

Collins

Learn Italian

WITH _____

Paul Noble



Review booklet

This booklet provides you with a quick and easy way to review and reinforce what you have learned during your audio course. The booklet should be used *after* you have begun working through the CDs as it is not designed to teach you Italian by itself.

Collins Learn Italian with Paul Noble

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French, Spanish and German

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The Paul Noble Method

Over the years, I have taught many, many people. Curiously, they have each had much the same story to tell regarding their previous experiences of language learning. As a result, these days, when I first start a teaching session, I ask my students to raise their hands if they have had any of the following experiences.

Raise your hand, I say:

- **If you studied a language for several years at school but came out unable to really say anything.**
- **If you have ever bought a language course and given up around page thirty, somewhere around chapter two.**
- **If you have ever felt more confused by a teacher's explanation of the language than by the language itself.**
- **If you have ever been amazed by just how closely grammar books resemble furniture assembly instructions.**
- **If you have ever felt that you may in fact be more or less incapable of learning a foreign language.**

Invariably, all the students soon have at least one hand in the air – and they laugh. They laugh because for some reason our language-learning experiences tend to be very similar and, sadly, these similar experiences tend not to be very good ones.

My own initial experiences of language learning were also uncannily similar to those described above. In fact, when I ask my students these questions, my own hand is the first to go up – and it stays up until we have gone through them all.

However, these less than positive experiences have had an upside both for myself and for those individuals I have taught because they, along with a number of other factors, have helped inform and shape the method that will be used during this course.

Using this method, you will learn how to communicate in Italian and how to formulate your own ideas and thoughts using Italian.

As you learn with it, you will quickly discover that I do not use complicated grammatical explanations *at all*, and I will not ask you to memorise long lists of vocabulary – the way the course is structured will by itself ensure that you remember what you are taught. Instead, through your interaction with the CDs, I will lead you through the Italian language, enabling you to build up complex sentences by yourself, step by step, so that you are actually speaking independently in Italian by the end of the course. And this is regardless of how little, or how much, you know when you begin.

You will also discover that the language I teach is designed to be adaptable, so that you will be able to use it just as easily for holidaying in Italy as for living or working there; it will be just as easy to use it to order a coffee as to hold a conversation with the waiter who brings it to you. And, again, all of this regardless of how little, or how much, you know when you begin.

At the time of writing, this method has already proved extremely successful with a very great many students, including hundreds of so-called “no-hoppers”. Interestingly, not one of these students failed to learn using this method. It is these many success cases, letters of thank you – and even the occasional hug – that have made teaching languages so very worthwhile for me and it is this which has persuaded me to publish my courses here, for the first time.

I anticipate and hope that they will be as effective for you as they have been for so many of my other students.

Paul Noble

Paul Noble
Head of the Paul Noble Language Institute

How to use this booklet

This booklet has been designed to provide you with a quick and easy way to review and reinforce the key vocabulary, structures and contents of your Paul Noble Method, Easy Learning Italian course.

Although the core part of your learning will take place via your use of the accompanying course CDs, we have also included this booklet in order to provide you with a quick reference guide to the language, as well as a way to begin to get to grips with both reading and writing Italian, should you wish to do so.

It is worth noting that this booklet should be used **after** you have begun working through the accompanying CDs. It will serve as excellent reinforcement, guidance and review material but is not designed to teach you Italian by itself. This is what the CDs will do – and very rapidly too. After you have begun working through the CDs, you will find this booklet to be an extremely useful review and reference resource but you must start by listening to the CDs first.

So, if you haven't done so already, go and unwrap CD 1 and get started. You're about to find out just how good a course this is!

Creating Italian words

Use these conversion techniques to create several thousand Italian words out of English.

Words ending in... in English	become... in Italian	Examples
ation	azione	decorazione preparazione trasformazione
ous	oso	curioso furioso dubbioso
ade	ata	barricata parata cascata
ude	udine	gratitudine solitudine altitudine
ure	ura	natura cultura caricatura
ible	ibile	terribile possibile visibile
able	abile	abile usabile probabile
ant	ante	importante elegante galante

Words ending in... in English	become... in Italian	Examples
ent	ente	presidente cliente recente
ary	ario	primario salario volontario
ic/ical	ico	politico tipico drammatico
id	ido	vivido rapido timido
sm	smo	pessimismo pacifismo sarcasmo
ty	tà	università atrocità agilità
or	ore	pastore aviatore curatore
ist	ista	artista pianista fascista
al	ale	brutale canale vitale
ive	ivo	creativo evasivo corrosivo

Core course review

The best way to use this part of your booklet is to start by reading through a page, looking at both the English and Italian. Then go back to the beginning of that same page and, while covering the Italian side of the text, translate the English into Italian – just as you did when you listened to the course CDs.

Once you can get 90% of a page's content correct, move on to the next page and follow the process again. By doing this, you will quickly recall and reinforce what you learnt with the CDs.

The past (using “have”)

I have

Ho

To say “visited” in Italian, simply take the English word “visit” and then add the “ato” from “tomato” onto the end of it.

visited

visitato

I have visited

Ho visitato

Rome

Roma

I have visited Rome.

Ho visitato Roma.

Milan

Milano

I have visited Milan.

Ho visitato Milano.

You have

Ha

You have visited Milan.

Ha visitato Milano.

You have visited Rome.

Ha visitato Roma.

NOTE! To ask a question in Italian, you simply raise your voice at the end of the sentence. _____

Have you visited Rome?

Ha visitato Roma?

Have you visited Milan?

Ha visitato Milano?

prepared

preparato

I have prepared

Ho preparato

the coffee

il caffè

I have prepared the coffee.

Ho preparato il caffè.

I have prepared the coffee.

Io ho preparato il caffè.

NOTE! In Italian, the words for “I”, “he”, “she”, “you”, “we” and “they” do not always need to be included in a sentence in the way they would be in English. In fact, they tend to be left out. If you do include one of these words, however, such as the word for “I”, which is **io**, it simply makes the sentence far more emphatic. The above two sentences demonstrate this, with the first stating simply that “I have prepared the coffee”, the second, by contrast, emphasises **who** made it. So, normally, you will not include the words for “I”, “he”, “she”, “you”, “we” or “they” **unless** you either want to make the sentence more emphatic or because you feel it might not be clear who you are referring to.

The Past (using "have")

I have not
I have not prepared the coffee.
I have not prepared the coffee.
You have
You have prepared the coffee.
You have prepared the coffee.
You have not
You have not prepared the coffee.
You have not prepared the coffee.
the risotto
I have prepared the risotto.
for you
I have prepared the risotto for you.
for me
You haven't prepared the coffee for me.
Haven't you prepared the coffee for me?
I have prepared the risotto for you.
You have
He has
She has
He has prepared the coffee for me.
He has
He has prepared the coffee for me
He has visited Rome.
He has visited Rome.
She has
She has
She has visited Rome.
She has prepared the coffee for me
She has prepared the coffee for me
She hasn't prepared (the) coffee for me.
She hasn't prepared (the) coffee for me.

Non ho
Non ho preparato il caffè.
Io non ho preparato il caffè.
Ha
Ha preparato il caffè.
Lei ha preparato il caffè.
Non ha
Non ha preparato il caffè.
Lei non ha preparato il caffè.
il risotto
Ho preparato il risotto.
per Lei
Ho preparato il risotto per Lei.
per me
Non ha preparato il caffè per me.
Non ha preparato il caffè per me?
Ho preparato il risotto per Lei.
Ha
Ha
Ha
Ha preparato il caffè per me.
Lui ha
Lui ha preparato il caffè per me.
Lui ha visitato Roma.
Ha visitato Roma.
Ha
Lei ha
Lei ha visitato Roma.
Lei ha preparato il caffè per me.
Ha preparato il caffè per me.
Non ha preparato il caffè per me.
Lei non ha preparato il caffè
per me.

NOTE! Again, keep in mind that the Italian words for “I”, “he”, “she”, “you” etc will not normally be included by Italians when they speak. Try to use them sparingly yourself, including them only when you want to make the sentence more emphatic or because you feel it might not be clear who you are referring to.

father

your father

Your father hasn't prepared
the coffee for me.

mother

your mother

Your mother has prepared
(the) coffee for me.

padre

suo padre

Suo padre non ha preparato

il caffè per me.

madre

sua madre

Sua madre ha preparato

il caffè per me.

Words that end in “ion”

English words that end in “ion” came into English via Latin languages. There are 1250 words that end in “ion” in English. With only a minor spelling change, you will find that you can use most of these words in Italian as well.

preparation	preparazione
decoration	decorazione
presentation	presentazione
formation	formazione

Gaining an instant thousand words or so in Italian is, of course, very helpful but these words can be even more useful than that.

For instance, if you take an “ion” word, such as “preparation”, cut off the “ation” from the end of it, and in its place add the “ato” from “tomato”, you’ll end up with a word like **preparato**, which means *prepared*. Doing this, you can say *I have prepared* and using the same technique you will also be able to say *I have decorated*, *I have presented* etc. Try this with the examples below:

preparation	preparazione
-------------	---------------------

Now, cut off the “ation”, which leaves you with “prepar” and then add the “ato” from “tomato” on the end. You’ll end up with **preparato**, which means *prepared*.

prepared	preparato
I have prepared	Ho preparato

Let’s try doing the same with the word “formation”. Cut off the “ation” from the end and replace it with the “ato” from “tomato”, which will give us *formed* – which will be:

formed	formato
I have formed	Ho formato

In English, we have the word “visitation”. Let’s try doing the same with this. Cut off the “ation” from the end and replace it with the “ato” from “tomato”, which will give us *visited* – which will be:

visited

I have visited Rome.

the villa

I have visited the villa.

the piazza

I have visited the piazza.

You have visited the piazza.

He has visited the piazza.

She has visited the piazza.

They have visited the piazza.

We have visited the piazza.

We have visited the piazza.

decoration

decorated

I have decorated

the cake (the tart)

I have decorated the cake.

You have decorate the cake.

Have you decorated the cake?

I have decorated the cake.

I decorated the cake.

I did decorate the cake.

visitato

Ho visitato Roma.

la villa

Ho visitato la villa.

la piazza

Ho visitato la piazza.

Ha visitato la piazza.

Ha visitato la piazza.

Ha visitato la piazza.

Hanno visitato la piazza.

Abbiamo visitato la piazza.

Noi abbiamo visitato la piazza.

decorazione

decorato

Ho decorato

la torta

Ho decorato la torta.

Ha decorato la torta.

Ha decorato la torta?

Ho decorato la torta.

Ho decorato la torta.

Ho decorato la torta.

NOTE! One of the best things about Italian, and one way in which it is easier than English, is that in order to talk about the past, you don’t need to use as many different tenses as you would in English.

For instance, take the following sentences in English: *I have decorated the cake, I decorated the cake, I did decorate the cake*. In Italian, these are all expressed in the same way, simply as: “I have decorated the cake”, which in Italian is: **Ho decorato la torta**. The above three sentences can therefore be served by the same single tense in Italian.

The Past (using “have”)

presentation

presented

I have presented

I have presented a petition.

I presented a petition.

I did present a petition.

I decorated the cake.

You have decorated the cake. (*formal*)

You have decorated the cake. (*formal*)

You have decorated the cake. (*informal*)

You have decorated the cake. (*informal*)

You have decorated the cake. (*plural*)

You have decorated the cake. (*plural*)

presentazione

presentato

Ho presentato

Ho presentato una petizione.

Ho presentato una petizione.

Ho presentato una petizione.

Ho decorato la torta.

Ha decorato la torta.

Lei ha decorato la torta.

Hai decorato la torta.

Tu hai decorato la torta.

Avete decorato la torta.

Voi avete decorato la torta.

NOTE! As you may have noticed above, there are several words that mean “you” in Italian.

Lei means “you” when you are talking to just one person. It is the *formal* word for “you”, meaning that it is polite and is what you will use when you first meet someone; it is the most important one to learn.

Tu is also used for talking to just one person but it is for use with family, close friends and for talking to children. It is the *informal* word for “you”. English speakers often do not know when it is appropriate to start using **tu** with Italian speakers. The rule-of-thumb is: don’t use it first! Wait until a native speaker initiates it with you and then it should be all right to use it back.

Voi means “you” when you are talking to more than one person – it is the *plural* → 1 “you”. You can use this with any group of people, whether you know them well or not.

From this point on in the booklet, any sentences involving “you” will mention whether you need to use the *formal*, *informal* or *plural* you.

→ JARGON BUSTER 1

Plural means more than one of something.

invited

I have invited

I have invited Paul

to Rome

I have invited Paul to Rome.

I have invited Paul to Rome.

He has invited Paul to Rome.

He has invited your father to Rome.

He has invited your father to Rome.

She has invited your mother to Rome.

She has invited your mother to Rome.

reservation / pre-notation

reserved / pre-noted

I have reserved / pre-noted a room

a table

I have reserved a table.

You have reserved a table. (*formal*)**You** have reserved a table. (*formal*)You have reserved a table. (*informal*)**You** have reserved a table. (*informal*)You have reserved a table. (*plural*)**You** have reserved a table. (*plural*)

invitato

Ho invitato

Ho invitato Paul.

a Roma

Ho invitato Paul a Roma.

Io ho invitato Paul a Roma.

Ha invitato Paul a Roma.

Ha invitato suo padre a Roma.

Lui ha invitato suo padre a Roma.

Ha invitato sua madre a Roma.

Lei ha invitato sua madre a Roma.

prenotazione

prenotato

Ho prenotato una camera

un tavolo

Ho prenotato un tavolo.

Ha prenotato un tavolo.

Lei ha prenotato un tavolo.

Hai prenotato un tavolo.

Tu hai prenotato un tavolo.

Avete prenotato un tavolo.

Voi avete prenotato un tavolo.

NOTE! It is important to note that all of the verbs → 2 we have looked at so far are verbs that end in “**are**”: (to visit) **visitare**, (to prepare) **preparare**, (to invite) **invitare**. In the past tense, they have all become “**ato**”: **visitato**, **preparato**, **invitato**.

90% of all verbs in Italian end in “**are**” and work in this way. The 10% that do not end in “**are**” work equally simply, however.

For instance, verbs that end in “**ire**” in Italian become “**ito**” in the past tense. So, whereas for verbs that end in “**are**”, we replace the “**are**” on the end with the “**ato**” from “**tomato**”, for verbs that end in “**ire**” we instead simply replace their endings with the “**ito**” from “**mosquito**”.

→ JARGON BUSTER 2

What is a verb? An easy way to identify a verb is to see if you can put “I”, “he” or “we” directly in front of it. If you can, it is a verb. For example: I go, he eats, we fly, I buy, he thinks, we leave. All the underlined words are verbs; you know this because you can put either “I”, “he” or “we” **directly in front of them**.

Let’s have a practice with both types in order to better understand how they work. We will begin with those that end in “**are**”:

to prepare
prepared
I have prepared
to speak
spoken
We have spoken
to buy
We have bought
It
We have bought it.

preparare
preparato
ho preparato
parlare
parlato
Abbiamo parlato
comprare
Abbiamo comprato
Lo
Lo abbiamo comprato.

NOTE! The word for “it” used in the sentence above is **Lo**. So, *We have bought it* is **Lo abbiamo comprato**. However, before any word meaning “have” or “has”, you will find that the **Lo** is frequently contracted to a single, lone “L” by itself. So instead of **Lo abbiamo comprato** you will frequently find it pronounced and written as **L’abbiamo comprato**. Don’t worry too much about this, as both forms are equally acceptable.

We haven’t bought it.
They haven’t bought it.
I bought it.

Non l’abbiamo comprato.
Non l’hanno comprato.
L’ho comprato.

Now let’s switch to those verbs that end in “**ire**”:

to understand
understood

capire
capito

NOTE! **Capire** (*to understand*) does not end in “**are**” and so, as stated above, we have not replaced the ending with the “ato” from “tomato” but rather with the “ito” from “mosquito”. Again, verbs ending in “**are**” in Italian replace the “**are**” at the end with the “ato” from “tomato” but those that end in “**ire**”, such as **capire**, replace their endings instead with the “ito” from “mosquito”.

They have understood.
They haven’t understood.
They haven’t understood it.
They haven’t understood it.
They haven’t understood me.
Haven’t they understood me?

Hanno capito.
Non hanno capito.
Non l’hanno capito.
Loro non l’hanno capito.
Non mi hanno capito.
Non mi hanno capito?

NOTE! Verbs that end in “**ere**” work differently still in the past tense. Whereas, for verbs that end in “**are**”, we replace the “are” with the “ato” from “tomato”, for verbs that end in “**ere**” we replace their endings with the “uto” from “Pluto”.

to sell

sold

We have sold

We have sold it.

We haven't sold it.

We haven't sold it.

They haven't sold it.

Haven't they sold it?

vendere

venduto

Abbiamo venduto

L'abbiamo venduto.

Non l'abbiamo venduto.

Noi non l'abbiamo venduto.

Non l'hanno venduto.

Non l'hanno venduto?

The past (using “to be”)

Sometimes in Italian, you cannot use “have” for the past tense. Instead, you need to use a form of “to be” (*am, is or are*). This occurs when you use a verb → 2 in the past that involves going or coming **in any sense**.

So, when you are talking about going, coming, arriving, departing, going out, going up, coming down, being born (coming into the world) or dying (going out of it), you will use “to be” to form the past tense – **not** “have”.

Therefore, to say in Italian that *he has gone / he went* you will literally say *he is gone*. To say *she has arrived / she arrived* you will say she is arrived. To say *I have arrived / I arrived* you will say *I am arrived*. This is, however, **only** for verbs that involve going or coming in some sense. Let’s look at an example:

I am	Sono
to arrive	arrivare
arrived	arrivato / arrivata / arrivati / arrivate
I have arrived.	Sono arrivato / arrivata.
We are	Siamo
We have arrived.	Siamo arrivati / arrivate.

Before moving on, it’s probably worth explaining why “arrived” is spelt in four different ways above – and sometimes in two different ways in a single sentence!

Having worked your way through the course, understanding this will not actually be very difficult because these changes in spelling work according to **The Mario-Maria rule**, which we used a great deal during the recorded part of the course. Let us remind ourselves of how this works for a moment.

The Mario-Maria rule

The Mario-Maria rule states that male or masculine things in Italian tend to end with an “o” – like the name **Mario** – but that female or feminine things tend to end with an “a” – like the name **Maria**.

In Italian, however, this affects more than just people’s names. For instance, it will affect the spelling of the word “arrived”, as it has in the examples above.

Let’s look at how a man would say *I have arrived*:

I have arrived. (*said by a man*)

Sono arrivato.

Following **The Mario-Maria rule**, the word meaning “arrived”, when said by a man, ends with an “o”, just like the name **Mario**.

But what do you think would happen if a woman tried to say the same thing, a **Maria** rather than a **Mario**? How would she say *I have arrived*?

I have arrived. (*said by a woman*)

Sono arrivata.

As you can see, following **The Mario-Maria rule**, the word meaning “arrived”, when said by a woman, ends with an “a”, just as the name **Maria** does.

Let’s try another example.

to go

andare

I have gone. (*said by a man*)

Sono andato.

I have gone. (*said by a woman*)

Sono andata.

As you can see, **The Mario-Maria rule** works in exactly the same way here as well. The female / feminine version ends with an “a” – like the name **Maria** – whereas the male / masculine version ends with an “o” – like the name **Mario**.

As stated above, however, this *only* applies to “going and coming” verbs, because these use “to be” to make the past tense. Normal verbs, which use “have” to form the past tense, are the same no matter who they refer to. The ends of the words will not change no matter who is saying them. Take a look:

I have prepared. (*said by a man*)

Ho preparato.

I have prepared. (*said by a woman*)

Ho preparato.

As you can see, they are the same – and they never change! It is only the small number of verbs, which involve going or coming, and so which use “to be” to make the past tense, that will change their spelling. Let’s look at these spelling changes, which work according to **The Mario-Maria rule**, one more time:

I have gone. (*said by a man*)

Sono andato.

I have gone. (*said by a woman*)

Sono andata.

I have arrived. (*said by a man*)

Sono arrivato.

I have arrived. (*said by a woman*)

Sono arrivata.

The paparazzi rule

So far we have looked at two different words that mean arrived – **arrivato** and **arrivata**. However, you may recall that, at the beginning of this section, there were originally four words used that each meant “arrived”. Let’s remind ourselves of these:

arrived **arrivato / arrivata / arrivati / arrivate**

So far we have looked at two of them, which work according to **The Mario-Maria rule**. Let us remind ourselves again of one of these examples:

I have arrived. (*said by a man*) **Sono arrivato.**

We therefore know how one man would say *I have arrived*. But what would the word for “arrived” be if there were more than one man? To answer this, we need to go back to **The paparazzi rule** that we used during the recorded part of the course.

The paparazzi rule states that, when there is a masculine word that ends in an “o”, that “o” becomes an “i” when there is more than one of that thing. Let’s look at an example:

a risotto **un risotto**
two risottos **due risotti**

So, we have a single **risotto** but two **risotti** – and we see this pattern repeated again and again in Italian:

a paparazzi **un paparazzo**
two paparazzi **due paparazzi**
a biscotti **un biscotto**
two biscotti **due biscotti**
a panini **un panino**
two paninis **due panini**

This also applies to “arrived”. When one man has arrived, it will end with an “o” but when two have arrived it will end with an “i”.

I have arrived. (*said by one man*)

Sono arrivato.

We have arrived. (*said by two men*)

Siamo arrivati.

Let’s try another example:

I have gone. (*said by one man*)

Sono andato.

We have gone. (*said by two men*)

Siamo andati.

The same will happen with all verbs involving going and coming in Italian, when they are used in the past tense.

The A&E rule

We now need to look at what two women will say in the same situation and for this we must go to **The A&E rule**.

The A&E rule states that, when there is a feminine word that ends in an “a”, that “a” on the end will become an “e” when there is more than one of that thing. Let’s look at an example:

a pizza	una pizza
two pizzas	due pizze

So, we have a single **pizza** but two **pizze** – and we will see this pattern repeated again and again in Italian:

a villa	una villa
two villas	due ville
a piazza	una piazza
two piazzas	due piazze

This also applies to “arrived”. When one woman has arrived, it will end with an “a” but when two have arrived it will end with an “e”.

I have arrived. (<i>said by a woman</i>)	Sono arrivata.
We have arrived. (<i>said by two women</i>)	Siamo arrivate.

Let’s try another example:

I have gone. (<i>said by a woman</i>)	Sono andata.
We have gone. (<i>said by two women</i>)	Siamo andate.

The Mario-Maria, Paparazzi and A&E rules put together

We can now put these all together, safe in the knowledge that the past tense with “to be” works in a very similar way to how one **risotto** becomes two **risotti** and how one **pizza** becomes two **pizze**.

I have arrived. (*said by a man*)

We have arrived. (*said by two men*)

I have arrived. (*said by a woman*)

We have arrived. (*said by two women*)

I have gone. (*said by a man*)

We have gone. (*said by two men*)

I have gone. (*said by a woman*)

We have gone. (*said by two women*)

to leave

left

I have left. (*said by a man*)

We have left. (*said by two men*)

I have left. (*said by a woman*)

We have left. (*said by two women*)

Sono arrivato.

Siamo arrivati.

Sono arrivata.

Siamo arrivate.

Sono andato.

Siamo andati.

Sono andata.

Siamo andate.

partire

partito / partita / partiti / partite

Sono partito.

Siamo partiti.

Sono partita.

Siamo partite.

NOTE! These changes are always dependent on who it is that has “arrived”, “gone”, “left” etc. Take a look at the examples below to understand this better.

You are (*formal*)

You have arrived. (*said to a man*)

You have arrived. (*said to a woman*)

You have gone. (*said to a man*)

You have gone. (*said to a woman*)

They are

They have arrived. (*said **about** two men*)

They have arrived. (*said **about** two women*)

They have gone. (*said **about** two men*)

They have gone. (*said **about** two women*)

È

È arrivato.

È arrivata.

È andato.

È andata.

Sono

Sono arrivati.

Sono arrivate.

Sono andati.

Sono andate.

The present

Using “It is”

Words ending in “-ic” and “-ical” in English end in “-ico” in Italian.

typical

tipico

exotic

esotico

political

politico

It is

È

It is typical!

È tipico!

It is exotic!

È esotico!

It is political!

È politico!

It is romantic!

È romantico!

dramatic

drammatico

It is dramatic!

È drammatico!

fantastic

fantastico

It is fantastic!

È fantastico!

It is drastic!

È drastico!

democratic

democratico

It is democratic!

È democratico!

problematic

problematico

It is problematic!

È problematico!

Talking about what you would like to, want to, can and must do

“would like to...”

I would like

I would like to visit Rome.

I would like to invite Paul.

to Rome

I would like to invite Paul to Rome.

I would like to prepare the coffee.

I would like to prepare the pizza.

I would like to decorate the cake.

I would like to reserve a table.

I would like to reserve a room.

two nights

I would like to reserve (pre-note) a room for two nights.

I would like a room for two nights.

two people

I would like a room for two people for two nights.

I would like a room for three people for three nights.

because

I would like to reserve a table because it's romantic.

to see

to know

I would like to know

if

I would like to know if it's typical.

I would like to know if it's romantic.

but

I would like to reserve a table but I would like to know if it's romantic.

Vorrei

Vorrei visitare Roma.

Vorrei invitare Paul.

a Roma

Vorrei invitare Paul a Roma.

Vorrei preparare il caffè.

Vorrei preparare la pizza.

Vorrei decorare la torta.

Vorrei prenotare un tavolo.

Vorrei prenotare una camera.

due notti

Vorrei prenotare una camera per due notti.

Vorrei una camera per due notti.

due persone

Vorrei una camera per due persone per due notti.

Vorrei una camera per tre persone per tre notti.

perché

Vorrei prenotare un tavolo perché è romantico.

vedere

sapere

Vorrei sapere

se

Vorrei sapere se è tipico.

Vorrei sapere se è romantico.

ma

Vorrei prenotare un tavolo ma vorrei sapere se è romantico.

It is
It is not
It's not romantic
I would like to know if it's not romantic.
why
I would like to know why it's
not romantic.
You have (*formal*)
You have not (*formal*)
I would like to know why you have not
prepared the coffee.
I would like to know why you haven't
reserved a room.

“want”

I want
to see
I want to see the room.
I don't want to see the room.
to go
I want to go
there
I want to go there.
I want to go there.
I want to go there with you.
I don't want to go there with you.
They want
They don't want to go there with you.
later
They don't want to go there later.
to go out
They don't want to go out later.
now
They don't want to go out now.
They don't want to go out now.

È
Non è
Non è romantico.
Vorrei sapere se non è romantico.
perché
Vorrei sapere perché
non è romantico.
Ha
Non ha
Vorrei sapere perché non ha
preparato il caffè.
Vorrei sapere perché non ha
prenotato una camera.

Voglio
vedere
Voglio vedere la camera.
Non voglio vedere la camera.
andare
Voglio andare
lì
Voglio andare lì.
Io voglio andare lì.
Voglio andare lì con Lei.
Non voglio andare lì con Lei.
Vogliono
Non vogliono andare lì con Lei.
più tardi
Non vogliono andare lì più tardi.
uscire
Non vogliono uscire più tardi.
adesso
Non vogliono uscire adesso.
Loro non vogliono uscire adesso.

We want

We want to go out now.

We want to go out now.

today

We want to go out today

to leave

We want to leave today.

He wants

He wants to leave today.

He wants to go there today.

this evening

He wants to leave this evening.

She wants

She wants to leave this evening.

She wants to leave this evening.

You want (*formal*)

to eat

You want to eat (*formal*)

You want to eat (*formal*)

You want (*informal*)

You want to eat. (*informal*)

You want to eat. (*informal*)

to eat it

You want (*plural*)

You want to eat it. (*plural*)

You want to eat it. (*plural*)

You don't want to eat it. (*plural*)

They want to know why you don't want

to eat it.

They want to know why you don't want

to eat it.

Vogliamo

Vogliamo uscire adesso.

Noi vogliamo uscire adesso.

oggi

Noi vogliamo uscire oggi.

partire

Noi vogliamo partire oggi.

Vuole

Vuole partire oggi.

Lui vuole partire oggi.

questa sera

Lui vuole partire questa sera.

Vuole

Vuole partire questa sera.

Lei vuole partire questa sera.

Vuole

mangiare

Vuole mangiare.

Lei vuole mangiare.

Vuoi

Vuoi mangiare.

Tu vuoi mangiare.

mangiarlo

Volete

Volete mangiarlo.

Voi volete mangiarlo.

Non volete mangiarlo.

Vogliono sapere perché non

volete mangiarlo.

Loro vogliono sapere perché voi

non volete mangiarlo.

“can”

I can
I can go there with you.
I can go there this evening.
I cannot go there this evening.
They can
They cannot
They cannot go there this evening.
to do
to do it
They cannot do it this evening.
We can
We cannot
We cannot go do it this evening.
tomorrow
We cannot do it tomorrow.
He can
He cannot
He cannot go do it tomorrow.
to have
to have it
He cannot have it tomorrow.
She can
She cannot
She cannot have it tomorrow.
You can (*formal*)
You can have it this evening. (*formal*)
this morning
You can have it this morning. (*formal*)
to come
You cannot come this morning. (*formal*)
to repeat
You can repeat (*formal*)
Can you repeat, please? (*formal*)
to take

Posso
Posso andare lì con Lei.
Posso andare lì questa sera.
Non posso andare lì questa sera.
Possono
Non possono
Non possono andare lì questa sera.
fare
farlo
Non possono farlo questa sera.
Possiamo
Non possiamo
Non possiamo farlo questa sera.
domani
Non possiamo farlo domani.
Può
Non può
Non può farlo domani.
avere
averlo
Non può averlo domani.
Può
Non può
Non può averlo domani.
Può
Può averlo questa sera.
questa mattina
Può averlo questa mattina.
venire
Non può venire questa mattina.
ripetere
Può ripetere
Può ripetere, per favore?
prendere

to take it

Can you take it? (*formal*)

You cannot take it. (*formal*)

to take them

You cannot take them. (*formal*)

You can (*informal*)

You cannot take them. (*informal*)

You cannot take them now. (*informal*)

this afternoon

You cannot take them this

afternoon. (*informal*)

I want to know why you cannot take
them this afternoon. (*informal*)

to understand

You cannot understand it. (*informal*)

to understand me

You cannot understand me. (*informal*)

to sell

You cannot sell it. (*informal*)

You cannot sell it. (*plural*)

to wait

to wait for me

You cannot wait for me. (*plural*)

“must”

I must

I must go there with you.

to prepare the risotto

I must prepare the risotto.

to prepare it

I must prepare it.

They must

They must prepare it.

to find

They must find it.

He must

prenderlo

Può prenderlo?

Non può prenderlo.

prenderli

Non può prenderli.

Puoi

Non puoi prenderli.

Non puoi prenderli adesso.

questo pomeriggio

Non puoi prenderli

questo pomeriggio.

Voglio sapere perché non puoi
prenderli questo pomeriggio.

capire

Non puoi capirlo.

capirmi

Non puoi capirmi.

vendere

Non puoi venderlo.

Non potete venderlo.

aspettare

aspettarmi

Non potete aspettarmi.

Devo

Devo andare lì con Lei.

preparare il risotto

Devo preparare il risotto.

prepararlo

Devo prepararlo.

Devono

Devono prepararlo.

trovare

Devono trovarlo.

Deve

The Present

She must

You must (*formal*)

You must find it. (*formal*)

We must

We must find it.

You must (*informal*)

You must find it. (*informal*)

You must (*plural*)

You must buy it. (*plural*)

Deve

Deve

Deve trovarlo.

Dobbiamo

Dobbiamo trovarlo.

Devi

Devi trovarlo.

Dovete

Dovete comprarlo.

The present tense without “want”, “can”, “must” etc

We will now take a look at the more general present tense in Italian – the present tense without “want”, “can”, “must” etc. By the end of this quick run-through, you will be able to use the vast majority of verbs in Italian, in the present tense, with almost no difficulty whatsoever.

Verbs ending in “are”

90% of all verbs in Italian end in “**are**”. If you can use the verbs below correctly, then you will find that you can use 90% of all verbs in Italian correctly! To do this, we will take as our first example, the Italian verb “to speak”.

to speak **parlare**

If you know the word **parlare** in Italian you can also work out how to say *I speak / I am speaking, he speaks / he is speaking, she speaks / she is speaking, you speak / you are speaking, we speak / we are speaking and they speak / they are speaking* fairly easily.

Saying “you speak / you are speaking” (plural)

Let’s begin with *you speak / you are speaking* (plural). To say this in Italian, you simply change the “**r**” in the Italian word meaning “to speak” (**parlare**) into a “**t**” and you will get *you speak / you are speaking* (plural). Let’s try this:

to speak **parlare**
You speak / You are speaking (plural) **Parlate**

And this will work with more or less any verb in Italian:

to buy	comprare
You buy / You are buying (<i>plural</i>)	Comprate
to eat	mangiare
You eat / You are eating (<i>plural</i>)	Mangiate
to wait	aspettare
You wait / You are waiting (<i>plural</i>)	Aspettate

Saying “you speak / you are speaking” (informal)

To say *you speak / you are speaking* (informal), you simply take the Italian word meaning “to speak” (**parlare**) and chop off the “are” from the end – leaving you with “**parl**”.

Once you have done this, you simply add the “i” from “informal” onto the end.

to speak **parlare**

You speak / You are speaking (*informal*) **Parli**

So, for *you speak / you are speaking* (informal) we have cut off the “are” from **parlare** and replaced it with the “i” from “informal”. And this is what will happen with more or less any verb in Italian!

to buy **comprare**

You buy / You are buying (*informal*) **Compri**

to eat **mangiare**

You eat / You are eating (*informal*) **Mangi**

to wait **aspettare**

You wait / You are waiting (*informal*) **Aspetti**

Saying “I speak / I am speaking”

Just like before, to say *I speak / I am speaking*, you simply take the Italian word meaning “to speak” (**parlare**) and chop off the “are” from the end – leaving you with “**parl**”.

Once you have done this, you simply add an “o” the end

to speak **parlare**

I speak / I am speaking **Parlo**

So, for *I speak / I am speaking* we have cut off the “are” from **parlare** and replaced it with an “o” – think of it as an “o” for **one**’s self. And this is what will happen with more or less any verb in Italian!

to buy	comprare
I buy / I am buying	Compro
to eat	mangiare
I eat / I am eating	Mangio
to wait	aspettare
I wait / I am waiting	Aspetto

Saying “he”, “she”, “you” (formal) speak / are speaking

Just like before, to say “he”, “she”, “you” (formal) *speak / are speaking*, you simply take the Italian word meaning “to speak” (**parlare**) and chop off the “**are**” from the end – leaving you with “**parl**”.

Once you have done this, you simply add an “**a**” on the end.

to speak	parlare
He speaks / He is speaking	Parla
She speaks / She is speaking	Parla
You speak / You are speaking (<i>formal</i>)	Parla

So, for “he”, “she”, “you” (formal) *speak / are speaking*, we have cut off the “**are**” from **parlare** and replaced it with an “**a**”. And this is what will happen with more or less any verb in Italian!

to buy	comprare
He buys / He is buying	Compra
to eat	mangiare
She eats / She is eating	Mangia
to wait	aspettare
You wait / You are waiting (<i>formal</i>)	Aspetta

Saying “they speak / they are speaking”

To say *they speak / they are speaking*, you simply take the Italian word meaning “to speak” (**parlare**) and chop off the “**are**” from the end – leaving you with “**parl**”.

Once you have done this, you simply add “**ano**” onto the end

The Present

to speak	parlare
They speak / They are speaking	Parlano

So, for *they speak / they are speaking* we have cut off the “**are**” from **parlare** and replaced it with “**ano**”. And this is what will happen with more or less any verb in Italian!

to buy	comprare
They buy / They are buying	Comprano
to eat	mangiare
They eat / They are eating	Mangiano
to wait	aspettare
They wait / They are waiting	Aspettano

Saying “we speak / we are speaking”

To say *we speak / we are speaking*, you simply take the Italian word meaning “to speak” (**parlare**) and chop off the “**are**” from the end – leaving you with “**parl**”.

Once you have done this, you simply add “**iamo**” onto the end

to speak	parlare
We speak / We are speaking	Parliamo

So, for *we speak / we are speaking* we have cut off the “**are**” from **parlare** and replaced it with “**iamo**”. And this is what will happen with more or less any verb in Italian!

to buy	comprare
We buy / We are buying	Compriamo
to eat	mangiare
We eat / We are eating	Mangiamo
to wait	aspettare
We wait / We are waiting	Aspettiamo

Let's practise all of this now!

Italian

I speak Italian.

He speaks Italian.

She speaks Italian.

English

You speak English. (*formal*)

They speak English.

We speak English.

You speak English. (*informal*)

You speak English. (*plural*)

italiano

Parlo italiano.

Parla italiano.

Parla italiano.

inglese

Parla inglese.

Parlano inglese.

Parliamo inglese.

Parli inglese.

Parlate inglese.

Now try it with some additional ingredients included:

We don't speak English.

They don't speak Italian.

Don't they speak Italian?

Don't you speak Italian? (*plural*)

Don't you speak English? (*informal*)

You don't speak English. (*informal*)

She doesn't speak Italian.

Do you speak English? (*formal*)

Non parliamo inglese.

Non parlano italiano.

Non parlano italiano?

Non parlate italiano?

Non parli inglese?

Non parli inglese.

Non parla italiano.

Parla inglese?

The future

Step 1: finding the future tense by spinning the “are”

The key to using the future tense in Italian lies in two simple steps. The first step is to spin the “**are**” round at the end of the verb. Let’s take a look at an example of what I mean by this:

to speak

parlare

As with 90% of all verbs in Italian, “to speak” ends in **A-R-E**. If you want to use the future tense in Italian, all you need to do is to put your finger on top of the **A** at the beginning of **A-R-E** and then spin it round, so that it ends up facing the other way. It will then read **E-R-À**. You will notice that, after spinning it round, you can still see the finger you used to do the spinning, still hovering above the **À**.

So, via this simple step of spinning the **A-R-E** round so that it now reads **E-R-À** (again, notice the finger that spun it is still hovering over the **À**) you have in fact found the future tense → **2** in Italian. Let’s look at this in practice:

→ JARGON BUSTER 3

You can think of the future tense in Italian as the “**will tense**” if you like, as we often use the word “**will**” in English when we talk about the future. For example, “I **will** speak to him later”, “we **will** do it tomorrow”, “I **will** see you next week” etc.

to speak **parlare**

Now, use your finger to spin the **A-R-E** round so that it now reads **E-R-À**. You will get the future tense as a result:

He will speak **Parlerà**

She will speak **Parlerà**

You will speak (*formal*) **Parlerà**

As you can see, with this first simple step, you have found out how to say *he will...*, *she will...* and *you will...* (formal). Let's try this again with some more examples:

to buy **comprare**

Now all you need to do is to spin this **A-R-E** round, so that it's facing the other way and instead reads **E-R-À**. Doing this will allow you to say *he will buy*, *she will buy*, *you will buy*. Try it now!

He will buy **Comprerà**

She will buy **Comprerà**

You will buy (*formal*) **Comprerà**

Let's try the same with "to wait":

to wait **aspettare**

He will wait **Aspetterà**

She will wait **Aspetterà**

You will wait (formal) **Aspetterà**

So, simply by spinning the **A-R-E** around, so that it reads **E-R-À**, you have now found out how to say *he will...*, *she will...* and *you will...* (formal) in Italian.

To say *I will...*, *you will...* (informal), *you will...* (plural), *they will...* and *we will...*, we will need to go on to step 2.

Step 2: swapping the “à” in e-r-à

Having already taken the first step – spinning the **A-R-E** round to become **E-R-À** – we are now ready to take the second step.

This second step involves us swapping the “**À**” at the end of **E-R-À** for something else. By doing so, you will find you are able to say *I will...*, *you will...* (informal), *you will...* (plural), *they will...* and *we will...*

We'll begin with *I will...*

Swap “à” for (part of) “have”

Of course, knowing you need to swap the “**À**” is one thing, remembering what you need to swap it for is another. Here you will learn an easy way to remember what you should swap it for and, to do this, you will only need to know how to say “have” in Italian.

To say *I will...* in Italian, you will swap the “**À**” from the end of **E-R-À** for (part of) the word that means *I have* in Italian. Let's take a look at an example of this to see what it means in practice:

I have

Ho

So, *I have* in Italian is **ho** and now we need to swap *part of this* for the “**À**” at the end of **E-R-À**.

Swap everything after the “h”!

As the title above says, we now need to swap the “**À**” with everything after the “h” in **ho** – which, in this case, is just a solitary, lone “**O**”.

Doing this, **E-R-À** will become **E-R-Ò**, giving us *I will...*

Let's now look at some examples with this:

I will speak

Parlerò

As you can see, using this E-R-Ò at the end gives us *I will...* We can now use it to say *I will buy* and *I will wait*:

I will buy

Comprerò

I will wait

Aspetterò

And the same will work with 90% of all verbs in Italian!

“You will...” (informal)

Now, we can use this exact same technique of swapping the “À” at the end of **E-R-À** with “have” in order to say *you will...* (informal), *you will...* (plural), *they will...* etc.

Let’s try this first with *you will...* (informal):

You have (*informal*)

Hai

Once more, we now need to swap the “À” in **E-R-À** for everything after the “h” in **hai** – which, in this case, is “**A-I**”.

Doing this, **E-R-À** will become **E-R-A-I**, giving us *you will...* (informal):

You will speak (*informal*)

Parlerai

You will buy (*informal*)

Comprerai

You will wait (*informal*)

Aspetterai

“They will...”

They have

Hanno

Once more, we now need to swap the “À” in **E-R-À** for everything after the “h” in **hanno** – which, in this case, is “**anno**”.

Doing this, **erà** will become **eranno**, giving us *they will...*:

They will speak

Parleranno

They will buy

Compreranno

They will wait

Aspetteranno

“You will...” (plural)

You have (*plural*)

Avete

There is no “h” in **avete**, so you will simply swap the **À** in **E-R-À** for the final three letters in **avete** – which, in this case, are “**ete**”.

Doing this, **erà** will become **erete**, giving us *you will...* (*plural*):

You will speak (*plural*)

Parlerete

You will buy (*plural*)

Comprerete

You will wait (*plural*)

Aspetterete

“We will...”

We have

Abbiamo

Unfortunately, *we will...* breaks the rules and is an exception. In the case of *we will...*, we need to swap the **À** in **E-R-À** for “**emo**”.

Doing this, **erà** will become **eremo**, giving us *we will...*:

We will speak

Parleremo

We will buy

Compreremo

We will wait

Aspetteremo

Practise with these final examples:

to buy

comprare

He will buy it.

Lo comprerà.

She will buy it.

Lo comprerà.

You will buy it. (*formal*)

Lo comprerà.

I will buy it.

Lo comprerò.

You will buy it. (*informal*)

Lo comprerai.

They will buy it.

Lo compreranno.

You will buy it. (*plural*)

Lo comprerete.

We will buy it.

Lo compreremo.

to visit

He will visit Rome tomorrow.

She will visit Rome later.

I will visit Rome tomorrow.

We will visit Rome tomorrow.

to eat

She will eat with us later.

You will eat with us later. (*formal*)

You will eat with us later. (*informal*)

to book

You will book it later. (*informal*)

They will book it later.

They won't book it.

You won't book it later. (*plural*)

We won't book it later.

visitare

Visiterà Roma domani.

Visiterà Roma più tardi.

Visiterò Roma domani.

Visiteremo Roma domani.

mangiare

Mangerà con noi più tardi.

Mangerà con noi più tardi.

Mangerai con noi più tardi.

prenotare

Lo prenoterai più tardi.

Lo prenoteranno più tardi.

Non lo prenoteranno.

Non lo prenoterete più tardi.

Non lo prenoteremo più tardi.

Travelling in Italy

You now have a chance to use what you have learnt, to deal with those everyday situations you are likely to come across when travelling in Italy.

You will be familiar with the scenarios below from their use on the CDs. The best way to use them here is in the same way as the core course review: first read through a scenario, looking at both the English and Italian, and then go back to the beginning of that same scenario and, while covering the Italian side of the text, translate the English into Italian – just as you did when you listened to the CDs.

At the hotel

<i>Traveller</i>	I would like a room for two people for two nights.	Vorrei una camera per due persone per due notti.
<i>Receptionist</i>	I have a room for two people with bath.	Ho una camera per due persone con bagno.
<i>Traveller</i>	How much is it?	Quant'è?
<i>Receptionist</i>	For two nights... 100 euros.	Per due notti... cento euro.
<i>Traveller</i>	Can I see the room?	Posso vedere la camera?
<i>Receptionist</i>	Yes.	Sì.

You are taken up to see the room; it's not bad.

<i>Traveller</i>	Ah yes, it's perfect!	Ah sì, è perfetta!
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You go back downstairs to the reception.

<i>Receptionist</i>	Your name, please?	Il suo nome, per favore.
<i>Traveller</i>	Moon, M-O-O-N.	Moon, M-O-O-N.
<i>Traveller</i>	Can I pay by (with) credit card?	Posso pagare con la carta di credito?
<i>Receptionist</i>	Yes.	Sì.

The receptionist then takes your card, you enter your PIN and she gives it back to you.

<i>Traveller</i>	Thank you.	Grazie.
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Finding a campsite

<i>Traveller</i>	Where is the campsite?	Dov'è il campeggio?
<i>Passerby</i>	The campsite's over there.	Il campeggio è lì.

You walk over to someone who appears to be a farmer / campsite owner.

<i>Traveller</i>	Can I camp here?	Posso campeggiare qui?
<i>Farmer</i>	Yes, you can camp here.	Sì, può campeggiare qui.
<i>Traveller</i>	For two nights, how much is it?	Per due notti, quant'è?
<i>Farmer</i>	For a tent ten euros.	Per una tenda, dieci euro.

You think about it for a moment and then decide to stay there for the two nights.

<i>Traveller</i>	Yes, one tent for two nights, please.	Sì, una tenda per due notti, per favore.
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Taking a taxi to the piazza

<i>Traveller</i>	To the piazza, please.	Alla piazza, per favore!
<i>Traveller</i>	It's how much?	Quant'è?
<i>Driver</i>	Eight euros.	Otto euro.

At the piazza café

<i>Waiter</i>	You desire?	Desidera?
<i>Traveller</i>	A coffee, please.	Un caffè, per favore.
<i>Traveller 2</i>	For me, a white wine and a sandwich, please.	Per me, un vino bianco e un sandwich, per favore.
<i>Traveller</i>	How much is it ?	Quant'è?
<i>Waiter</i>	Sixteen euros.	Sedici euro.

Eating out

On the telephone.

<i>Traveller</i>	I would like to reserve a table for two people.	Vorrei prenotare un tavolo per due persone.
<i>Restaurant</i>	For this evening?	Per questa sera?
<i>Traveller</i>	Yes, for seven o'clock.	Sì, per le sette.
<i>Restaurant</i>	Your name, please ?	Il suo nome, per favore.
<i>Traveller</i>	Moon, M-O-O-N.	Moon, M-O-O-N.
<i>Restaurant</i>	Thank you.	Grazie.

Later in the hotel reception.

<i>Traveller</i>	Where can I find a taxi?	Dove posso trovare un taxi?
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The concierge simply flags one down for you and you get in.

<i>Traveller</i>	To the piazza, please.	Alla piazza, per favore!
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The taxi arrives, just opposite the restaurant.

<i>Traveller</i>	How much is it ?	Quant'è?
<i>Taxi driver</i>	Eleven euros.	Undici euro.

You cross the road and enter the restaurant.

<i>Traveller</i>	I have reserved (a table).	Ho prenotato.
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You are seated, given a menu and decide to order something inexpensive.

<i>Traveller</i>	A bottle of white wine and two risottos, please.	Una bottiglia di vino bianco e due risotti, per favore.
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You finish your meal but have clearly drunk too much wine.

<i>Traveller</i>	Where is the bathroom?	Dov'è il bagno?
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He gestures towards the toilets and, later, after you come back:

<i>Waiter</i>	Anything else?	Altro?
<i>Traveller</i>	Yes, two coffees and the bill, please.	Sì, due caffè e il conto, per favore.

At the tourist office / Finding the station

In the street.

<i>Traveller</i>	Excuse me, where is the tourist office?	Scusi, dov'è l'ufficio turistico?
<i>Passer-by</i>	The tourist office is opposite (in front of) the cathedral, over there.	L'ufficio turistico è di fronte alla cattedrale - lì.

In the tourist office.

<i>Traveller</i>	Do you have a map of Rome?	Ha una mappa di Roma?
<i>Tourist officer</i>	Yes.	Sì.
<i>Traveller</i>	How much is it?	Quant'è?
<i>Tourist officer</i>	Five euros.	Cinque euro.

You pay and take the guide.

<i>Traveller</i>	Thank you.	Grazie.
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Back outside.

<i>Traveller</i>	Excuse me, where is the train station?	Scusi, dov'è la stazione?
<i>Passerby</i>	Mmmh, do you have a map?	Mmmh, ha una mappa?
<i>Traveller</i>	Yes. You can show me on the map?	Sì. Può indicarmi sulla mappa?
<i>Passerby</i>	Yes.	Sì.

He marks it on the map and you thank him.

<i>Traveller</i>	Thank you.	Grazie.
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Taking a coach

<i>Traveller</i>	Where can I buy a ticket?	Dove posso comprare un biglietto?
<i>Bus driver</i>	Over there.	Lì!
<i>Traveller</i>	A ticket for Milan, please.	Un biglietto per Milano, per favore.
<i>Ticket office</i>	First or second class?	Prima o seconda classe?
<i>Traveller</i>	First class, please.	Prima classe, per favore.
<i>Ticket office</i>	Twelve euros, please.	Dodici euro, per favore.

Taking a train

At the train station.

<i>Traveller</i>	Where can I buy a ticket?	Dove posso comprare un biglietto?
<i>Station employee</i>	Over there!	Lì!
<i>Traveller</i>	Thank you.	Grazie.

In the ticket office.

<i>Traveller</i>	I would like two tickets for Naples, please.	Vorrei due biglietti per Napoli, per favore.
<i>Ticket office</i>	First or second class ?	Prima o seconda classe?
<i>Traveller</i>	Second class, please.	Seconda classe, per favore.
<i>Traveller</i>	Is it direct?	È diretto?
<i>Ticket office</i>	Yes, it's direct.	Sì, è diretto.
<i>Ticket office</i>	30 euros, please.	Trenta euro, per favore.

You pay and she hands you your tickets.

<i>Traveller</i>	Thank you.	Grazie.
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On the platform.

<i>Traveller</i>	Is this the train for Naples?	È questo il treno per Napoli?
<i>Station guard</i>	No, the train for Naples is over there.	No, il treno per Napoli è lì.

Sometime later, on a train headed for Naples.

<i>Conductor</i>	Tickets, please.	Biglietti, per favore.
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To another passenger, who has brought a bicycle on board:

<i>Conductor</i>	You must pay (a) supplement.	Deve pagare un supplemento.
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Finally, he reaches the area where you are sitting.

<i>Conductor</i>	Your tickets, please.	Biglietti, per favore.
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A while later, as the train slows down, you ask another passenger:

<i>Traveller</i>	Excuse me, at what time does the train arrive in Naples?	Scusi, a che ora arriva il treno a Napoli?
<i>Passenger</i>	Now!	Adesso!

You quickly get off the train.

Introducing yourself (a male)

<i>Traveller</i>	I'm Paul. I'm from London.	Sono Paul. Sono di Londra.
<i>Traveller</i>	And you?	E Lei?
<i>Mario</i>	I'm Mario. I'm from Milan.	Sono Mario. Sono di Milano.
<i>Traveller</i>	What do you do?	Che fa?
<i>Mario</i>	I'm (an) architect.	Sono architetto.

Introducing yourself (a female)

<i>Traveller</i>	I'm Paul. I'm from London.	Sono Paul. Sono di Londra.
<i>Traveller</i>	And you?	E Lei?
<i>Maria</i>	I'm Maria. I'm from Naples.	Sono Maria. Sono di Napoli.
<i>Traveller</i>	What do you do?	Che fa?
<i>Maria</i>	I'm (an) architect.	Sono architetta.

A brief encounter

Outside, looking for the market.

Traveller	Excuse me, where is the market?	Scusi, dov'è il mercato?
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The gentleman you ask replies but you do not understand.

Traveller	I don't understand. Can you repeat that (it), please?	Non capisco. Può ripetere, per favore?
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Again, you do not understand because he speaks so quickly.

Traveller	Can you speak more slowly, please?	Può parlare più lentamente, per favore?
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He tries again, this time more slowly.

Man in the street	The market is in front of the piazza – over there.	Il mercato è di fronte alla piazza – lì.
Traveller	Ah, I understand. Thank you.	Ah, capisco. Grazie.

You are about to leave but he continues talking to you.

Man in the street	Where are you from?	Di dov'è?
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You say where you are from.

Traveller	I am from London. And you?	Sono di Londra. E Lei?
Man in the street	I'm from Rome. I'm Roberto.	Sono di Roma. Sono Roberto.

You tell him your name.

Traveller	I'm Paul.	Sono Paul.
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You note how smartly dressed he is and ask him what it is he does.

<i>Traveller</i>	What do you do?	Che fa?
<i>Man in the street</i>	I am (an) architect. And you?	Sono architetto. E Lei?

You tell him your profession.

<i>Traveller</i>	I'm a teacher (professor).	Sono professore.
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He looks at his watch and realises he has to go.

<i>Man in the street</i>	Goodbye.	Ciao.
<i>Traveller</i>	Goodbye.	Ciao.

At the baker's

<i>Baker</i>	You desire?	Desidera?
<i>Traveller</i>	This tart, please.	Questa torta, per favore.
<i>Baker</i>	Anything else?	Altro?
<i>Traveller</i>	Yes. Two paninis and ten biscotti, please.	Sì. Due panini e dieci biscotti, per favore.
<i>Baker</i>	Anything else.	Altro?
<i>Traveller</i>	No, thank you.	No, grazie.
<i>Baker</i>	Ten euros, please.	Dieci euro, per favore.

Shopping at the market

At the first stall.

<i>First stallholder</i>	You desire ?	Desidera?
<i>Traveller</i>	I would like a kilo of pears.	Vorrei un chilo di pere.
<i>First stallholder</i>	Anything else.	Altro?
<i>Traveller</i>	Yes, a melon, please.	Sì, un melone, per favore.
<i>First stallholder</i>	Anything else?	Altro?
<i>Traveller</i>	Yes, two bananas, please.	Sì, due banane, per favore.
<i>First stallholder</i>	Anything else?	Altro?
<i>Traveller</i>	No, thank you. How much is it?	No, grazie. Quant'è?
<i>First stallholder</i>	Ten euros.	Dieci euro.

At the second stall.

<i>Second stallholder</i>	What would you like?	Desidera?
<i>Traveller</i>	I would like a bottle of red wine and a bottle of white wine.	Vorrei una bottiglia di vino rosso e una bottiglia di vino bianco.
<i>Second stallholder</i>	Anything else?	Altro?
<i>Traveller</i>	No, thank you. How much is it?	No, grazie. Quant'è?
<i>Second stallholder</i>	14 euros.	Quattordici euro.

At the pharmacy

<i>Traveller</i>	I am ill.	Sono malato / malata.
<i>Pharmacist</i>	What symptoms do you have?	Che sintomi ha?
<i>Traveller</i>	I have been sick.	Ho vomitato.
<i>Pharmacist</i>	Do you have a fever?	Ha la febbre?
<i>Traveller</i>	Yes.	Sì.
<i>Pharmacist</i>	You have sunstroke and you must find a doctor.	Ha l'insolazione e deve trovare un medico.

Seeing a doctor

Feeling unwell, you go down to the reception in your hotel.

<i>Traveller</i>	I am ill. Can you find a doctor for me?	Sono malato / malata. Può trovare un medico per me?
<i>Receptionist</i>	Is it urgent?	È urgente?
<i>Traveller</i>	Yes, it's very urgent - can the doctor come here?	Sì, è molto urgente - il medico può venire qui?
<i>Receptionist</i>	One moment.	Un momento.
<i>Receptionist</i>	Yes, the doctor can come immediately.	Sì, il medico può venire immediatamente.

The doctor arrives a while later and comes to your room.

<i>Doctor</i>	What symptoms do you have?	Che sintomi ha?
<i>Traveller</i>	I have been sick.	Ho vomitato.
<i>Doctor</i>	Do you have a fever?	Ha la febbre?
<i>Traveller</i>	Yes.	Sì.
<i>Doctor</i>	For how long? / Since when?	Da quando?
<i>Traveller</i>	For two hours.	Da due ore.
<i>Doctor</i>	Can you tell me...?	Può dirmi...?
<i>Doctor</i>	Are you diabetic?	È diabetico / diabetica?
<i>Traveller</i>	No.	No.
<i>Doctor</i>	Are you asthmatic?	È asmatico / asmatica?
<i>Traveller</i>	No.	No.
<i>Doctor</i>	Are you anaemic ?	È anemico / anemica?
<i>Traveller</i>	No.	No.

He examines you further and then decides.

<i>Doctor</i>	You have sunstroke.	Ha l'insolazione.
<i>Traveller</i>	Is it serious?	È grave?
<i>Doctor</i>	No, it's not very serious but you cannot go out today.	No, non è molto grave ma non può uscire oggi.

He leaves you some rehydration salts and says goodbye.

<i>Traveller</i>	Thank you, goodbye.	Grazie, ciao.
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Numbers

Listen to these numbers on track 12 of CD 11.

0	zero	33	trentatré
1	uno	34	trentaquattro
2	due	35	trentacinque
3	tre	36	trentasei
4	quattro	37	trentasette
5	cinque	38	trentotto
6	sei	39	trentanove
7	sette	40	quaranta
8	otto	41	quarantuno
9	nove	42	quarantadue
10	dieci	43	quarantatré
11	undici	44	quarantaquattro
12	dodici	45	quarantacinque
13	tredici	46	quarantasei
14	quattordici	47	quarantasette
15	quindici	48	quarantotto
16	sedici	49	quarantanove
17	diciassette	50	cinquanta
18	diciotto	51	cinquantuno
19	diciannove	52	cinquantadue
20	venti	53	cinquantatré
21	ventuno	54	cinquantaquattro
22	ventidue	55	cinquantacinque
23	ventitré	56	cinquantasei
24	ventiquattro	57	cinquantasette
25	venticinque	58	cinquantotto
26	ventisei	59	cinquantanove
27	ventisette	60	sessanta
28	ventotto	61	sessantuno
29	ventinove	62	sessantadue
30	trenta	63	sessantatré
31	trentuno	64	sessantaquattro
32	trentadue	65	sessantacinque

66	sessantasei
67	sessantasette
68	sessantotto
69	sessantanove
70	settanta
71	settantuno
72	settantadue
73	settantatré
74	settantaquattro
75	settantacinque
76	settantasei
77	settantasette
78	settantotto
79	settantanove
80	ottanta
81	ottantuno
82	ottantadue
83	ottantatré
84	ottantaquattro
85	ottantacinque
86	ottantasei
87	ottantasette
88	ottantotto
89	ottantanove
90	novanta
91	novantuno
92	novantadue
93	novantatré
94	novantaquattro
95	novantacinque
96	novantasei
97	novantasette
98	novantotto
99	novantanove
100	cento
101	centouno
102	centodue

103	centotré
104	centoquattro
105	centocinque
106	centosei
107	centosette
108	centootto
109	centonove
110	centodieci
111	centoundici
112	centododici
113	centotredici
114	centoquattordici
115	centoquindici
116	centosedici
117	centodiciassette
118	centodiciotto
119	centodiciannove
120	centoventi
121	centoventuno
122	centoventidue

and so on...

130	centotrenta
140	centoquaranta
200	duecento
201	duecentouno
202	duecentodue
300	trecento
1000	mille
1001	milleuno
2000	duemila
10,000	diecimila
50,000	cinquantamila
1,000,000	un milione

The alphabet

Listen to the Italian alphabet on track 13 of CD 11.

Letter	Pronounced in Italian as
A	ah
B	bee
C	chee
D	dee
E	air
F	effe
G	jee
H	akka
I	ee
J	ee loonger
K	capper
L	elle
M	emme
N	enne
O	o (pronounced like the “o” in “pot”)
P	pee
Q	coo
R	erre
S	esse
T	tee
U	oo
V	vee
W	doppia vee
X	iks
Y	ipsilon
Z	zeta

CD track listing

CD 1

Track	Topic	Key elements
1	Introduction	The Paul Noble Method
2	Ground rules	Relax and don't worry if you forget
3	Language links	The similarities between Italian and English
4	The past with <i>have</i>	<i>Have</i> and <i>have not</i> plus asking questions
5	<i>He has, she has</i> plus the Mario-Maria Rule	Using <i>lui</i> (he), <i>lei</i> (she) and <i>Lei</i> (you): masculine and feminine endings
6	<i>-ation</i> words using them to build vocabulary	1,250 easy Italian words
7	How to make the past tense	Removing <i>-azione</i> ending and adding <i>-ato</i> : <i>invitato, decorato</i>
8	Booking a room or table	Using <i>prenotare</i> (to reserve, pre-note)
9	Verbs ending <i>-are</i>	Using verbs after <i>vorrei</i> (I would like)

CD 2

Track	Topic	Key elements
1	The Paparazzi rule	Making masculine words plural
2	The A&E rule	Making feminine words plural
3	<i>-ic/-cal</i> words in Italian	Using <i>è</i> (<i>it is</i>) with <i>-ico</i> words (<i>fantastico</i> , etc)
4	Numbers 1-20	<i>Numbers 1 to 20 and 100</i>
5	How to say <i>I can</i>	Using <i>posso</i> (I can) with other verbs
6	Using <i>posso</i> , <i>possono</i> , etc	<i>Can</i> and <i>can't</i> do things: <i>qui</i> (here), <i>lì</i> (there)

CD 3

Track	Topic	Key elements
1	Using <i>per</i> (for), <i>con</i> (with)	Booking a hotel room
2	Feminine endings and <i>-ect</i> words	Words ending <i>-etto</i> in Italian plus using <i>suo</i> (your)
3	Verbs ending <i>-are</i>	Revision of <i>-are</i> verbs and <i>pagare</i> (to pay) with credit card
4	At the hotel (p. 47)	Booking a room and giving your name
5	<i>Where is...?</i>	Revising <i>posso</i> and using <i>dove?</i> (where?)
6	Finding a campsite (p. 48)	Asking about availability and prices
7	<i>Wanting</i>	<i>I want, they want, we want</i> plus <i>lo</i> (it)

CD 4

Track	Topic	Key elements
1	Saying <i>to...</i>	Including taking a taxi and ordering food
2	Taking a taxi. At the piazza café (p. 49)	Catching a taxi and ordering in a café
3	Booking a table	Saying for how many and at what time
4	At a restaurant	Ordering food, drinks and the bill
5	Eating out (p. 50)	Booking a table and going to the restaurant
6	This (<i>questo</i>)	<i>This morning, this afternoon</i> using <i>questo</i> and <i>questa</i>
7	Using it (<i>lo</i>) and me (<i>mi</i>)	Adding <i>lo</i> and <i>mi</i> to ends of words
8	Practising <i>want</i>	Including <i>today, tomorrow, evening, etc</i>

CD 5

Track	Topic	Key elements
1	Asking people directions	Using <i>scusi</i> (excuse me) and <i>dov'è?</i> (where is?)
2	Practising <i>have</i> and <i>can</i>	Buying a map and asking where things are on it
3	At the tourist office / Finding the station (p. 52)	A map and locating the station
4	The verb <i>must</i>	Using <i>must</i> with other verbs
5	Revising verbs	Using <i>parlare</i> (to speak) with <i>italiano</i> and <i>inglese</i>
6	<i>Vorrei</i> (I would like) and <i>voglio</i> (I want)	Using <i>want</i> with <i>today</i> , <i>tomorrow</i> , <i>tomorrow evening</i> , etc
7	Going somewhere	<i>Now</i> , <i>later</i> and <i>a che ora</i> (at what time?)
8	Useful sentences with <i>must</i>	Saying when and where you <i>must</i> do things

CD 6

Track	Topic	Key elements
1	Building sentences with <i>can</i>	Asking about tickets to Milan/ Rome
2	Taking a coach (p. 53)	Buying a coach ticket: first and second class
3	Buying tickets	Asking for different numbers of tickets
4	Train travel	Using <i>per</i> to say "to": <i>per Napoli</i> plus asking about arrivals
5	<i>Must I pay...</i>	Revision of <i>devo</i> , <i>deve</i> , etc and using it with <i>pagare</i> (to pay)
6	Taking a train (p. 54)	At the railway station catching a train
7	Revising <i>posso</i> , <i>voglio</i> and <i>devo</i>	Building sentences using verbs such as <i>aspettare</i> (to wait)
8	Using <i>per</i> (for) and <i>con</i> (with)	Revision of asking for room and payment
9	Revising <i>suo</i> (your)	<i>Suo</i> with family members plus using a credit card
10	Asking <i>where is...?</i>	Using <i>dove</i> (where) and words for here (<i>qui</i>) and there (<i>lì</i>)

CD 7

Track	Topic	Key elements
1	A little practice 1	Including taking a taxi, paying, ordering a meal
2	A little practice 2	Booking a table, specifying times
3	A little practice 3	Asking directions to different places
4	A little practice 4	Asking for train tickets
5	At the station and on the train	Train travel questions including supplements
6	Emphasising who has done what	Words for <i>l, he, she, it</i> , etc
7	<i>Have</i> as a thief	Position of <i>lo</i> in front of <i>have</i>
8	Practice using <i>lo</i>	<i>Lo</i> in front of <i>ho, ha</i> , etc, becoming <i>l'ho, l'ha</i>

CD 8

Track	Topic	Key elements
1	When you want to do things	Using <i>partire</i> with <i>oggi</i> , <i>domani</i> , etc
2	<i>Why?</i> and <i>What?</i>	Asking questions with <i>perché?</i> (why?) and <i>che?</i> (what?)
3	About yourself	Saying where you are from and what you do
4	Introducing yourself (p. 56)	Mario introduces himself
5	Introducing yourself (p. 56)	Maria introduces herself
6	<i>Excuse me, where is...?</i>	Practice asking where things are and not understanding reply
7	Using <i>more</i> (<i>più</i>)	Asking someone to speak more slowly
8	A brief encounter (p. 57)	Meeting someone when asking directions
9	<i>Yesterday</i> and the past	Revising the past using <i>ieri</i> (yesterday)
10	Past tense of <i>-ire</i> verbs	Adding <i>-ito</i> (<i>capito</i>) for <i>understood</i>
11	Past tense of <i>-ere</i> verbs	Adding <i>-uto</i> (<i>venduto</i>) for <i>sold</i>
12	A little practice 5	Verbs: <i>questo</i> and <i>questa</i> : asking for things

CD 9

Track	Topic	Key elements
1	At the baker's (p. 59)	Buying cake and biscuits
2	Fruit and wine	Asking for different quantities: <i>un chilo di, una bottiglia di</i>
3	Shopping at the market (p. 60)	Buying provisions at the market
4	Past tense using <i>to be</i>	Verbs of going and coming using <i>is/are</i> in the past
5	<i>Arrivare</i> (to arrive) and <i>partire</i> (to leave)	Practice using going and coming verbs in the past
6	<i>Arrivato</i> and <i>arrivata</i>	Applying the Mario-Maria rule to the past
7	<i>Arrivati</i> for more than one man	Applying the paparazzi rule to the past
8	<i>Arrivate</i> for more than one woman	Applying the A&E rule to the past
9	The verb <i>to be</i> with the past tense	Practice changing endings in the past
10	A little practice 6	Using <i>posso, può</i> , etc to ask questions
11	Not feeling well	Having a fever (<i>ho la febbre</i>), been sick (<i>vomitato</i>)

CD 10

Track	Topic	Key elements
1	At the pharmacy (p. 61)	Not feeling well and asking for advice
2	Describing symptoms	- <i>ent</i> words become - <i>ente</i> in Italian plus - <i>ico</i> : <i>diabetico, anemico</i> , etc
3	Seeing a doctor (p. 62)	A man asking for a doctor to see him
4	Seeing a doctor (p. 62)	A woman asking for a doctor to see her
5	A little practice 7	The past tense with <i>have</i> and <i>is/are</i> and changing word endings
6	A little practice 8	Saying who you are and what you do
7	A little practice 9	Asking someone for directions
8	A little practice 10	Using <i>questo/questa</i> to buy things
9	A little practice 11	Buying fruit and wine
10	A little practice 12	Feeling unwell
11	A little practice 13	Describing your symptoms to a doctor
12	Informal “you” – <i>tu</i>	Informal <i>tu</i> : you can (<i>puoi</i>)

CD 11

Track	Topic	Key elements
1	<i>Puoi</i> (you can)	Practice using <i>puoi</i> ...
2	<i>Vuoi</i> (you want)	Practice using <i>vuoi</i> ...
3	<i>Devi</i> (you must)	Practice using <i>devi</i> ...
4	<i>Hai</i> (you have)	Practice using <i>hai</i> and <i>lo</i> (it)
5	Plural you (<i>voi</i>)	-ete/ -ate ending – <i>potete</i> (you plural can)
6	<i>Volete</i> (you plural want)	Practice using <i>volete</i>
7	<i>Dovete</i> (you plural must)	Practice using <i>dovete</i> plus <i>lo</i> (it) and <i>li</i> (them)
8	<i>Avete</i> (you plural have)	Practice using <i>avete</i> plus position of <i>mi</i> (me): <i>mi avete trovato</i>
9	<i>Parlate</i> (you plural speak)	How to form the <i>voi</i> form for most verbs
10	The future	Changing -are to -erà and the different endings
11	Practising the future	Practice using future with different verbs and time phrases
12	Numbers	
13	The Italian alphabet	
14	Goodbye	

Review CD

Track	Topic
1	Introduction
2	The past using <i>have</i> and asking questions
3	Using <i>your</i> and the past
4	Saying <i>to Rome</i> and booking
5	<i>I would like...</i>
6	Paparazzi rule
7	A & E rule and booking a room
8	<i>It is...</i> and <i>-ico/-ica</i> endings
9	Verb <i>to know</i> and <i>why?</i>
10	The verb <i>can</i>
11	Verbs <i>want</i> and <i>must</i>
12	Verbs <i>have</i> and <i>to be</i>
13	Common verbs
14	Past tense of <i>-are</i> , <i>-ire</i> and <i>-ere</i> verbs
15	Using <i>per</i> (for) and <i>con</i> (with) when asking about a room
16	Using <i>can</i> , <i>here/there</i> and <i>where?</i>
17	Going to a café
18	Booking a restaurant
19	Using <i>excuse me</i> to find places
20	Tickets and times
21	<i>Today</i> , <i>yesterday</i> and <i>tomorrow</i>
22	Introducing yourself
23	Shopping at the market
24	Feeling unwell