

Year 12 Italian – an introduction

I am thrilled that you have decided to continue with your Italian studies for A Level. In order to bridge the gap between the end of your GCSE studies and the start of the A Level course I would like to suggest some ways to help you consolidate and develop the level of Italian with which you ended Year 11. The A Level course requires you to be able to produce tenses spontaneously so practising your regular and common irregular verbs is very important.

Learning a language doesn't have to be boring! Here is a list of things to do before you enter Year 12:

Activity	Tick when completed ✓
<p>Review essential Italian grammar: http://italian.about.com/ (Use the search function on this site to review any part of Italian grammar. There is a lesson and then exercises to test yourself with.) http://languagesonline.org.uk/Hotpotatoes/Index.htm (Use self-correcting exercises to test yourself.) https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7n7aK2skFjF9BfaH9Qx4A (Use this vlogger if you prefer to watch videos about Italian grammar. Why not search for other Italian Grammar vloggers?)</p> <p>Ensure you revise all tenses and any grammar points which you struggled with in Year 11</p>	
<p>Be up to date with Italian news on: http://www.corriere.it/ http://www.lastampa.it/</p>	
<p>...Or if celebrity gossip is more your thing: https://it.yahoo.com/</p>	
<p>Watch Italian film clips on Youtube or stream them. Did you know that Netflix and Amazon Prime also have International Films? They quite often have Italian films on there which are subtitled in English: http://www.imdb.com/search/title?languages=it%7C1&title_type=feature&sort=movie_meter,asc (Here is IMDB's list of most popular Italian language films for you to select from)</p> <p>Keep your eyes peeled for Italian dramas on Channel 4od. There are some really fantastic series on the 'Walter Presents' page already, just none for Italian yet! http://www.channel4.com/programmes/walter-presents</p>	
<p>Introduce yourself to short stories in Italian: http://italiano.sismondi.ch/letteratura/testi-brevi (You'll find a range of short stories here. I recommend <i>Primo Levi</i> and <i>Dino Buzzati</i>)</p>	
<p>Listen to Italian radio, select a station according to your interests: http://www.listenlive.eu/italy.html (You can find music, news or information programmes. Listen to a song or a news item and challenge yourself to work about what</p>	

is being said)	
Listen to an Italian singer or group on Spotify or Youtube (search Top Chart Italia)	
Research an Italian tradition or custom, does it surprise you how different this might be to the UK?	
Challenge yourself to have a conversation with a native speaker (You could do this either in person through someone you know, or using an Internet site but remember to never give away your personal details and to stay safe!)	
Meet up with a friend and chat in Italian (have a pizza night, watch an Italian film together, go for a coffee...)	

... and lastly – tick off all the activities you complete over the holidays and bring this to your first lesson. There will be a prize for the person who has done the most activities on this list. It really will help you start off the term on the right foot.

Buone vacanze!