



## Beginners' Italian

### Required starting level

This class is designed for complete beginners; no previous knowledge is required.

### Aims

To have fun learning a new language, which might prove useful for trips to Italy, to know about culture, food tradition and art or simply for work. To achieve this, the course introduces basic grammar and useful vocabulary, concentrating on communication and conversing with simple sentences. In addition, something of the history, geography and culture of Italy is given throughout the two terms.

### Working methods/types of activities

All students are encouraged to participate in a friendly learning environment using different media and varying methods: reading, listening, writing, speaking – even singing!

### Textbooks – please do not purchase the textbook until your course is confirmed

- Living Italian (ISBN: 9780340990728). If students wish to purchase other books they will be given some advice regarding selection. Students who wish to continue studying Italian after the first year will continue to use Living Italian with the new class.
- Handouts will be provided as necessary.

### What to bring to class

Students need to bring paper and a writing implement! It is suggested that file paper would be ideal as you will be given a number of hand-outs which could be placed alongside the week's work.

### Homework

Suggested homework is 10 minutes per day revising or working on the topic/work done that week. (Regular short bursts of revision are far more effective than block study once a week.)

### Topic areas

Given there is no examination pressure, some flexibility and amplification beyond the planned programme is feasible. Throughout the course emphasis will be on communication, vocabulary, pronunciation, verbs and introductory grammar. As the course progresses there will be a focus on more complex work with role plays and the use of more complex sentence construction. Every effort is made to provide continuity whilst using a variety of learning methods to keep students interested and alert.

#### **Over the three terms, the course typically covers:**

alphabet, pronunciation, introductions, greetings, present tense of verbs, invitation, ordering food in a bar/restaurant, simple sentences and numbers, months, days, like and dislikes, asking information, buying train tickets or traveling with public transportation, introduction to past tense 'passato prossimo'.

### Next Steps

The course runs for a school year with classes taking place over three terms.

On completion of the course, you may feel inspired to continue studying Italian and join the Improvers course the following year.