



Survival Phrases - Italian (Part 2)

Lessons 31-60



LESSON NOTES

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- ★ Taking a taxi without being taken advantage of
- ★ Getting around and asking directions and understanding the answer!
- ★ Learning Italian using Italian and make lots of friends
- ★ Making the most of a hotel stay, and exploring alternatives to the beaten path
- ★ Visiting the Post Office and mailing thing home
- ★ Phone cards and phone rentals, don't travel without this!
- ★ Critical phrases for vegetarians and allergy sufferers!
- ★ Talking to the doctor and explaining symptoms correctly
- ★ Getting the right medicine
- ★ Expressing yourself with adjectives and being understood
- ★ Home visits and proper protocol that will "wow" hosts
- ★ Getting help, this lesson may be the most useful phrase you ever learn

Be sure to read the lessons for additional tips and information that will make learning Italian and Italian culture even more interesting.

Best regards,

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Lesson 31: Directions

Vada dritto.

LESSON NOTES

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*.

PHRASES

Italian	English
vada dritto	go straight
giri a destra	turn right
giri a sinistra	turn left
giri a destra al semaforo	turn right at the light
È sulla destra.	It's on the right.
È sulla sinistra.	It's on the left.

QUICK TIP

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

Come arrivo a destinazione?



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Lesson 32: Can You Take My/Our Picture?

Può scattarci una foto?

LESSON NOTES

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".

PHRASES

Italian	English
Può scattarci una foto?	Can you take our picture?
Puoi scattarci una foto?	Can you take our picture?
Può scattarmi una foto?	Can you take my picture?
Puoi scattarmi una foto?	Can you take my picture?

QUICK TIP

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?"



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Lesson 33: Can I Take Your Picture?

Posso scattarle una foto?

LESSON NOTES

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?

PHRASES

Italian	English
Posso scattarle una foto?	Can I take your picture? (formal)
Posso scattarti una foto?	Can I take your picture? (informal)
Posso scattarvi una foto?	Can I take your picture? (plural)
Posso scattare una foto qui?	Can I take a picture here?



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Lesson 34: How Do You Say This in Italian?

Come si dice fork in italiano?

LESSON NOTES

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 fork.

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?

PHRASES

Italian	English
Come si dice fork in italiano?	How do you say 'fork' in Italian?
Come si dice questo in italiano?	How do you say this in Italian?
Come si dice quello in italiano?	How do you say that in Italian?
Come si traduce in italiano happy birthday?	How do you translate 'happy birthday' in Italian?

QUICK TIP

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.

QUICK 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!"



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Lesson 35: Can You Write It Down?

Può scriverlo per favore?

LESSON NOTES

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 pronounced”, 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".

PHRASES

Italian	English
Può scriverlo per favore?	Can you write it down please?
Me lo può scrivere per favore?	Can you write it down please?
Come si pronuncia questo?	How do you pronounce this?
Ha carta e penna?	Do you have a paper and pen?



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Lesson 36: How Do You Read This?

Come si legge questo?

PHRASES

Italian	English
Come si legge questo?	How do you read this?
Come si pronuncia questo?	How do you pronounce this?
Che significa?	What does it mean?

QUICK TIP

Here are some exceptions to the pronunciation rules in Italian.

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 aperta is in the word *more* ("blueberry"); the 'o' should sound more like the vowel sound in the English "mall".

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



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Lesson 37: Hotel 1
Ho una prenotazione



PHRASES

Italian	English
Ho una prenotazione.	I have a reservation.
Vorrei una camera.	I would like a room.
Il suo nome per favore.	Your name please.
Può fare lo spelling?	Can you spell it?



Lesson 38: Hotel 2

Si possono avere delle asciugamani?

PHRASES

Italian	English
A che ora è il check-out?	What time is checkout?
Posso avere altro sapone?	Can I have some more soap?

VOCABULARY

Italian	English
asciugamano	towel
spazzolino	toothbrush
dentifricio	toothpaste
shampoo	shampoo
sapone	soap

QUICK TIP

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.

QUICK 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 changed.

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

Mysteries of the Italian language...



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Lesson 39: Post Office

Vorrei inviare questo a Buenos Aires

LESSON NOTES

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 together we have ultimo ritiro.

PHRASES

Italian	English
Vorrei inviare questo a Buenos Aires.	I would like to send this to Buenos Aires.
Vorrei inviare questa cartolina a Buenos Aires.	I would like to send this postcard to Buenos Aires.
Vorrei inviare questa lettera a Buenos Aires	I would like to send this letter to Buenos Aires.
Vorrei inviare questo pacco a Buenos Aires.	I would like to send this package to Buenos Aires.

QUICK TIP

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".



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Lesson 40: Post Office 2

Cosa c'è nel pacco?

LESSON NOTES

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

PHRASES

Italian	English
Vorrei inviare questo pacco a Buenos Aires.	I would like to send this package to Buenos Aires.
Cosa c'è nel pacco?	What's in the package?
Che contiene il pacco?	What does the package contain?

QUICK TIP

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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Lesson 41: Foreign Exchange

C'è un bancomat qui vicino?

LESSON NOTES

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?”

PHRASES

Italian	English
C'è un bancomat qui vicino?	Is there an ATM near here?
Dove posso cambiare dei soldi?	Where can I exchange currency?
In piccolo taglio per favore.	Smaller denominations please.
Mi può cambiare per favore?	Break this please.

QUICK TIP

“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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Lesson 42: Buying a Phone Card

Avete schede telefoniche?

LESSON NOTES

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 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?"

PHRASES

Italian	English
Avete schede telefoniche?	Do you have telephone cards?
Una scheda telefonica da cinque euro per favore.	A five Euro telephone card please.
Una scheda telefonica da dieci euro per favore.	A ten Euro telephone card please.
C'è una cabina telefonica qui vicino?	Is there a payphone near here?



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Lesson 43: Renting a Cellphone

Vorrei affittare un telefono.

LESSON NOTES

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".

PHRASES

Italian	English
Vorrei affittare un telefono.	I would like to rent a cellphone.
Vorrei affittare due telefoni.	I would like to rent two telephones.
Quanto costano le chiamate verso gli Stati Uniti?	How much are calls to the US?

QUICK TIP

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.

QUICK 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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Lesson 44: Admissions

Un biglietto per favore.

PHRASES

Italian	English
Un biglietto per favore.	A ticket please.
Tre biglietti per favore.	Three tickets please.
Cinque biglietti per favore.	Five tickets please.
Il suo biglietto per favore.	Your ticket please.

QUICK TIP

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 places:

1. Internet (www.ticketone.it)
2. Dealers (above 450 all around Italy)
3. Call Centres (892.101 and some more Call Centres of important partners)
4. Promozione & Gruppi TicketOne Office



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Lesson 45: Do You Have an English Version? Ha una guida in inglese?

LESSON NOTES

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?*

PHRASES

Italian	English
Ha una guida in inglese?	Do you have an English information guide?
Avete una guida in inglese?	Do you have an English information guide?
Ha una guida in francese?	Do you have a French information guide?
Ha una guida in giapponese?	Do you have a Japanese information guide?

QUICK TIP

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?"



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Lesson 46: How Do You Eat This?

Come si mangia questo?

LESSON NOTES

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 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 aggiungere "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?"

PHRASES

Italian	English
Come si mangia questo?	How do you eat this?
Può aggiungerci qualcosa?	Could you add something to this?
È piccante?	Is this hot?

QUICK TIP

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?".



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Lesson 47: I'm a Vegetarian

Sono vegetariano.

LESSON NOTES

Today's lesson is not only for all of the vegetarians out there but it's also for anyone with an aversity 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?”

PHRASES

Italian	English
Sono vegetariano.	I'm a vegetarian.
Non mangio carne.	I don't eat meat.
Non mangio formaggio.	I don't eat cheese.
In questo c’è la carne?	Is there meat in this?



Lesson 48: Help! Aiuto!

LESSON NOTES

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.

PHRASES

Italian	English
Aiuto!	Help!
Aiutatemi!	Help me!
Polizia!	Police!

Italian	English
Qualcuno mi aiuti!	Someone help me!
Chiamate un'ambulanza!	Call an ambulance!
Chiamate la polizia!	Call the police!
Chiamate i vigili del fuoco!	Call the firemen!

QUICK TIP

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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Lesson 49: Medical Assistance

Per favore portatemi in ospedale.

LESSON NOTES

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?”

PHRASES

Italian	English
Per favore portatemi in ospedale.	Please take me to a hospital.
Per favore portatemi da un dottore.	Please take me to a doctor.
Ho bisogno di una farmacia.	I need a pharmacy.
Ha la ricetta?	Do you have a medical prescription?

QUICK TIP

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.

QUICK 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.



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Lesson 50: Explaining Symptoms

Ho mal di testa.

LESSON NOTES

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".

PHRASES

Italian	English
Ho mal di testa	I have a headache.
Ho mal di stomaco.	I have a stomach ache.
Ho la febbre.	I have a fever.
Ho il raffreddore.	I have a cold
Ho mal di gola.	I have a stuffed nose.
Ho il naso otturato.	I am nauseous.

VOCABULARY

Italian	English
medicina per il raffreddore	cold medicine



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Lesson 51: Allergies

Sono allergico alle arachidi.

LESSON NOTES

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".

PHRASES

Italian	English
Sono allergico alle arachidi.	I am allergic to peanuts.
Sono allergico ai gamberetti.	I am allergic to shrimp.
Sono allergico alle uova.	I am allergic to eggs.
Sono allergico al latte.	I am allergic to milk.
Ha qualche allergia?	Do you have any allergies?
Ho una reazione allergica.	I am having an allergic reaction.

QUICK TIP

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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Lesson 52: Introducing Yourself

Mi chiamo Cinzia.

LESSON NOTES

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.

PHRASES

Italian	English
Come sta?	How do you do?
Mi chiamo Cinzia.	My name is Cinzia.
Piacere di conoscerla.	Pleased to meet you.
Come stai?	How do you do?
Piacere di conoscerti.	Pleased to meet you.

QUICK TIP

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)



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Lesson 53: Renting a Car

Vorrei noleggiare una macchina.

LESSON NOTES

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?”

PHRASES

Italian	English
Vorrei noleggiare una macchina.	I would like to rent a car.
Vorrei noleggiare un motorino.	I would like to rent a scooter.
Vorrei noleggiare una motocicletta.	I would like to rent a motorbike.
Quando devo restituirla?	When must I return it?
Posso restituirla a Roma?	Can I return it at Rome?

QUICK TIP

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”.

QUICK 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.



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Lesson 54: The Weather

Che tempo farà domani?

LESSON NOTES

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?".

PHRASES

Italian	English
<i>Che tempo farà domani?</i>	What will the weather be tomorrow?
<i>Pioverà.</i>	It will rain.
<i>Nevicherà.</i>	It will snow.
<i>Ci sarà il sole.</i>	It will be sunny.
<i>Tirerà vento.</i>	It will be windy.



Lesson 55: What Time Is It?

Che ore sono?

PHRASES

Italian	English
Che ore sono?	What time is it?
Sono le tre e venti.	It's three-twenty.
Sono le cinque e cinquantacinque.	It's five fifty-five.
Sono le otto e trentaquattro.	It's eight thirty-four.
È mezzogiorno.	It's midday.
È mezzanotte.	It's midnight.
È l'una.	It's one o'clock.
Sono le due e un quarto.	It's a quarter past two.

VOCABULARY

Italian	English
una	one o'clock
due	two o'clock
tre	three o'clock
quattro	four o'clock
cinque	five o'clock
sei	six o'clock
sette	seven o'clock
otto	eight o'clock
nove	nine o'clock
dieci	ten o'clock
undici	eleven o'clock
dodici	twelve o'clock

QUICK TIP

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 56: What Time Does It Open?

A che ora apre?

PHRASES

Italian	English
A che ora apre?	What time does it open?
A che ora chiude?	What time does it close?
A che ora è servita la colazione?	What time is breakfast served?
A che ora inizia lo spettacolo?	What time does the show start?

QUICK TIP

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".

QUICK 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 57: I Like It!

Mi piace molto.

LESSON NOTES

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.

PHRASES

Italian	English
Mi piace.	I like it.
Mi piace molto.	I like it a lot.
Mi piace moltissimo.	I like it very much.

QUICK TIP

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.



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Lesson 58: Adjectives

È delizioso.

PHRASES

Italian	English
È delizioso.	It's delicious.
È piccante.	It's hot.
È freddo.	It's cold.
Fa caldo.	It's hot.
Fa freddo.	It's cold.
È lontano.	It's far.
È vicino.	It's near.
Non è piccante.	It's not hot.
È caldo.	It's hot.



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Lesson 59: Nationality

Sono americano.

LESSON NOTES

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*.

PHRASES

Italian	English
mi chiamo Michael.	My name is Michael.
sono americano	I'm American. (male)
Sono americana.	I'm American. (female)
È americano.	He's American.
È americana.	She's American.

QUICK TIP

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 *giapponese*

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 *gallese*



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Lesson 60: Congratulations!

Auguri

LESSON NOTES

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.

PHRASES

Italian	English
Congratulazioni	Congratulations
Auguri	Congratulations
Buon compleanno	Happy birthday
Buon Anno	Happy new year
Buon Natale	Merry Christmas
Buon Pasqua	Happy Easter

QUICK TIP

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.

QUICK 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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