È is the third singular person of the verb *essere* "to be", then comes *la* the definite article in its feminine singular form, or in English, "the". After that we have *prossima* which means "next", and finally *fermata* which is the Italian word for "stop". Be careful and please note that *fermata* is a feminine singular noun and for this reason, *la* and *prossima* are also in their feminine singular forms.

Another way of inquiring could be asking if your desired destination is the next stop. For this phrase we'll use *Piazza del Popolo,* the most famous square in Rome, as the destination. So the phrase "Is Piazza del Popolo the next stop?" in Italian is *La prossima fermata è Piazza del Popolo?*

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

Rome's main transportation company is named ATAC. Before visiting the city, you may want to chek its site to get useful and updated informations about tickets and passes.

http://www.atac.roma.it/

Tip#2

Milan's main transportation company is named ATM. Before visiting the city, you may want to check its site to get useful and updated informations about tickets and passes.

http://www.atm.it/en/

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #25
Riding the Rails I

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#25

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ITALIAN

1. Scusi, un biglietto della metropolitana per favore.

2. Scusi, che linea devo prendere per il Duomo?

3. Deve prendere la linea rossa.

ENGLISH

1. Excuse me, a subway ticket please.

2. Excuse me, what line do I need to take for Duomo?

3. You need to take the red line.

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class
rosso	red	adjective
biglietto	ticket, note, card, banknote	noun
metro	subway	noun (feminine)
linea	line	noun
prendere	to take, to get, to grab	verb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Il vino rosso accompagna bene la carne. "Red wine goes well with meat."	**Questo biglietto aereo è molto costoso.** "This flight ticket is very expensive."
Ho un biglietto per te. "I have a card for you."	**La metro di Milano è molto comoda.** "Milano subway is very comfortable."
Per favore rimanere dietro la riga gialla. "Please stay behind the yellow line."	**Hai preso il tuo zaino?** "Have you taken your backpack?"
Hai preso le chiavi? "Did you grab the keys?"	

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

In Italy riding the rails is one of the best choices you can make to get around and reach all the most important parts of a city. Today we are going to cover how to get on the subway.

As you have learned in the previous lessons, in Italy you can buy tickets at tobacco shops, news dealers and vending machines located at subway entrances.

Normally in Italy, tickets are the same for all kinds of transportations and can be used for buses, trams and subway, and in some cities, also some train tickets can be used on other means of transportation.

Please don’t get confused because usually in Italy trains and subways don’t share the same

So now let's go and see how to get our subway ticket. As you can remember from the previous lessons covering how to get a bus ticket we can accomplish this by asking “Excuse me, a subway ticket please.” *Scusi, un biglietto della metropolitana per favore.*

So as you can see the sentence doesn’t change from the one we covered in lesson 22, apart

from the word *metropolitana,* “subway”, which substitutes the word *autobus*, "bus".

So you have *scusi* “excuse me”, then *un biglietto* “a ticket”, then *della metropolitana* which literally means “of the subway”. *Metropolitana* is a feminine singular noun and *della* is made up of *di* (of) plus *la* (feminine singular article).

And then we have the usual *per favore*,

Our location for today’s lesson will be *Milano* (Milan), where the subway lines are marked by three different colours: green, red and yellow.

Let’s imagine you need to go from *Stazione centrale* to *Duomo* and you need to ask what line you have to take to get there.

You can accomplish this by asking: “Excuse me, what line do I need to take for Duomo?”
Scusi, che linea devo prendere per il

Let’s see this sentence word by word.

First you have the usual *scusi* followed by *che linea* which is the Italian for "what line". This is made up by *che* "what", followed by the word *linea*, "line".

Then you have *devo prendere* made up by *devo* first singular person of the present tense of the verb *dovere* “to have to – must”, followed by the infinitive of the verb *prendere* to take. As you can see we don’t have the literal translation for the expression “do I need” which in Italian in this case is conveyed by *devo*.

Finally you have *per il Duomo*. Here we find *per* “for” and *il* "the", masculine singular definite article and finally the name *Duomo*.

Scusi che linea devo prendere per il Duomo?

The possible answer to your question could be *Deve prendere la linea rossa* “You need to take the red line”.

This sentence as you can see has the same structure you have just heard, made up by *deve prendere* for the English “you need to take” followed by *la linea rossa* “the red line”. Please note that *deve* is the third singular person of the present tense of the verb *dovere* and it is used in the formal way of speech.

The other two lines in Milan are *la linea verde* “the green line”, and *la linea gialla* “the yellow line”.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

The largest subway areas in Italy are located in the cities of Milano (Milan), Roma (Rome), Torino (Turin), Bari, Napoli (Naples), Palermo, Genova (Genoa), Bologna and Firenze

The largest and longest Italian subway system is the one in Milano. It covers 76 km, compared to the one in Rome, which with its 38 km is the second longest.

Tip#2

In Milano, Torino and Napoli you can find also the *passante ferroviario* (railway link) which is actually a railway connection built to connect stops without subways and to carry suburban traffic of Trenitalia (the main Italian railway service company) and LeNord (a railway service company servicing the Milano area).

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #26
Riding the Rails II

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#26

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ITALIAN

1. Un biglietto per Firenze per favore.
2. Quanto costa un biglietto per Firenze?
3. Due biglietti per Firenze per favore.

ENGLISH

1. A ticket to Florence please.
2. How much is a ticket to Florence?
3. Two tickets to Florence please.

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class
per favore	please	adverb
biglietto	ticket, note, card, banknote	noun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Potrei avere del caffè, per favore? "Could I have some coffee, please?"	**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

In the previous lesson we covered how get the subway. In Italy riding the rails is one of the best ways to enjoy your trip and visit as many places as possible, not only at the local level, but also for long distance destinations! In fact, traveling by train can be one more way to see all the wonderful things Italy can offer!

In Italy you can buy train tickets at the station where you can find the ticket office and the vending machines. Be careful because it is not possible to buy tickets on the train and if you ride a train without a ticket you will be fined. Another place where you can buy a train ticket is the travel agency where you can go and simply ask for a ticket covering your desired ride.

Furthermore a new way to buy tickets is by using the internet and accessing the Italian railway's web site. Here, after having signed up, you can choose the time and the train you desire.

When traveling long distances, there are several types of tickets, which we'll take a look at in a minute, but first let's work on asking for the ticket.

We can accomplish this by asking *Un biglietto per...* and then your destination. Now, of course, we need a destination. So let's use the wonderful city of *Florence* or Firenze in Italian. So how do you ask for a ticket to Florence?

"One ticket to Florence" in Italian *is Un biglietto per Firenze per favore.*

This sentence is made up by *un biglietto* “a ticket” followed by *per* the preposition “for” and then the name of the destination, Florence, in Italian *Firenze* followed by *per favore,* “please”.

Now, what if you wanted to know how much the ticket was before buying it?

“How much is a ticket to Florence?” in Italian is *Quanto costa un biglietto per Firenze?*

This sentence is so easy and you know the structure thanks to the previous lessons, in fact we have *quanto costa* “how much”, followed by *un biglietto per Firenze* “a ticket to Florence”.

Please be careful because in Italian we often use the preposition *per* to translate the English “to”.

Let's now imagine that you are not travelling on your own but with someone else, so you need to ask for two or more tickets.

"Two tickets to Florence please" in Italian is *Due biglietti per Firenze per favore.* As you can see it's very easy to understand, in place of *un biglietto* "one ticket", you have another number *due* "two" and then the plural noun *biglietti* "tickets".

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

In Italy trains are divided into three categories: local, national, and international.

The local ones are *treni a trasporto locale* and they connect the little urban centers to the main metropolitan areas. The national ones are the EUROSTAR which is a high speed train and the INTERCITY. Both cover very long distances and travel between the regions. Then there are the international trains that connect Italy to the main countries of Europe such as Switzerland, Holland, France, Germany, Spain and Austria.

Tip#2

After you have bought your train ticket and you have reserved the seats make sure to double check the numbers written on your ticket before getting on the train. You find the number of the coach and then the one of your seat. Once on the train it can happen you find someone sitting on your seat so you can simply say: *scusi questo è il mio posto* "Excuse me this is my seat".

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #27
Riding the Rails III

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#27

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ITALIAN

1. Un biglietto per Roma prima classe per favore.
2. Vorrei un biglietto per Roma andata e ritorno per favore.
3. Vorrei un biglietto per Roma solo andata per favore.

ENGLISH

1. A first class ticket to Rome please.
2. I would like a round-trip ticket to Rome please.
3. I would like a one way ticket to Rome please.

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class
sola andata	one way	noun
classe	class	noun
biglietto	ticket, note, card, banknote	noun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Ho comprato un biglietto di sola andata per Roma. "I got a one way ticket for Rome."	**Questo treno ha solo la seconda classe.** "This is a second-class only train."

Questo biglietto aereo è molto costoso.	**Ho un biglietto per te.**
"This flight ticket is very expensive."	"I have a card for you."

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

In the previous lesson we covered how to ask and buy a train ticket. Once you have established the destination, it is time to select the type of seat you want. In Italy normally you can choose between *prima classe* “first class” and *seconda classe* “second class”.

The first word *prima* means “first” and it is a numeral adjective used in concordance with the feminine noun which it refers to: *classe* “class”.

Then *seconda classe*. Before *classe* this time you have *seconda* in place of *prima*, a feminine numeral adjective.

So let’s now imagine you want to buy a first class ticket. This time the destination will be Rome (Roma).

"A first class ticket to Rome please", in Italian is *Un biglietto per Roma prima classe per*

The structure is the same you have just seen in the previous lesson, just with the addition of *prima classe* “first class”.

In your trips to Italy it could happen that you will take the train and then you will go back to the city you’re staying. So if you wish to buy a round trip ticket how could you accomplish this in Italian?

“I would like a round-trip ticket to Rome please” *Vorrei un biglietto per Roma andata e ritorno per favore.*

In this structure we have added *vorrei* “I would like” at the beginning of the sentence. It is followed by *un biglietto per Roma* “a ticket to Rome” and then finally *andata e ritorno* “round trip”.

So to convey the English definition “round trip” in Italian we say *andata e ritorno*. Made up by *andata* which comes from the verb *andare* “to go”, but in this case it is used as a feminine singular noun followed by the conjunction *e,* “and”, and then *ritorno* which is a masculine singular noun meaning “back – return”.

Finally if you just need a simple one way ticket, you can accomplish it by asking: “I would like a one-way ticket to Rome please” which in Italian is *Vorrei un biglietto per Roma solo andata per*

So as you can see we have used the exact same structure of the previous phrase adding *solo andata* in place of *andata e ritorno*. *Solo andata* is made up by the words *solo* which means “only” and *andata* which we have just seen.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

Andata e ritorno is a form used in Italian not only for train tickets but even for airplane tickets.

For example if you wanted to buy a round-trip ticket from Rome to Paris you would say *Un biglietto per Parigi andata e ritorno*. Also *Andata e ritorno* is the title of an Italian movie directed by a famous director, Marco Ponti, pertaining the strange love story between a pony express guy and a beautiful hostess.

Tip#2

Local train tickets are different from the national and international ones. The day, time and seat are written on the tickets. Local train tickets need to be printed before you get on the train otherwise you can risk a fine.

To accomplish this you need to find the ticket machines called *obliteratrici*. Normally they are yellow and they’re situated at the beginning of the rail line. The word *obliteratrici* comes from the verb *obliterare*, in fact we say *obliterare il biglietto* “to print the ticket”, before getting on the train. These machines print on your ticket the name of the place you are leaving from, the day and the time. So it’s important you don’t forget it!

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #28
Taking a Taxi

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#28

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ITALIAN

1. A Roma Termini.
2. Vorrei andare a Roma Termini.
3. Può cambiare cinquanta euro?
4. Qui va bene.

ENGLISH

1. To Roma Termini.
2. I would like to go to Roma Termini.
3. Do you have change for fifty euros?
4. Here is fine.

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
cinquanta	fifty	cardinal number	
cambiare	to change, to shift, to exchange	verb	
andare	to go	verb (irregular)	
bene	well, good, fine	adverb	

Euro	Euro	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Su questo autobus ci sono cinquanta posti disponibili. "There are fifty available seats on this bus."	**Ho solo cinquanta centesimi.** "I have only fifty cents."
Per la fine dell'anno voglio cambiare macchina. "By the end of the year, I want to change my car."	**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?"	**Stanno bene.** "They are fine."
Io sto bene, e tu? "I'm doing fine, what about you?"	**Stiamo bene!** "We are fine!"
Sono quattro Euro. It's four Euros.	**Cinque euro.** "Five euros."

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

In this lesson we'll cover a phrase used to get you to your destination when riding a taxi. We'll look at the most basic way to express this, which is the word “to” followed by a destination. In today’s lesson we’ll use *Roma Termini* which is the central station of Rome. Now let's hear it once again *Roma Termini*. Let's go over what to say to the taxi driver to get there.

In Italian “To Roma Termini” is *A Roma Termini*. The word for “to” in Italian is *a*.

This is the most basic way of expressing where you would like to go and actually even the easiest one, but speaking the local language is one of the most fun things you can do on your travels. So challenge yourself by using another option!

You can also say, “I would like to go to Roma Termini”, which in Italian is *Vorrei andare a Roma Termini.*

Let's take a look at the components. The first word *vorrei* means “I would like”. This is the conjugated form of the verb *volere* “to want”, used in this case in the conditional form. This is followed by *andare*, which in Italian is “to go”. So to recap here, we have *vorrei andare* “I would like to go” and then finally the destination.

So all together we have *Vorrei andare a Roma Termini*.

One more helpful phrase when taking a taxi is "Here is fine". This phrase will allow you to get out of the taxi whenever and wherever you want.

In Italian “Here is fine” is *Qui va bene*. The word for “here” in Italian is *qui* This is followed by *va bene* which in Italian is an expression used to translate “is fine”.

Another useful phrase you could be able to practice when riding a taxi is *Può cambiare cinquanta euro?* which means “Do you have change for fifty euros?”. The bigger notes like 50 100 and 200 euros might not be changed so easily, so before you jump into the taxi, if you have bigger notes try to ask: *Può cambiare cinquanta euro?*

Può comes from the verb *potere* and it is used at the third person singular, in the formal level of speech, it’s followed by the infinitive of the verb *cambiare* “to change” and then you have the numbers.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

You can normally find taxis outside airports, train stations or proper taxi stands. There will be several waiting so in this case you can just open the door of the first in the line and get in. You can easily recognize them because most of the times they are white coloured and have a luminous device with the writing TAXI.

Tip#2

Instead if you are for example in some areas of the city you're visiting, in which there are no taxiMMs, make sure to find out the phone number of a taxi company to call, in order to have the cab come right to the place you are.

In Italy this service is called *radiotaxi* and you can have the number of the local company when you get to the airport or even to any information counter.

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #29 Where Can I Buy This?

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#29

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ITALIAN

1. Dove posso trovare un bar?
2. Scusi sa dirmi dove posso trovare un telefono?
3. Scusi sa dirmi dove posso trovare un tabacchino?
4. Dove posso trovare...?

ENGLISH

1. Where can I find a bar?
2. Excuse me, could you tell me where I can find a phone?
3. Excuse me, could you tell me where I can find a tobacco shop?
4. Where can I find...?

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
dire	to say, to tell	verb	
potere	can	verb	
trovare	to find	verb	
bar	bar	noun	masculine
tabaccheria	tobacco shop	noun	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

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."	**Devi fare i compiti.** "You must do your homework."
Non ci posso credere! "I can't believe it."	**L'ho trovato! L'ho trovato!** "I've found it! I've found it!"
Non trovo le chiavi. "I can't find my keys."	**Ho trovato questo portafoglio.** "I found this wallet."
Abbiamo trovato un cane in giardino. "We found a dog in the yard."	**Una colazione tipica al bar è cappuccino e cornetto.** "A typical breakfast at the bar is a cappuccino and a croissant."
Prendiamo un caffè al bar. "Let's take a coffee at the bar."	**L'insegna della tabaccheria ha una grande T.** "The sign for a tobacco shop has a big T on it."
In Italia, puoi riconoscere le tabaccherie dall'insegna a forma di t. "In Italy, you can recognize tobacco shops from the t-shaped sign."	

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

Have you ever been in a city you don't know at all and you are looking desperately for something you need and you cannot find it?

It happened so many times to me! Wandering around without knowing where to go to reach for example a bar, a phone, a restroom!

Don't worry! If you go to Italy, thanks to our Survival Phrases you will always be able how to ask for information and help.

So today we would like to introduce you a phrase that will help you track down that specific something you're looking for. "Where can I find…?" in Italian is *Dove posso trovare…?* and then you add the name of the specific thing you are looking for.

In this sentence there is a basic structure you will be able to use in any other situation you will need to get something. This structure is made up by the adverb *dove* "where" followed by *posso* which comes from the verb *potere* "can" and then the infinitive of the verb *trovare* "to find".

So now let's go and see what kind of things you might need if you're traveling abroad. Let's imagine you're walking through a beautiful old stylish town in Tuscany and it's very hot and you need to get something to drink, so let's go and try to ask where you can find a bar!

"Where can I find a bar?" in Italian is *Dove posso trovare un bar?*

So as you can easily note, you have the structure you have just seen *Dove posso trovare*, followed by the thing you are looking for: *un bar* "a bar". Bar is a very easy noun, the same in Italian and English, but be careful when using it in Italian: it's a masculine noun and it doesn't change in its plural form. In this case it is preceded by the masculine singular indefinite article *un* or in English "a".

With this form you can go anywhere you need and ask for anything you are looking for. There is another form you could use if you wanted to be more polite and wanted to use a different expression. Let's imagine you are looking for a phone this time.

"Excuse me, could you tell me where I can find a phone?" *Scusi sa dirmi dove posso trovare un telefono?* So, don't you think this is more formal? Of course it is.

So what do we have here? We have *scusi* "excuse me" then a new form never seen till now, which is *sa dirmi* made up by the third singular person of the verb *sapere* "to know", followed by *dirmi* which is a verb plus a pronoun that become a single word. It originates from *dire* the

infinitive of the verb “to say” plus *mi* personal pronoun of the first singular person. *Sa dirmi* means in English “could you tell me”.

The rest of the sentence is exactly the structure you have seen before, made up by *dove posso trovare un telefono?*. *Telefono* is the Italian word for “phone, telephone” and it’s a masculine singular noun and for this reason it is preceded by the masculine singular indefinite article *un* “a”.

Now to ask for any other different item, we can just replace *un bar* or *un telefono* with any other word and the phrase works brilliantly.

Let's try with "tobacco shop" which in Italian is *tabacchino*.

"Excuse me, could you tell me where I can find a tobacco shop" in Italian is *Scusi sa dirmi dove posso trovare un tabacchino?*

So these phrases will come in handy before leaving the hotel, talking with taxi drivers, or other people trying help to you locate a desired item.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

Usually bars have both restrooms and a phone, so you can simply ask where to find a bar.

Once there, if you use any of the services provided by the bar, please remember that it’s very polite to order something at the counter or simply buy a coffee or a pack of chewing gum.

Tip#2

Phone booths in Italy used to be coin operated, before the Euro became the official currency, you could use also a token whose value was 200 of the old LIRE. So before people were able to make a phone call with just a 200 *lire* token.

Nowadays phone booth can be used only with phone cards which in Italy can found at the newspaper dealer or at the tobacco shops.

LESSON NOTES

Survival Phrases #30
Is There a Store Near Here?

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#30

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ITALIAN

1. C’è una farmacia qui vicino?
2. C’è un bancomat qui vicino?
3. C’è un ufficio postale nelle vicinanze?

ENGLISH

1. Is there a pharmacy near here?
2. Is there an ATM near here?
3. Is there a post office near here?

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
farmacia	pharmacy	noun	feminine
bancomat	ATM	noun	
ufficio postale	post office	phrase	masculine
c'è	there is	verbal expression	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Durante la notte una farmacia è sempre aperta. "During the night a pharmacy is always open."	**Domani ritirerò soldi al bancomat.** "I'll withdraw money at the ATM tomorrow."
L'ufficio postale chiude alle diciassette. "The post office closes at 5:00 PM."	**Cosa c'è che non va?** What's wrong?
C'è una bottiglia sul tavolo. "There is a bottle on the table."	**Pronto, c'è Marco?** "Hello, is Marco there?"
C'è un gatto sul divano. "There is a cat on the sofa."	

GRAMMAR

Language Tip

In the previous lesson we covered how to ask to get something, in today's one we'll introduce you to another useful phrase for asking the place where you can find what you are looking for. Today's phrase is "Is there a (place) near here?" First we need a place, so let's use the word *farmacia* which means "pharmacy", but can also be translated as "chemist" or "drug store".

In Italian "Is there a pharmacy near here?" is *C'è una farmacia qui vicino?*

C'è una farmacia qui vicino?. The first word *c'è* means "there is". *C'è* sounds as a single word but it's actually made up of two: *ci* and *è*, third person singular of the verb *essere* "to be", all together they become *c'è* with an apostrophe.

This is followed by *una*, "a", the indefinite article for feminine nouns. Followed by *farmacia* "pharmacy". Then we have *qui* "here" and *vicino* "near". So all together we have *C'è una farmacia qui vicino?*

In Italy pharmacies are very easy to find, normally there are many in the same area, and furthermore in big and medium-sized cities there is always at least one pharmacy that is open at night.

Now to ask for a different place, we can just replace the word *farmacia* with any other word and the phrase works just fine.

So let's imagine you need to withdraw some money from your bank account.

In Italian "Is there an ATM near here?" is *C'è un bancomat qui vicino?* So the only thing that changes is the thing you are looking for, in this case *bancomat* "ATM". Let's hear the entire phrase now *C'è un bancomat qui vicino?*

In place of *qui vicino*, to translate "near here" you could also use the expression *nelle vicinanze*. So let's try now with a post office. *Ufficio postale.*

C'è un ufficio postale nelle vicinanze? "Is there a post office near here?"

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tip#1

In Italy when withdrawing at an ATM, please make sure that your card is compatible. You can do this by checking the symbol on your card and the one on the ATM. It might be better to contact your bank before leaving your country.

In Italian post offices you can also find stationery and books. Prices are always the same, and sometimes even lower with some discounts. In most Italian post offices you can also exchange your money.

Tip#2

If you are looking for a pharmacy please remember that in Italy they normally have a red or a green cross as a distinguishing sign, usually if it's on the top of the entrance it's a blinking light sign you can notice even in the night time and from far away.

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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#32

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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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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

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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. "This package is really heavy."	**Mia madre mi ha inviato quelle foto.** "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*

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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?"

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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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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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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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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!"

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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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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*.

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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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#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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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	
americano	American	adjective

SAMPLE SENTENCES

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/*
Greek *greco/a*
Indian *indiano/a*
Indonesian *indonesiano/a*
Irish *irlandese*
Israeli *israeliano/a*
Italian *italiano/*
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

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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.

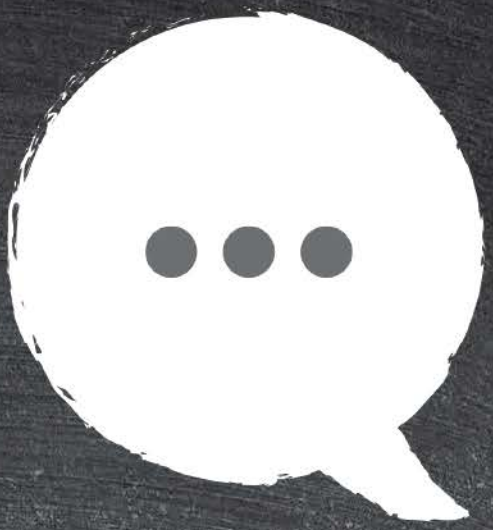
Le mie migliori congratulazioni e vi auguro tutto il meglio.

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LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Essential Italian Vocabulary S1 #1 National Holidays

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ITALIAN

1. What is the top five most important National Holidays?

2. 1. Natale

3. 2. Pasquetta

4. 3. Ferragosto

5. 4. Immacolata Concezione

6. 5. Capodanno

ENGLISH

1. What are the top five most important National Holidays?

2. 1. Christmas

3. 2. Easter Monday

4. 3. Mid-August

5. 4. Immaculate Conception

6. 5. New Year's Day

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender

Pasquetta	little Easter	noun	
Natale	Christmas	noun	masculine
Capodanno	New Year's Eve/Day	noun	
Ferragosto	Mid-August	noun	
Immacolata Concezione	Immaculate Conception	noun	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

A Pasquetta gli Italiani fanno spesso un picnic. "On Easter Monday Italian people often go for a picnic."	**A Natale le famiglie si riuniscono a pranzo.** "On Christmas families get together for lunch."
Buon Natale! "Merry Christmas!"	**In Italia si crede che mangiare uva a Capodanno porti fortuna.** "In Italy, it is believed that eating grapes on New Year's Day brings good luck."
Come festeggerai il Capodanno? "How will you celebrate New Year's Eve?"	**I fuochi d'artificio di Ferragosto sono molto spettacolari.** "Mid-August fireworks are very spectacular."

Nel giorno dell'Immacolata Concezione si inizia a decorare l'albero di Natale.

"On Immaculate Conception's Day people start decorating their Christmas tree."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

1. Christmas

Christmas is a major holiday in Italy with many different traditions. Italians usually decorate their house with nativity scenes, called *Presepe*, along with Christmas trees.

2. Easter

Easter Monday is the day after Easter Sunday. Since on Easter Italian people traditionally have a big lunch with all the family members, there are usually a lot of leftovers. With these they prepare lunch boxes for the picnic.

3. Mid-August

Mid-August is a Catholic Church celebration that represents the Assumption of Virgin Mary. It takes place on August 15th.

4. Immaculate Conception

December 8th is celebrated as a holy day of obligation, commemorating the Immaculate Conception of Mary.

5. New Year's Day

On New Year's Day, Italians gather with family and friends for dinner. Traditional foods eaten on this day are pork and lentils.

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Culture Class: Essential Italian Vocabulary S1 #2 Foods

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ITALIAN

1. What are the five most popular foods in Italy?
2. 1. pizza Margherita
3. 2. insalata caprese
4. 3. lasagne
5. 4. cotoletta alla milanese
6. 5. spaghetti alla carbonara

ENGLISH

1. What are the five most popular foods in Italy?
2. 1. margerita pizza
3. 2. caprese salad
4. 3. lasagna
5. 4. milanese cutlet
6. 5. carbonara spaghetti

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender

insalata caprese	caprese salad	noun	feminine
pizza Margherita	margherita Pizza	noun	
lasagna	lasagna	noun	feminine
cotoletta alla milanese	milanese cutlet	noun	
spaghetti alla carbonara	carbonara spaghetti	noun	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

L'insalata caprese prende il nome da Capri, un'isola vicino a Napoli. "Caprese salad takes its name from Capri, an island near Naples."	**Come antipasto prendo un'insalata caprese.** "I'll take a caprese salad as first course."
La pizza Margherita prende il nome da una regina. "Margherita Pizza was named after a Queen."	**Le lasagne sono di solito un piatto unico.** "Lasagna is usually a all-in-one course."
Sì, amo soprattutto la lasagna. "Yes, I especially love lasagna."	**La cotoletta alla milanese è molto sottile.** "Milanese cutlet is very thin."

Gli spaghetti alla carbonara vanno mangiati al dente.

"Carbonara spaghetti has to be eaten al dente."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

1. Margerita pizza

Margerita pizza is the most famous pizza in the world, and is topped with tomato sauce, mozzarella cheese and basil.

2. Caprese salad

Insalata caprese is a salad prepared with sliced tomatoes, mozzarella cheese, basil and olive oil. Because it's fresh and easy to make, it is the perfect summertime dish.

3. Lasagna

Although the worldwide famous dish is prepared with meat sauce and bechamel sauce, there are a lot of regional variations in Italy, using mushroom sauce, basil sauce or other sauces.

4. Milanese cutlet

Milanese cutlet is a veal cutlet covered in bread crumbs and fried in butter, and is a dish typical of Milan.

5. Carbonara spaghetti

Carbonara is a traditional pasta dish from Rome that combines egg, cheese, bacon and black pepper.

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Culture Class: Essential Italian Vocabulary S1 #3 Beverages

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ITALIAN

1. What are the five most popular beverages in Italy?

2. 1. caffè

3. 2. cappuccino

4. 3. spremuta di arancia rossa

5. 4. limoncello

6. 5. Prosecco

ENGLISH

1. What are the five most popular beverages in Italy?

2. 1. coffee, espresso

3. 2. cappuccino

4. 3. blood orange juice

5. 4. limoncello

6. 5. prosecco

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender

cappuccino	cappuccino	noun	masculine
caffè	coffee, espresso	noun	
spremuta di arancia rossa	blood orange juice	noun	
Limoncello	Limoncello	noun	
Prosecco	prosecco	noun	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Cornetto e cappuccino solo la tipica colazione al bar. "The typical Italian breakfast at a cafe is croissant and cappuccino."	**Un cornetto e un cappuccino, per favore.** "A croissant and a cappuccino, please."
Gli Italiani bevono raramente caffè freddo. "Italian people seldom drink iced coffee."	**Un caffè macchiato, grazie.** "A caffè macchiato, thank you." (Coffee with a small amount of hot milk)
La spremuta di arancia rossa è molto rinfrescante. "Blood orange juice is very refreshing."	**Il Limoncello è spesso servito in piccoli bicchieri raffreddati.** "Limoncello is often served in small chilled glasses. "
Il Prosecco è più economico dello Champagne. "Prosecco is cheaper than Champagne."	

CULTURAL INSIGHT

1. Coffee, Espresso

While this word literally means "coffee," it almost always refers to an espresso in Italy. There are a lot of coffee variations in an Italian bar, like macchiato, lungo, corretto, ristretto, marocchino, and al ginseng.

2. Cappuccino

This traditional drink is prepared with espresso, hot milk, and steamed milk foam, and takes its name from the Capuchin friars, referring to the color of their robes.

3. Blood orange juice

Among the oranges in Italy, there is a type of sweet orange native to Sicily called blood orange, because of the red color of its pulp.

4. Limoncello

This is an Italian lemon liqueur produced in Southern Italy. Limoncello is often served chilled as an after-dinner drink.

5. Prosecco

Prosecco is a white dry sparkling wine produced in the regions of Veneto and Friuli Venezia Giulia in Italy. It is usually drunk as an aperitif but also appears in several mixed drinks.

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Culture Class: Essential Italian Vocabulary S1 #4 Homecooked meals

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ITALIAN

1. What are the five most popular home cooked meals in Italy?

2. 1. polpette

3. 2. minestrone

4. 3. frittata

5. 4. pasta al forno

6. 5. crostata

ENGLISH

1. What are the five most popular home cooked meals in Italy?

2. 1. meatballs

3. 2. minestrone

4. 3. frittata

5. 4. pasta bake

6. 5. crostata

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender

polpette	meatballs	noun	
minestrone	minestrone	noun	
pasta al forno	pasta bake	noun	
crostata	crostata	noun	
frittata	frittata (omelettes)	noun	feminine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Gli spaghetti con le polpette sono famosi in tutto il mondo. "Spaghetti with meatballs is famous all over the world."	**Ai bambini non piace molto il minestrone.** "Kids don't like minestrone very much."
La pasta al forno è un piatto tradizionale del pranzo della domenica. "Pasta bake is a traditional Sunday lunch dish."	**La crostata è un'ottima merenda.** "Crostata is a good afternoon snack."
La frittata è un piatto tipico da picnic. "Frittata is a typical picnic food."	**Sì, amo soprattutto la frittata.** "Yes, I especially love omelettes."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

1. Meatballs

Meatballs are a traditional homecooked meal consisting of ground meat mixed with breadcrumbs, eggs,parsley, Parmesan cheese, salt and black pepper. They can be fried or

cooked in tomato sauce.

2. Minestrone

This is a healthy soup made with vegetables like beans, onions, carrots, celery and seasonal vegetables. It can also be eaten with pasta.

3. Frittata

This is a thick, open Italian omelette with an egg base enriched with vegetables, meat or cheese. It's usually divided into slices and can be served hot or cold.

4. Pasta bake

In Italian *al forno* means "in the oven," so *pasta al forno* is pasta cooked in the oven. The ingredients are meat sauce, béchamel sauce, mozzarella cheese and of course pasta.

5. Crostata

Crostata is an Italian baked dessert tart topped with jam. The jams that are traditionally used include cherry, peach and apricot.

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Culture Class: Essential Italian Vocabulary S1 #5 Sweets and Desserts

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ITALIAN

1. What are the five most popular sweets and desserts in Italy?

2. 1. panna cotta

3. 2. gelato

4. 3. macedonia

5. 4. torrone

6. 5. cannolo

ENGLISH

1. What are the five most popular sweets and desserts in Italy?

2. 1. Panna cotta

3. 2. Gelato

4. 3. Fruit salad

5. 4. Torrone

6. 5. Cannolo

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender

macedonia	fruit salad	noun	
torrone	torrone, nougat	noun	masculine
cannolo	cannolo	noun	
panna cotta	panna cotta (lit. baked cream)	noun	
gelato	gelato (icecream)	noun	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

La macedonia è un dolce sano e con pochi grassi. "Fruit salad is a healthy and low fat dessert."	**Il torrone è un dolce tradizionale di Natale.** "Torrone is a traditional Christmas sweet."
Il cannolo è il dolce siciliano più famoso. "Cannolo is the most famous Sicilian dessert."	**La panna cotta viene solitamente servita con il caramello.** "Panna cotta is usually served with caramel."
Il gusto di gelato preferito dagli Italiani è il cioccolato. "Italian peoples' favorite gelato flavor is chocolate."	

CULTURAL INSIGHT

1. Panna cotta

Panna cotta, which means "cooked cream," is a pudding prepared with milk, cream, sugar

and gelatin.

2. Gelato

Ice cream is a world-famous dessert, but Italian gelato has a lower milk fat content. The word *gelato* simply means "frozen."

3. Macedonia

Macedonia is a common Italian dessert consisting of seasonal fresh fruits, cut in pieces and mixed together. In Italy, fruit is a dessert and a bowl of fruit is always present at every meal.

4. Torrone

Torrone is a sweet made of honey, sugar, and egg white. There are many varieties—soft and hard, classic or with chocolate, with almonds, hazelnuts or pistachios.

5. Cannolo

A *cannolo* is a Sicilian pastry dessert consisting of a tube-shaped shell of fried pastry dough, filled with a sweet, creamy ricotta cheese mixture.

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Culture Class: Essential Italian Vocabulary S1 #6 Fruits

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ITALIAN

1. What are the five most popular fruits in Italy?

2. 1. limone

3. 2. uva

4. 3. anguria

5. 4. arancia

6. 5. pesca

ENGLISH

1. What are the five most popular fruits in Italy?

2. 1. Lemon

3. 2. Grape

4. 3. Watermelon

5. 4. Orange

6. 5. Peach

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender

arancia	orange	noun	feminine
uva	grape	noun	feminine
limone	lemon	noun	masculine
pesca	peach	noun	feminine
anguria	watermelon	noun	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Le arance candite sono spesso usate nei dolci. "Candied oranges are often used in desserts."	**Sto tagliando un'arancia.** "I'm cutting an orange."
L'uva spesso adorna la tavola degli Italiani. "Grapes often adorn an Italian dining table."	**Il limone si usa per preparare il Limoncello.** "Lemon is used to make Limoncello."
Il succo di pesca è un succo di frutta popolare tra i bambini italiani. "Peach juice is a popular fruit juice among Italian children."	**Prendi una pesca per merenda.** "Take a peach for snack time."
L'anguria in Italia è molto economica. "Watermelon in Italy is very cheap."	

CULTURAL INSIGHT

1. Lemon

Lemons are very common in southern Italy: nine out of ten lemons in Italy come from Sicily.

2. Grape

There are over 350 types of grapes in Italy and most of them are used to produce wine.

3. Watermelon

To choose a watermelon Italians usually lightly tap on it. A good watermelon has a particular sound.

4. Orange

Like lemons, oranges are produced primarily in southern Italy. They appear as fruit at the end of the meal or can be squeezed.

5. Peach

Peaches are often used in Italy in fruit tarts, jams, and juices.

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Culture Class: Essential Italian Vocabulary S1 #7 Vegetables

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ITALIAN

1. What are the five most popular vegetables in Italy?

2. 1. pomodoro

3. 2. melanzana

4. 3. rucola

5. 4. cipolla

6. 5. carciofo

ENGLISH

1. What are the five most popular vegetables in Italy?

2. 1. Tomato

3. 2. Eggplant

4. 3. Arugula

5. 4. Onion

6. 5. Artichoke

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender

melanzana	eggplant	noun	feminine
pomodoro	tomato	noun	masculine
carciofo	artichoke	noun	
cipolla	onion	noun	feminine
rucola	rocket, arugula (plant)	noun	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Le melanzane italiane sono rotonde e grosse. "Italian eggplants are round and big."	**Le melazane sulla pizza sono molto buone.** "Eggplants on a pizza are very good."
Il pomodoro è un simbolo della cucina Italiana. "Tomato is a symbol of Italian cuisine."	**Questo pomodoro è molto saporito.** "This tomato is very tasty."
In Italia c'è un famoso liquore a base di carciofo. "In Italy there is a famous liqueur made from artichoke."	**I carciofi sono buoni anche sulla pizza.** "Artichokes are good even on pizza."
La cipolla dà sapore a ogni piatto. "Onion gives flavor to any dish."	**Dovrei avere una cipolla in frigorifero.** "I should have an onion in the fridge."
La rucola ha un sapore amaro. "Arugula has a bitter taste."	**Mi piace l'insalata di rucola.** "I like rocket salad."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

1. Tomato

Tomatoes are the base of Italian cuisine. They are used raw in salads, and cooked in several types of sauces.

2. Eggplant

Eggplants are used to prepare the famous *pasta alla norma*, which is pasta with tomato and eggplant sauce.

3. Arugula

Arugula is a plant native to the Mediterranean region. It is used as a leaf vegetable in salads or as a topping for pizza.

4. Onion

Italian people use onions every day, raw in salads or browned as a base for almost any dish.

5. Artichoke

Artichokes are usually eaten marinated, stuffed, boiled, or as a topping for pizza.

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Essential Italian Vocabulary S1 #8 Food souvenirs

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ITALIAN

1. What are the five most popular food souvenirs in Italy?
2. 1. Parmigiano Reggiano
3. 2. Gianduiotto
4. 3. aceto balsamico
5. 4. cantuccini
6. 5. Grappa

ENGLISH

1. What are the five most popular food souvenirs in Italy?
2. 1. Parmesan cheese
3. 2. Gianduiotto, a type of chocolate
4. 3. Balsamic vinegar
5. 4. Cantuccini, a type of biscotti biscuit
6. 5. Grappa, an alcoholic digestif

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class

Parmigiano Reggiano	Parmesan cheese	noun
Gianduiotto	Gianduiotto, a type of chocolate	noun
aceto balsamico	balsamic vinegar	noun
cantuccini	cantuccini, a type of biscotti biscuit	noun
Grappa	Grappa, an alcoholic digestif	noun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Il Parmigiano Reggiano non è caro in Italia. "Parmesan is not expensive in Italy."	**il Gianduioto ha un'inconfondibile forma di prisma triangolare.** "The Gianduiotto has an unmistakable triangular prism shape."
L'aceto balsamico esalta la dolcezza della frutta. "Balsamic vinegar brings out the sweetness of fruits. "	**I cantuccini sono molto secchi quindi possono essere conservati per un lungo periodo.** "Cantuccini are very dry so you can preserve them for a long time."
Gli Italiani qualche volta bevono il caffè corretto con un po' di grappa. "Italian people sometimes drink coffee spiked with a shot of grappa."	

CULTURAL INSIGHT

1. Parmesan cheese

Parmesan is the most famous Italian cheese, well known all over the world.

2. Gianduiotto, a type of chocolate

The Gianduiotto is a typical piedmontese chocolate made with chocolate and cream of hazelnuts.

3. Balsamic vinegar

Balsamic vinegar is a vinegar with a sweet-sour flavor, produced in Modena with a specific grape juice.

4. Cantuccini, a type of biscotti biscuit

Cantuccini are biscotti, or double-baked almond cookies, from Tuscany. People often dunk Cantuccini in Vin Santo, a dessert wine.

5. Grappa, an alcoholic digestif

Grappa is a strong alcoholic digestif made from waste material produced during wine making.

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Essential Italian Vocabulary S1 #9 Pop and Traditional Culture

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ITALIAN

1. What are the five most popular Pop and traditional culture in Italy?
2. 1. presepe
3. 2. Carnevale
4. 3. sagre
5. 4. tarantella
6. 5. cerimonia nuziale

ENGLISH

1. What are the five most popular examples of Pop and traditional culture in Italy?
2. 1. Nativity scene
3. 2. Carnival
4. 3. Sagre, local food fairs
5. 4. Tarantella, a folk dance
6. 5. Wedding ceremony

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender

sagre	sagre, local food fairs	noun	
tarantella	tarantella, a folk dance	noun	
cerimonia nuziale	wedding ceremony	noun	
carnevale	carnival	noun	masculine
presepe	nativity scene	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Ci sono sagre tutto l'anno. "The are sagre all through the year."	**I vestiti tradizionali della tarantella sono molto colorati.** "Traditional tarantella costumes are very colorful."
Alla cerimonia nuziale solo la sposa può vestirsi di bianco. "At the wedding ceremony only the bride should wear white."	**Il Carnevale di Venezia è il più famoso d'Italia.** "The Carnival of Venice is the most famous in Italy."
A Carnevale indosso un costume. "I wear a costume for Carnival."	**Ogni anno c'è un concorso per scegliere il presepe più bello.** "Every year there is a contest to choose the best nativity scene."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

1. Nativity scene

Around Christmas, almost all houses are decorated with nativity scenes.

2. Carnival

Carnevale in Italy is a huge winter festival celebrated with parades, masquerade balls and parties. Children throw confetti at each other as a tradition.

3. Sagre, local food fairs

Sagre are fairs dedicated to some specific local food. They are usually held in small towns, in the main square.

4. Tarantella, a folk dance

Tarantella is a lively folk dance that originated in southern Italy accompanied by tamborines. The music and dancing is very fast-paced.

5. Wedding ceremony

Wedding ceremonies in Italy are rich in traditions and rituals. For example, it is customary for Italian brides to marry on Sunday and for guests to throw rice at the newly wedded couple.

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Culture Class: Essential Italian Vocabulary S1 #10 Historical Figures

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ITALIAN

1. Who are the five most popular historical figures in Italy?
2. 1. Giulio Cesarre
3. 2. Giuseppe Garibaldi
4. 3. Cristoforo Colombo
5. 4. Nerone
6. 5. Lorenzo de' Medici

ENGLISH

1. Who are the five most well known historical figures in Italy?
2. 1. Julius Caesar, a Roman general, consul, and dictator
3. 2. Giuseppe Garibaldi, a general and patriot
4. 3. Christopher Columbus, a navigator and explorer
5. 4. Nero, a Roman emperor
6. 5. Lorenzo de' Medici, a politician and patron of the arts

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class

Giulio Cesarre	Julius Caesar, a Roman general, consul, and dictator	noun
Giuseppe Garibaldi	Giuseppe Garibaldi, a general and patriot	noun
Cristoforo Colombo	Christopher Columbus, a navigator and explorer	noun
Nerone	Nero, a Roman emperor	noun
Lorenzo de' Medici	Lorenzo de' Medici, a politician and patron of the arts	noun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Shakespear ha scritto una tragedia intitolata "Giulio Cesare". "Shakespeare wrote a tragedy called "Julius Caesar"."	**Giuseppe Garibaldi è chiamato "l'eroe dei due mondi".** "Giuseppe Garibaldi is called the "Hero of Two Worlds"."
La Colombia prende il nome da Cristoforo Colombo. "Colombia takes its name from Christopher Columbus."	**Nerone ha costruito una casa d'oro chiamata "Domus Aurea".** "Nero built a golden house called "Domus Aurea"."
Lorenzo de' Medici era il signore di Firenze durante il Rinascimento. "Lorenzo de' Medici was the ruler of Florence during the Renaissance."	

CULTURAL INSIGHT

1. Julius Caesar

Julius Caesar was a Roman general, consul, dictator and writer, and one of the most important figures in history. *Veni*, *vidi*, *vici*, meaning "I came, I saw, I conquered" was his motto.

2. Giuseppe Garibaldi

Giuseppe Garibaldi was a general, a patriot and one of the most important figures of the Italian unification. He led the Expedition of the Thousand in 1860, an expedition to conquer the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies.

3. Christopher Columbus

Christopher Columbus was an Italian navigator and explorer. His voyages across the ocean led to the discovery of the American continents. He departed with three ships: the Santa Maria, the Pinta and the Niña.

4. Nero

Nero was a Roman Emperor who ruled from 54 to 68 AD. He is famous for his madness and for burning down Rome. His tyrannical acts include executing his mother and poisoning his brother.

5. Lorenzo de' Medici

Lorenzo de' Medici was known as Lorenzo the Magnificent. At his court worked artists such as Leonardo da Vinci, Sandro Botticelli and Michelangelo.

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Essential Italian Vocabulary S1 #11 Animals

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ITALIAN

1. What are the five common animals in Italy?

2. 1. piccione

3. 2. coniglio

4. 3. lupo

5. 4. gatto

6. 5. cane

ENGLISH

1. What are the five common animals in Italy?

2. 1. Pigeon

3. 2. Rabbit

4. 3. Wolf

5. 4. Cat

6. 5. Dog

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender

coniglio	rabbit	noun	masculine
piccione	pigeon	noun	masculine
cane	dog	noun	masculine
lupo	wolf	noun	masculine
gatto	cat	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Il coniglio di cioccolato è un dolce pasquale. "The chocolate rabbit is an Easter sweet."	**Il coniglio marrone sta mangiando delle foglie in giardino.** "The brown rabbit is eating leaves in the garden."
I piccioni sono fastidiosi per i turisti. "Tourists find pigeons annoying."	**Il cane è il miglior amico dell'uomo.** "A dog is a man's best friend."
Il cane di Marta è un pastore tedesco. "Marta's dog is a German Shepherd."	**Il lupo è il simbolo di Roma.** "The wolf is the symbol of Rome."
Gli Italiani credono che se un gatto si lava dietro le orecchie pioverà. "Italian people believe that if a cat washes behind its ears, it will rain."	

CULTURAL INSIGHT

1. Pigeon

Pigeons are very common in Italy and they usually invade major Italian squares. Recently an artist painted some of Venice's pigeons to make them more beautiful for tourists.

2. Rabbit

Rabbits are very common in Italy both as food and as pets.

3. Wolf

Wolves are a protected species mainly found in the Apennine Mountains in Italy.

4. Cat

Cats are the most common pet in Italy. The most common breed is the European Shorthair Cat.

5. Dog

Dogs are the second most common pet in Italy. A popular Italian breed is the Volpino, which means "little fox."

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Essential Italian Vocabulary S1 #12 Plants

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ITALIAN

1. What are the five common plants in Italy?
2. 1. geranio
3. 2. olivo
4. 3. vite
5. 4. pino marittimo
6. 5. zagara

ENGLISH

1. What are the five common plants in Italy?
2. 1. Geranium
3. 2. Olive tree
4. 3. Grapevine
5. 4. Maritime Pine
6. 5. Orange blossom

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class

geranio	geranium	noun
olivo	olive tree	noun
vite	grapevine	noun
pino marittimo	Maritime Pine	noun
zagara	Orange blossom	noun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Il geranio fiorisce tutto l'anno. "The geranium blooms year-round."	**L'olivo può vivere più di 2.000 anni.** "The olive tree can live for 2,000 years or more."
In autunno si raccoglie l'uva dalla vite. "In autumn, grapes are harvested from the grapevine."	**Il pino marittimo è un elemento importante nel paesaggio di Roma.** "Maritime Pine is an important element in the landscape of Rome."
La zagara si usa nei bouquet delle spose. "The Orange blossom is used in bridal bouquets."	

CULTURAL INSIGHT

1. Geranium

The geranium is one of the most popular flowers for the balconies and terraces of Italian homes.

2. Olive tree

The olive tree is a very common plant in the Mediterranean region and its gardens.

3. Grapevine

Italy is the world's second largest wine producer and grapes are grown in almost every region of the country.

4. Maritime Pine

Maritime Pine is one the most characteristic plants of Italy, especially in the seaside areas. Its particular umbrella shape make it very unique.

5. Orange blossom

The Orange blossom is the flower of the orange tree. Its essence is an important component in the making of perfume.

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Essential Italian Vocabulary S1 #13 Geographical Features

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ITALIAN

1. What are the five common Geographical features in Italy?

2. 1. Etna

3. 2. Grotta Azzurra

4. 3. Tevere

5. 4. mar Mediterraneo

6. 5. lago Maggiore

ENGLISH

1. What are the five common Geographical features in Italy?

2. 1. Mount Etna

3. 2. The Blue Grotto

4. 3. The Tiber

5. 4. Mediterranean Sea

6. 5. Lake Maggiore

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class

Etna	Mount Etna	noun
Grotta Azzurra	The Blue Grotto	noun
Tevere	The Tiber	noun
mar Mediterraneo	Mediterranean Sea	noun
lago Maggiore	Lake Maggiore	noun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Le eruzioni dell'Etna sono spettacolari. "Mount Etna's eruptions are spectacular."	**Puoi andare alla Grotta Azzurra con il traghetto.** "You can get to The Blue Grotto by ferry."
Puoi godere di un panorama stupendo dai ponti sul Tevere. "You can enjoy a stunning view of Rome from the bridges on the Tiber."	**Il mar Mediterraneo fornisce un'importante fonte di cibo per l'Italia.** "The Mediterranean Sea provides a major source of food for Italy."
Le isole Borromee, nel lago Marriore, sono famose per i giardini. "The Borromean Islands in Lake Maggiore are famous for their gardens."	

CULTURAL INSIGHT

1. Mount Etna

Mount Etna is located on the east coast of Sicily and it's the largest active volcano in Europe.

2. The Blue Grotto

The Blue Grotto is a sea cave on the coast of the Capri island, famous for its transparent shimmering blue water.

3. The Tiber

The Tiber is the third-longest river in Italy. It flows through the city of Rome and is crisscrossed by three ancient bridges, one of which, Milvian Bridge, has become a romantic site for lovers to attach padlocks affirming their love.

4. Mediterranean Sea

The Mediterranean Sea is an almost completely closed basin that separates Italy from Africa. It is divided into the Adriatic Sea, Ionian Sea, Tyrrhenian Sea, and Ligurian Sea.

5. Lake Maggiore

Lake Maggiore is the second largest lake in Italy. The climate is mild in both summer and winter, producing Mediterranean vegetation, with beautiful gardens.

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Essential Italian Vocabulary S1 #14 Cities

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ITALIAN

1. What are the five most popular Cities in Italy?

2. 1. Roma

3. 2. Milano

4. 3. Firenze

5. 4. Venezia

6. 5. Siena

ENGLISH

1. What are the five most popular Cities in Italy?

2. 1. Rome

3. 2. Milan

4. 3. Florence

5. 4. Venice

6. 5. Siena

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender

Venezia	Venice	noun	
Siena	Siena	noun	
Milano	Milan	noun	
Roma	Rome	proper noun	feminine
Firenze	Florence	noun	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Le maschere di carnevale sono un tipico souvenir di Venezia. "Carnival masks are a typical souvenir from Venice. "	**Il centro storico di Siena è stato dichiarato dall'UNESCO patrimonio mondiale dell'umanità.** "The historic center of Siena has been declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO."
Il Duomo di Milano è l'opera più importante di architettura gotica in Italia. "Milan's Cathedral is the most important work of Gothic architecture in Italy."	**Non sono di Milano.** "I'm not from Milan."
"Tutte le strade portano a Roma" è un proverbio molto conosciuto in Italia. ""All roads lead to Rome" is a well-known proverb in Italy."	**Sei mai stato a Roma?** "Have you been to Rome?"
Come è il tempo a Roma? "How's the weather like in Rome?"	**Il centro storico di Firenze attira milioni di turisti ogni anno.** "The historic centre of Florence attracts millions of tourists each year."

Sono di Firenze.

"I am from Florence."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

1. Rome

Rome is the capital of Italy and the country's largest and most populated city. It's called "The Eternal City".

2. Milan

Milan is the second-largest city in Italy but the biggest industrial one. It is known as "The City of Fashion".

3. Florence

Florence is one of the most beautiful cities in Italy and is known as the "cradle of the Renaissance" for its monuments, churches and buildings.

4. Venice

Venice is one of Italy's top travel destinations cities and a beautiful and romantic city. It is called "la Serenissima", the most serene of cities.

5. Siena

Siena is a medieval city in the region of Tuscany famous for its cuisine, art, museums, medieval cityscape and the Palio, a horse race held twice a year.

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Essential Italian Vocabulary S1 #15 Sports

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ITALIAN

1. What are the five most popular Sports in Italy?
2. 1. calcio
3. 2. basket
4. 3. pallavolo
5. 4. tennis
6. 5. ciclismo

ENGLISH

1. What are the five most popular Sports in Italy?
2. 1. Football/soccer
3. 2. Basketball
4. 3. Volleyball
5. 4. Tennis
6. 5. Cycling

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender

basket	basketball	noun	
calcio	soccer, football	noun	masculine
ciclismo	cycling	noun	masculine
pallavolo	volleyball	noun	feminine
tennis	tennis	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Spesso nel fine settimana i giovani giocano a basket con gli amici al parco. "On the weekend young people often play basketball at the park with friends."	**Il calcio è molto popolare in Europa.** "Soccer is a very popular game in Europe."
I giocatori della nazionale italiana di calcio sono chiamati Azzurri per via delle maglie azzurre. "The Italian national football team's players are called Azzurri for their blue shirts."	**È divertente giocare a calcio.** "It's fun to play soccer."
Il più grande evento di ciclismo in Italia è il Giro d'Italia, una gara annuale. "The biggest cycling event in Italy is the Giro d'Italia, an annual bicycle race."	**Mio padre guarda le gare di ciclismo in televisione.** "My father watches cycling races on television."
Lucia e Maria giocano a pallavolo due volte la settimana. "Lucy and Mary play volleyball twice a week."	**Di solito si gioca a pallavolo durante educazione fisica a scuola.** "Volleyball is usually played at school during physical education class."

Le ragazze giocano sempre a pallavolo. "The girls always play volleyball."	**Molti Italiani prendono lezioni di tennis.** "A lot of Italians take tennis lessons."

Giochiamo a tennis?

"Shall we play tennis?"

CULTURAL INSIGHT

1. Football/soccer

Football is the most popular sport in Italy. On Sunday almost everybody watches football games on TV or goes out and plays with friends.

2. Basketball

Basketball is a very popular sport in Italy, although it has always had much less exposure than football.

3. Volleyball

Volleyball is another popular sport in Italy. The Italian men's national volleyball team dominated international volleyball competitions in the 1990s and early 2000s.

4. Tennis

Italy has always loved tennis and Italian players have achieved some extraordinary international results in the past.

5. Cycling

Cycling means history—it is a piece of Italian life. Italian bicycles are famous all over the world.

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Essential Italian Vocabulary S1 #16 Recreational Activities

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ITALIAN

1. What are the five most popular recreational activities in Italy?
2. 1. aperitivo
3. 2. picnic
4. 3. andare allo stadio
5. 4. cinema
6. 5. shopping

ENGLISH

1. What are the five most popular recreational activities in Italy?
2. 1. Aperitif
3. 2. Picnic
4. 3. Going to the stadium
5. 4. Movie theater
6. 5. Shopping

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender

picnic	picnic	noun	masculine
andare allo stadio	going to the stadium	noun	
cinema	movie theater	noun	masculine
shopping	shopping	noun	masculine
aperitivo	aperitif	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Tipici cibi da picnic sono le frittate, i panini e le polpette. "Typical picnic foods are omelettes, panini, and meatballs."	**Agli Italiani piace andare allo stadio indossando la maglia della loro squadra preferita.** "Italian people like to go to the stadium wearing their favorite team t-shirt. "
Non si può portare cibo da fuori al cinema. "You can't bring your own food into movie theaters."	**Lo shopping diventa frenetico durante i saldi.** "Shopping gets hectic during sales."
L'aperitivo più famoso è il Campari. "The most famous aperitif is Campari."	**Questo aperitivo è molto buono.** "This aperitif is very good."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

1. Aperitif

Going to get an aperitif—an alcoholic drink served as an appetizer—is an important element of the Italian lifestyle. The are two categories of aperitif—alcoholic and non-alcoholic. Bars

also serve a big variety of finger food during aperitif time, which is from 6 P.M to 9 PM.

2. Picnic

Italians love to go for a drive and have picnics with family and friends on the weekends or during National holidays.

3. Going to the stadium

Italians love football, so on Sunday they often go to the stadium to watch their favorite football team.

4. Movie theater

Going to the movie theater is another popular activity in Italy. There are a lot of cinemas in every city, and they're becoming more and more modern.

5. Shopping

Italians usually go shopping with friends as an occasion to meet and chat with them or to kill time.

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Essential Italian Vocabulary S1 #17 Tourist Attractions

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ITALIAN

1. What are the five most popular tourist attractions in Italy?

2. 1. Colosseo

3. 2. Torre di Pisa

4. 3. Ponte Vecchio

5. 4. Duomo di Milano

6. 5. Canal Grande

ENGLISH

1. What are the five most popular tourist attractions in Italy?

2. 1. The Colosseum

3. 2. Leaning Tower of Pisa

4. 3. Ponte Vecchio

5. 4. Milan Cathedral

6. 5. Grand Canal

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender

Colosseo	The Colosseum	noun	
torre di Pisa	Leaning Tower of Pisa	noun	
Ponte Vecchio	Ponte Vecchio	noun	
Duomo di Milano	Milan Cathedral	noun	
Canal Grande	Grand Canal	proper noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

I cittadini dell'UE hanno uno sconto per entrare al Colosseo. "EU citizens get a discount to enter the Colosseum."	**Galileo Galilei ha realizzato gli esperimenti sulla forza di gravità dalla torre di Pisa.** "Galileo Galilei carried out experiments on the force of gravity from The Leaning Tower of Pisa."
Ponte Vecchio si illumina la sera. "The Ponte Vecchio lights up at night."	**Devi vestirti in modo conservativo quando visiti il Duomo di Milano.** "You must dress conservatively when you visit the Milan Cathedral."
Un giro in gondola sul Canal Grande è molto romantico. "A gondola ride on the Grand Canal is very romantic."	

CULTURAL INSIGHT

1. The Colosseum

The Colosseum is one of the major attractions in Rome. You can buy a ticket and visit from the underground to the third floor.

2. Leaning Tower of Pisa

The Leaning Tower of Pisa is one of the seven wonders of the medieval world. You can reach the top of it by climbing 294 steps.

3. Ponte Vecchio

The bridge known as Ponte Vecchio is one of the symbols of Florence, and is famous for having shops on both sides of the bridge.

4. Milan Cathedral

The Milan Cathedral is the largest cathedral in Italy. At the rooftop of the Milan Cathedral you can see the Madonnina, the statue of the Virgin Mary.

5. Grand Canal

The Grand Canal is the biggest canal and the main waterway of Venice. Along the canal you can see churches, palaces, hotels and other historical buildings.

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Essential Italian Vocabulary S1 #18 Common Household Items

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ITALIAN

1. What are the five most common household items in Italy?

2. 1. caffettiera

3. 2. gelatiera

4. 3. termosifone

5. 4. fioriera

6. 5. forno

ENGLISH

1. What are the five most common household items in Italy?

2. 1. moka pot/stovetop coffee maker

3. 2. ice cream machine

4. 3. radiator

5. 4. flower box

6. 5. oven

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender

caffettiera	moka pot/stovetop coffee maker	noun	
gelatiera	ice cream machine	noun	
termosifone	radiator	noun	
fioriera	flower box	noun	
forno	oven	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Quando la caffettiera gorgoglia il caffè è pronto. "When the moka pot gurgles the coffee is ready."	**Puoi anche preparare dolci ghiacciati con la gelatiera.** "You can also make frozen desserts with an ice cream machine."
Nei giorni di pioggia gli Italiani asciugano i vestiti sul termosifone. "On rainy days Italian people dry their wet clothes on the radiator."	**Le fioriere rendono la casa molto colorata.** "Flower boxes make the house very colorful."
I forni Italiani sono molto grandi così da potere cucinare anche la pizza. "Italian ovens are so big that you can even cook pizza in them."	

CULTURAL INSIGHT

1. Moka pot/stovetop coffee maker

Italian people start their day with a cup of coffee, so there is at least one moka pot in every

house. Moka pot comes in different sizes, from one to several cups.

2. Ice cream

Ice cream is a tradition in Italy. A lot of families make it at home using an ice cream machine.

3. Radiator

Italian houses have a radiator heating system and at least one radiator in each room.

4. Flower box

Italian people like to decorate their balcony with a lot of plants and flowers so flower boxes are very common in Italian houses.

5. Oven

Italians love cooking, and Italian cuisine is full of oven-baked dishes.

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Essential Italian Vocabulary S1 #19 Medicines and Drugs

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ITALIAN

1. What are the five most commonly used medicines and drugs in Italy?

2. 1. Aspirina

3. 2. Moment

4. 3. Benagol

5. 4. Aulin

6. 5. Lasonil

ENGLISH

1. What are the five most commonly used medicines and drugs in Italy?

2. 1. Aspirin

3. 2. Moment

4. 3. Benagol

5. 4. Aulin

6. 5. Lasonil

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender

Aspirina	Aspirin	noun	feminine
Moment	Moment	noun	
Benagol	Benagol	noun	
Aulin	Aulin	noun	
Lasonil	Lasonil	noun	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Anche se non serve la prescrizione l'aspirina si compra in farmacia. "Although you don't need a prescription for it, you have to buy Aspirin at the pharmacy."	**Puoi prendere 1-2 compresse di Moment, 2 volte al giorno a stomaco pieno.** "You can take 1-2 tablets of Moment, 2 times a day, on a full stomach."
Ci sono tanti gusti di Benagol. "Benagol comes in a lot of flavors."	**L'Aulin è disponibile in diverse forme – compresse, supposte, bustine, gel.** "Aulin is available in several forms – tablets, suppositories, powder, and gel."
Lasonil può essere usato anche per alleviare i dolori muscolari. "Lasonil can also be used to relieve muscle aches."	

CULTURAL INSIGHT

1. Aspirin

Aspirin is a very common medicine used to treat colds and mild pain.

2. Moment

Moment is the most commonly used medicine to treat headaches.

3. Benagol

Benagol is a candy-like medicine used to treat sore throats.

4. Aulin

Aulin is a very common painkiller. Since there was an over-consumption of it, a doctors' prescription is required now.

5. Lasonil

Lasonil is an ointment used to reduce bruising and inflammation.

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Essential Italian Vocabulary S1 #20 Natural Disasters

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ITALIAN

1. What are the top five commonly occurring natural disasters in Italy?

2. 1. terremoto

3. 2. eruzione vulcanica

4. 3. inondazione

5. 4. frana

6. 5. incendio

ENGLISH

1. What are the top five commonly occurring natural disasters in Italy?

2. 1. earthquake

3. 2. volcanic eruption

4. 3. flood

5. 4. landslide

6. 5. fire

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender

terremoto	earthquake	noun	masculine
eruzione vulcanica	volcanic eruption	noun	
inondazione	flood	noun	
frana	landslide	noun	
incendio	fire	noun	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Il più forte terremoto in Italia è stato a Messina nel 1908 e ha causato 100.000 vittime. "The strongest earthquake in Italy was in Messina in 1908 and it caused 100,000 deaths."	**Un' eruzione vulcanica distrusse Pompei nel 79 d.C.** "A volcanic eruption destroyed Pompeii in 79 AD."
A Venezia ci sono alcune inondazioni ogni anno. "Small floods in Venice take place several times a year."	**Le frane hanno causato 3.400 morti negli ultimi 50 anni.** "Landslides have caused 3,400 deaths in the last 50 years."
Nel 2012 più di 5.000 incendi hanno colpito l'Italia. "In 2012 more than 5,000 fires afflicted Italy."	

CULTURAL INSIGHT

1. Earthquake

Earthquakes in Italy are caused by the movements of two plates, the African Plate and the Eurasian Plate.

2. Volcanic eruption

There are several volcanoes in Italy, some of them still active. Mount Etna, in Sicily, is the largest active volcano in Europe.

3. Flood

Floods are very common in Italy. In the last 50 years there have been 500 floods that have caused 1700 deaths.

4. Landslide

In Italy, landslides are often triggered by heavy rainfalls, because the soil is fragile.

5. Fire

The summer in Italy is very dry and hot and rain does not fall for a long period, so fires spread very easily.

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Essential Italian Vocabulary S1 #21 Modes of Transportation

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ITALIAN

1. What are the five frequently used Modes of transportation in Italy?

2. 1. tram

3. 2. macchina

4. 3. motorino

5. 4. autobus

6. 5. metropolitana

ENGLISH

1. What are five frequently used modes of transportation in Italy?

2. 1. tram

3. 2. car

4. 3. scooter

5. 4. bus

6. 5. subway

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender

metropolitana	subway	noun	feminine
macchina	car	noun	feminine
tram	tram	noun	
motorino	scooter	noun	masculine
autobus	bus	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Puoi prendere l'autobus e la metropolitana con lo stesso biglietto. "You can ride the bus and the subway with the same ticket."	**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."	**In Italia ci sono tram moderni ma anche antichi.** "In Italy there are modern trams but also antique ones."
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."	**Se devi muoverti molto per la città puoi comprare un biglietto dell'autobus giornaliero.** "If you need to move around the city a lot, you can buy a one-day bus pass."

Quello è un autobus elettrico.

"That's an electric bus."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

1. Tram

The tram is still a common form of transportation in a lot of major cities like Milan and Rome.

2. Car

Cars are the major means of transport in Italy since not all cities have well developed transport networks.

3. Scooter

The scooter is a popular form of transportation among teenagers. In Italy, it is seen as very cool to own one.

4. Bus

In cities without an underground system, bus is the most commonly used form of public transportation. In Italy there is also a very efficient inter-city bus service.

5. Subway

Major cities all have subway systems, even if they're not as developed as in other countries.

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Essential Italian Vocabulary S1 #22 Shops and Services

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ITALIAN

1. What are the five common shops and services in Italy?

2. 1. panificio

3. 2. tabaccheria

4. 3. fruttivendolo

5. 4. bar

6. 5. pasticceria

ENGLISH

1. What are the five common shops and services in Italy?

2. 1. bakery

3. 2. tobacco shop

4. 3. greengrocer shop

5. 4. bar

6. 5. pastry shop

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender

tabaccheria	tobacco shop	noun	
panificio	bakery	noun	
pasticceria	pastry shop	noun	
fruttivendolo	greengrocer shop	noun	
bar	bar	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

L'insegna della tabaccheria ha una grande T. "The sign for a tobacco shop has a big T on it."	**In Italia, puoi riconoscere le tabaccherie dall'insegna a forma di t.** "In Italy, you can recognize tobacco shops from the t-shaped sign."
I panifici vendono soprattutto pane di tanti tipi e forme, come il filone e la ciabatta. "Bakeries mainly sell bread of different types and shapes, like filone and ciabatta."	**Bevo sempre il tè in questa pasticceria.** "I always drink tea in this patisserie."
La domenica gli Italiani comprano un vassoio di pasticcini come dolce dopo pranzo. "On Sunday, Italian people buy a tray of assorted pastries as an after-lunch dessert."	**Gli Italiani di solito vanno dal loro fruttivendolo di fiducia.** "Italian people usually go to their trusted greengrocer shop."
Una colazione tipica al bar è cappuccino e cornetto. "A typical breakfast at the bar is a cappuccino and a croissant."	**Prendiamo un caffè al bar.** "Let's take a coffee at the bar."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

1. Bakery

Italian people consume a lot of bread and they buy it fresh every morning.

2. Tobacco shop

Tobacco shops in Italy also sell bus tickets, telephone cards, stamps, and more.

3. Greengrocer shop

Although fruits and vegetables are commonly sold in supermarkets, greengrocer shops are still the best place to find fresh and natural products.

4. Bar

In Italy, a bar is a shop where you can drink both coffee and liquors, so it is both a bar and a cafè.

5. Pastry shop

Pastry shops sell cakes, fresh-baked cookies, pastries and ice cream.

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Culture Class: Essential Italian Vocabulary S1 #23 Chain Stores

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ITALIAN

1. What are the five common chain stores in Italy?

2. 1. La Rinascente

3. 2. Spizzico

4. 3. La Feltrinelli

5. 4. Esselunga

6. 5. Trony

ENGLISH

1. What are the five common chain stores in Italy?

2. 1. La Rinascente, a department store chain

3. 2. Spizzico, a pizza chain

4. 3. La Feltrinelli, a bookstore chain

5. 4. Esselunga, a supermarket chain

6. 5. Trony, an electronic goods chain

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class

La Rinascente	La Rinascente, a department store chain	noun
Spizzico	Spizzico, a pizza chain	noun
La Feltrinelli	La Feltrinelli, a bookstore chain	noun
Esselunga	Esselunga, a supermarket chain	noun
Trony	Trony, an electronic goods chain	noun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

La Rinascente vende prodotti di lusso quindi è cara. "La Rinascente sells luxury products, so it is expensive."	**Le fette di pizza di Spizzico sono molto grandi.** "Spizzico pizza slices are very big."
La Feltrinelli ha un reparto dedicato ai libri stranieri. "La Feltrinelli has a section dedicated to foreign books."	**Puoi anche acquistare dal negozio online di Esselunga.** "You can also shop at the Esselunga online shop."
I negozi Trony sono enormi. "Trony shops are enormous."	

CULTURAL INSIGHT

1. La Rinascente

La Rinascente is the largest Italian department store chain, and sells perfumes, cosmetics, clothing and other goods.

2. Spizzico

Spizzico is an Italian fast food chain that sells pizza. There are more than 200 restaurants in Italy.

3. La Feltrinelli

La Feltrinelli is a major bookstore chain in Italy. It also sells CDs and DVDs.

4. Esselunga

Esselunga is the biggest supermarket chain in Italy, with 140 stores. It has its own brand of organic products.

5. Trony

Trony is a big electronic goods store chain. You can find everything from computers to household appliances there.

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Essential Italian Vocabulary S1 #24 Artists and Musicians

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ITALIAN

1. Who are the five most well-known artists and musicians in Italy?
2. 1. Leonardo da Vinci
3. 2. Michelangelo
4. 3. Sandro Botticelli
5. 4. Giuseppe Verdi
6. 5. Giacomo Puccini

ENGLISH

1. Who are the five most well-known artists and musicians in Italy?
2. 1. Leonardo da Vinci, a Renaissance artist, scientist and engineer
3. 2. Michelangelo, a Renaissance sculptor, painter and architect
4. 3. Sandro Botticelli, a Renaissance painter
5. 4. Giuseppe Verdi, a Romantic composer
6. 5. Giacomo Puccini, an opera composer

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class

Leonardo da Vinci	Leonardo da Vinci, a Renaissance artist, scientist and engineer	noun
Michelangelo	Michelangelo, a Renaissance sculptor, painter and architect	noun
Sandro Botticelli	Sandro Botticelli, a Renaissance painter	noun
Giuseppe Verdi	Giuseppe Verdi, a Romantic composer	noun
Giacomo Puccini	Giacomo Puccini, an opera composer	noun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

La Gioconda di Leonardo da Vinci è esposta al Louvre. "Leonardo da Vinci's Mona Lisa is displayed at the Louvre."	**Michelangelo ha pitturato il soffitto della Cappella Sistina.** "Michelangelo painted the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel in Rome."
Sandro Botticelli ha lavorato con Leonardo da Vinci per un pò di tempo "Sandro Botticelli worked with Leonardo da Vinci for some time."	**Il Nabucco di Giuseppe Verdi è stato proposto come nuovo inno nazionale italiano.** "Giuseppe Verdi's Nabucco has been proposed as the new national anthem of Italy."
Giacomo Puccini è morto prima di completare la Turandot. "Giacomo Puccini died before completing Turandot."	

CULTURAL INSIGHT

1. Leonardo da Vinci

With his many talents, Leonardo da Vinci is considered one of the greatest geniuses of all time.

2. Michelangelo

Several of Michelangelo's works, like David and The Pietà, are famous all around the world.

3. Sandro Botticelli

Two of Botticelli's best-known works are The Birth of Venus and Primavera, which are displayed at the Uffizi, in Florence.

4. Giuseppe Verdi

Giuseppe Verdi was a Romantic composer, particularly an opera composer. Among his famous works are La Traviata, Rigoletto, and Aida.

5. Giacomo Puccini

Giacomo Puccini was an opera composer whose works are known the world over. Among them are La Bohème, Madame Butterfly and Turandot.

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Essential Italian Vocabulary S1 #25 Writers

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ITALIAN

1. Who are the five well-known writers in Italy?
2. 1. Dante Alighieri
3. 2. Alessandro Manzoni
4. 3. Giovanni Boccaccio
5. 4. Umberto Eco
6. 5. Italo Calvino

ENGLISH

1. Who are the five well-known writers in Italy?
2. 1. Dante Alighieri, a poet
3. 2. Alessandro Manzoni, an Italian novelist and poet
4. 3. Giovanni Boccaccio, an important Renaissance poet
5. 4. Umberto Eco, a 20th century writer
6. 5. Italo Calvino, a post-war writer

VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class

Dante Alighieri	Dante Alighieri, a poet	noun
Alessandro Manzoni	Alessandro Manzoni, an Italian novelist and poet	noun
Giovanni Boccaccio	Giovanni Boccaccio, an important Renaissance poet	noun
Umberto Eco	Umberto Eco, a 20th century writer	noun
Italo Calvino	Italo Calvino, a post-war writer	noun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Dante Alighieri è considerato il padre della lingua Italiana. "Dante Alighieri is considered the "Father of the Italian language"."	**Gli studenti italiani di scuola superiore studiano I Promessi Sposi di Alessandro Manzoni a scuola.** "Italian high school students study Alessandro Manzoni's The Betrothed. "
Molti film basati su Il Decameron di Giovanni Boccaccio sono stati realizzati. "Many movies have been released that are based on Giovanni Boccaccio's The Decameron."	**Il romanzo più famoso di Umberto Eco è Il nome della rosa.** "Umberto Eco’s most famous novel is The Name of The Rose."
Italo Calvino fu nominato per il premio Nobel per la letteratura. "Italo Calvino was nominated for the Nobel Prize for literature."	

CULTURAL INSIGHT

1. Dante Alighieri

Dante Alighieri was the most important Italian poet of the Middle Ages and, maybe, of all time. His masterpiece is The Divine Comedy.

2. Alessandro Manzoni

Alessandro Manzoni's masterpiece, The Betrothed, is one of the greatest works in Italian literature.

3. Giovanni Boccaccio

Giovanni Boccaccio is famous for The Decameron, a collection of 100 stories.

4. Umberto Eco

Umberto Eco is one of the most important writers of the twentieth century. He's an author of novels, essays, academic texts and children books.

5. Italo Calvino

Italo Calvino was a brilliant post-war writer, and author of novels and short stories. His style is very unique and several of his works are like fairy tales. His novel, If on a Winter's Night a Traveler, is considered his masterpiece.

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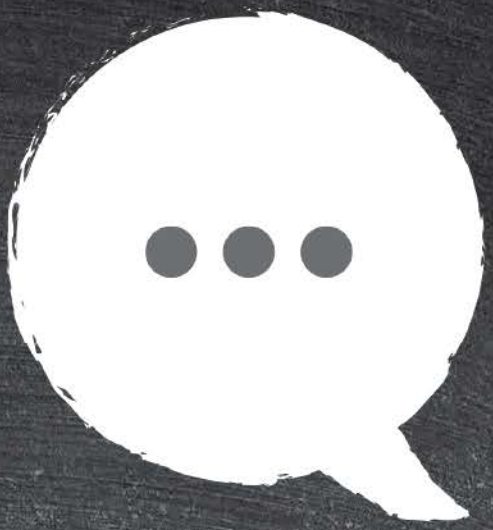


Italian Holidays

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LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Holidays in Italy #1 New Year's Day

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VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
rosso	red	adjective	
Capodanno	New Year's Eve/Day	noun	masculine
Vecchione	The Great Old (traditional puppet of Bologna)	noun	masculine
notte di San Silvestro	San Silvester's night (New Year's Eve)	phrase	feminine
piazza	square	noun	feminine
Bologna	Bologna	noun	feminine
lenticchia	lentil	noun	feminine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

In caso di emergenza premere il pulsante rosso. "In case of emergency, press the red button."	**Il vino rosso accompagna bene la carne.** "Red wine goes well with meat."
In Italia si crede che mangiare uva a Capodanno porti fortuna. "In Italy, it is believed that eating grapes on New Year's Day brings good luck."	**Come festeggerai il Capodanno?** "How will you celebrate New Year's Eve?"
Per la notte di San Silvestro ci saranno i fuochi d'artificio dopo la mezzanotte. "For San Silvester's night, there will be fireworks after midnight."	**Hanno fatto un carosello in piazza.** "They made a carousel in the square."

Nonostante la forte pioggia abbiamo visitato la città di Bologna senza grandi problemi. "Despite the heavy rain we visited the city of Bologna without major problems."	**Il cotechino con le lenticchie è un piatto tipico del Capodanno italiano.** "Cotechino with lentils is a typical dish of the Italian New Year's Eve."

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Holidays in Italy #2 Christmas

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VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
Natale	Christmas	noun	masculine
cattolico	catholic	adjective	
vigilia	eve	noun	feminine
presepe	nativity scene	noun	masculine
Panettone	Panettone, traditional Christmas cake	noun	masculine
Pandoro	Pandoro, traditional Christmas cake	noun	masculine
Cine-panettone	panettone-movie	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

A Natale le famiglie si riuniscono a pranzo. "On Christmas families get together for lunch."	**Buon Natale!** "Merry Christmas!"
Cosa fai durante la vigilia di Natale? "What are you doing during the Christmas Eve?"	**Ogni anno c'è un concorso per scegliere il presepe più bello.** "Every year there is a contest to choose the best nativity scene."

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Holidays in Italy #3 Epiphany

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VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
Epifania	Epiphany	proper noun	feminine
focaccia	focaccia (a type of flat bread)	noun	feminine
Canal Grande	Grand Canal	proper noun	masculine
Befana	Epiphany's witch	noun	feminine
carbone	coal, charcoal, carbon	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Domani è l'Epifania. "Tomorrow it's the Epiphany."	**Oggi per pranzo mangio solo una focaccia.** "Today, I eat only a focaccia for lunch."
Ho mangiato due focacce. "I ate two focaccia."	**Un giro in gondola sul Canal Grande è molto romantico.** "A gondola ride on the Grand Canal is very romantic."
Quella è una minera di carbone. "That is a coalmine."	

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Holidays in Italy #4 Carnival

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VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
Carnevale	carnival	noun	masculine
Arlecchino	Harlequin	proper noun	masculine
Pulcinella	Pulcinella	proper noun	masculine
chiacchiere	chatters	noun	feminine
Ivrea	Ivrea (city)	proper noun	feminine
battaglia	battle	noun	feminine
arancia	orange	noun	feminine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Il Carnevale di Venezia è il più famoso d'Italia.

"The Carnival of Venice is the most famous in Italy."

A Carnevale indosso un costume.

"I wear a costume for Carnival."

La battaglia di Lepanto.

"The Lepanto battle."

Le arance candite sono spesso usate nei dolci.

"Candied oranges are often used in desserts."

Sto tagliando un'arancia.

"I'm cutting an orange."

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Holidays in Italy #5 Easter

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VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
Pasqua	Easter	noun	feminine
Lunedì di Pasqua	Easter Monday	phrase	masculine
pulizie di Pasqua	Easter's cleaning	phrase	feminine
resurrezione	resurrection	noun	feminine
uovo di Pasqua	Easter Egg	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Buona Pasqua!

"Happy Easter!"

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Holidays in Italy #6 Liberation Day

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VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
Miracolo a Sant'Anna	Miracle at St. Anna	phrase	
indipendenza	Independence	noun	feminine
Presidente della Repubblica	President of the Republic	phrase	
occupazione	occupation	noun	feminine
Giorno della Liberazione	Liberation's Day	proper noun	
nazifascista	Nazi and Fascist	phrase	
Altare della Patria	Altar of the Fatherland	proper noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Ci sono tracce dell'occupazione germanica.

"There are traces of the Germanic occupation."

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Holidays in Italy #7 Republic Day

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VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class
Festa della Repubblica	Republic's Day	noun
Palazzo del Quirinale	Quirinale Palace	noun
monarchia	monarchy	noun
Frecce tricolori	Tricolor Arrows	phrase
Reggio Emilia	Reggio Emilia (city name)	noun
tricolore	tricolor	noun

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Holidays in Italy #8 Women's Day

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VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
discriminato	discriminated	participle	
mimosa	mimosa	noun	feminine
donna	woman	noun	feminine
torta Mimosa	Mimosa cake	phrase	feminine
Festa della donna	Women's Day	phrase	
votare	to vote	verb	
pan di Spagna	sponge cake	phrase	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Una donna sta bevendo una tazza di caffè.

"A woman is drinking a cup of coffee."

Sei una donna meravigliosa.

"You are a marvelous woman."

Che donna affascinante.

"What a fascinating woman."

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Holidays in Italy #9 Valentine's Day

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2 Sample Sentences

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VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
romantico	romantic	adjective	
bacio	kiss	noun	masculine
amore	love	noun	masculine
Verona	Verona	proper noun	feminine
San Valentino	Saint Valentine	proper noun	
Romeo e Giulietta	Romeo and Juliet	title	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Ultimamente, sei molto romantico. "Lately, you're very romantic."	**Quanto vorrei un bacio.** "How I long a kiss."
L'amore è un sentimento fortissimo. "Love is a very strong feeling."	**Ho ricevuto delle rose per San Valentino.** "I received some roses for Saint Valentine's day."

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Holidays in Italy #10 Mother's Day

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2 Vocabulary
2 Sample Sentences

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VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
beneficienza	charity	noun	feminine
mamma	mom, mother	noun	feminine
mammone	mama's boy	noun	masculine
Mamma mia!	Mamma mia!	exclamation	
Festa della mamma	Mother's Day	phrase	
lavoretto	small handcraft	modified noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Lei ha organizzato un ballo di beneficenza.

"She organized a charity ball."

La festa della mamma è l'otto maggio.

"Mother's Day is on the eighth of May."

La tua mamma è giovane!

"Your mom is young!"

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Holidays in Italy #11 Father's Day

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2 Vocabulary
2 Sample Sentences

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VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
Festa del Papà	Father's Day	noun	masculine
zeppola	a kind of donut	noun	feminine
mammo	"mum-dad"	noun	Masculine
babbo	dad, father	noun	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Il babbo di Elisa la sta cercando. "Elisa's dad is looking for her."	**Il mio babbo si chiama Enrico.** "My dad's name is Enrico."

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Holidays in Italy #12 All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day

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2 Vocabulary
2 Sample Sentences

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VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
cimitero	cemetery	noun	masculine
Festa di Ognissanti	All Saints' Day	phrase	feminine
osso di morto	bone of the dead	phrase	masculine
Commemorazione dei defunti	All Souls' Day	phrase	feminine
lugubre	gloomy	adjective	
memoria	memory	noun	feminine
Aldilà	Afterworld	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Il cimitero è sempre chiuso la notte. "The cemetery is always closed at night."	**Cerca di imparare a memoria questa poesia.** "Try to learn this poem by heart."

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Holidays in Italy #13 The Assumption

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2 Vocabulary
2 Sample Sentences

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VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
Assunzione di Maria	Assumption of Mary	phrase	feminine
Ferragosto	another name for the Assumption Day	proper noun	masculine
Imperatore Augusto	Emperor Augustus	proper noun	masculine
grigliata	barbecue	noun	feminine
albero della cuccagna	greasy pole	phrase	masculine
falò	bonfire	noun	masculine
tuffo	dive, dip, plunge	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Un tuffo nel passato.

"A dive into the past."

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Holidays in Italy #14 The Immaculate Conception

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2 Vocabulary
2 Sample Sentences

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VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
Immacolata Concezione	Immaculate Conception	proper noun	feminine
concepimento	conception	noun	masculine
periodo natalizio	Christmas period	phrase	masculine
falò	bonfire	noun	masculine
pettola	a kind of donut	noun	feminine
rendere omaggio	to pay homage	verbal expression	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Nel giorno dell'Immacolata Concezione si inizia a decorare l'albero di Natale.

"On Immaculate Conception's Day people start decorating their Christmas tree."

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Holidays in Italy #15 Summer Vacation

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2 Sample Sentences

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VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
Vacanze estive	Summer vacation	phrase	feminine
anno scolastico	school year	phrase	masculine
esodo estivo	peak holiday exodus	phrase	
villeggiatura	resort	noun	feminine
abbronzarsi	to sunbathe, to get a tan	verb	
mozzarella	mozzarella cheese	noun	feminine
sindrome da rientro	post vacation blues	phrase	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Laura si sdraia in spiaggia e si abbronza per ore.	**Sei bianca come una mozzarella anche in estate.**
"Laura lies on the beach and sunbathes for hours."	"Even in summer you are as pale as a ghost."

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Holidays in Italy #16 The Chocolate Festival

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2 Vocabulary
2 Sample Sentences

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VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
Festa del cioccolato	Chocolate Festival	phrase	feminine
Europa	Europe	proper noun	feminine
Aztechi	Aztecs	proper noun	Masculine
bacca di cacao	cacao berry	phrase	feminine
tradizione cioccolatiera	chocolate-making tradition	phrase	feminine
Sculture di cioccolato	Chocolate Sculpture	phrase	feminine
cazzotto	punch	noun	masculine
cioccolato di Modica	Modica's chocolate	phrase	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Mi piace vivere in Europa.

"I like living in Europe."

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Holidays in Italy #17 Cultural Heritage Week

CONTENTS

2 Vocabulary

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VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
Settimana della cultura	Cultural Heritage Week	phrase	feminine
patrimonio dell'umanità	World Heritage	phrase	masculine
Pompei ed Ercolano	Pompeii and Herculaneum	proper noun	feminine
notte dei musei	night of the museums	phrase	feminine
Biennale di Venezia	Venice Biennale	phrase	feminine
arte contemporanea	contemporary art	phrase	feminine

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Holidays in Italy #18 Environment Day

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2 Vocabulary
2 Sample Sentences

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VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
Giornata dell'Ambiente	Environment Day	phrase	feminine
sviluppo sostenibile	sustainable development	phrase	feminine
tutela	protection	noun	feminine
Legambiente	Legambiente (organization name)	proper noun	feminine
spazzatura	rubbish, garbage, trash, refuse, litter	noun	feminine
sacchetto di plastica	plastic bag	phrase	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Hai gettato la spazzatura?

"Have you thrown out the garbage?"

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Holidays in Italy #19 Music Day

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2 Vocabulary
2 Sample Sentences

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VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
acustica	acoustics	noun	feminine
solstizio d'estate	summer solstice	phrase	masculine
Renzo Piano	Renzo Piano, Italian architect	proper noun	
Auditorium Parco della Musica	Park Auditorium of Music	proper noun	masculine
musica	music	noun	feminine
Giornata della Musica	Music Day	phrase	feminine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Mi piace ascoltare musica classica al lavoro. "I like listening to classical music while at work."	**Ascolto la musica Rock.** "I listen to rock music."

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Holidays in Italy #20 Remembrance Day

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2 Vocabulary
2 Sample Sentences

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VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
Giornata della Memoria	Remembrance Day	phrase	masculine
Olocausto	Holocaust	noun	masculine
campo di concentramento	concentration camp	phrase	masculine
Se questo è un uomo.	If This Is a Man	title	
La vita è bella.	Life is Beautiful	title	
ghetto	ghetto	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Un ragazzo del ghetto.

"A guy from the ghetto."

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Holidays in Italy #21 Sanremo Song Festival

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2 Vocabulary
2 Sample Sentences

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VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
Festival della Canzone Italiana di Sanremo	The Italian Song Festival in Sanremo	phrase	masculine
Teatro Ariston	Ariston Theater	proper noun	masculine
RAI	RAI	noun	feminine
cantante emergente	emerging singer	phrase	masculine
conduttore	host	noun	masculine
indice di ascolto	viewer rating	phrase	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

La Rai è la TV nazionale italiana.

"Rai is the Italian national TV."

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Holidays in Italy #22 Venice Film Festival

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2 Vocabulary
2 Sample Sentences

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VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
Mostra Internazionale d'Arte Cinematografica	Venice Interantional Film Festival	phrase	feminine
Leone d'Oro	Golden Lion	phrase	masculine
autografo	autograph	noun	masculine
paparazzo	paparazzi	noun	Masculine
La dolce vita	The sweet life	moovie title	
film	movie	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

E' nel nuovo film di Woody Allen. "He's in the new Woody Allen movie."	**Vai direttamente a casa dopo il film?** "Are you going straight home after the movie?"
Che film vuoi vedere? "What movie do you want to watch?"	

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Holidays in Italy #23 Pizzafest

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2 Vocabulary
2 Sample Sentences

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VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
Pizzafest	Pizzafest	proper noun	
Associazione Verace Pizza Napoletana	True Neapolitan Pizza Association	phrase	feminine
pizza	pizza	noun	feminine
pizza al taglio	cut pizza	phrase	feminine
pizza Margherita	margherita Pizza	noun	
pizzaiolo	pizza maker	noun	masculine
Vota la pizza	Rate Pizza	event title	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Ho ordinato una pizza con aggiunta di formaggio. "I ordered pizza with extra cheese."	**La donna sta gustando della pizza squisita.** "The woman is enjoying delicious pizza."

La pizza Margherita prende il nome da una regina.

"Margherita Pizza was named after a Queen."

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Holidays in Italy #24 Siena Horse Riding

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2 Vocabulary
2 Sample Sentences

#24

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VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
Palio di Siena	Siena Horse Riding	phrase	masculine
Battaglia di Montaperti	Battle of Montaperti	phrase	Feminine
contrada	neighbourhood, old quarter of Siena	noun	feminine
fantino	jockey	noun	masculine
drappellone	a type of flag trophy	modified noun	masculine
oca	goose	noun	Feminine
chiocciola	snail	noun	feminine
pantera	panther	noun	Feminine
aquila	eagle	noun	feminine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Mi piacerebbe fare il fantino.

"I would like to be a jockey."

LESSON NOTES

Culture Class: Holidays in Italy #25 Flavor Fair

CONTENTS

2 Vocabulary
2 Sample Sentences

#25

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VOCABULARY

Italian	English	Class	Gender
Salone del Gusto	An Italian food and beverage expo	phrase	masculine
Torino	Turin	noun	feminine
enogastronomico	enogastronomic (wine and food)	adjective	masculine
Presìdi	Presidia (institution promoted by Slow Food to protect biodiversity)	noun	masculine
pistacchio verde	green pistacchio	phrase	masculine
mortadella classica	classic mortadella	phrase	feminine
Enoteca	winehouse	noun	feminine
forchetta	fork	noun	feminine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Stiamo partendo da Torino per Venezia in treno. "We are leaving from Turin to Venice by train."	**Il salone d'esposizione delle macchine di Torino e' famoso in tutto il mondo.** "The car showroom of Turin is famous all over the world."
Facciamo questo itinerario enogastronomico. "Let's make this enogastronomic itinerary."	**Mi puoi passare una forchetta?** "Could you hand me a fork?"