



Improvers' Italian

Required starting level

This class is designed for students who have completed our Beginners' class or have completed approximately 1 year of Italian classes elsewhere. The student should already be able to:

- form sentences on the following topics: introducing themselves, describing family members or places, shopping for food or clothes, etc.
- know how to use the present tense well
- build basic sentences using the past tense, 'passato prossimo'
- use Italian numbers

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 expands further on role play, communication, conversational topics, simulations, grammar and vocabulary, gradually increasing the student's confidence with more complicated structures.

Working methods/types of activities

A variety of learning methods will be used to keep students interested and alert including speaking (role play, Q&A, group discussion), listening, reading, games, gastronomy, Italian songs, Italian radio and movies, articles, etc.

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.

Textbook – 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.
- Handouts will be provided as necessary.

Homework

Weekly homework will be set (optional).

Topic areas

Learn new vocabulary and grammar for booking into hotels, shopping for food, clothes, etc, ordering a meal, talking about holidays and family. Review of the past tenses 'passato prossimo' and introducing the use of the conditional tense – perfect and reinforce the use of prepositions and articles. Use of the conditional tense to ask kindly for permission or ordering formally. Introducing the imperfect tense- imperfetto, and clearly understand when to use past perfect or the imperfect. Focus on conversation to improve fluency and confidence.

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 Intermediate course the following year.