

Year 12 Italian – an introduction

We are 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, we would like to suggest some ways to help you consolidate and develop the level of Italian with which you ended Year 11. Please find below a range of different activities for you to complete before the beginning of Year 12. For your A Level course it is essential that you have a broad knowledge of the society, culture, customs, artists and musicians in Italy.

There are some compulsory activities, marked **C**. You will need to complete **all** of these.

There are other optional activities, marked **O**. You will need to complete **at least 3** of these.

| Activity | C/O | Tick when completed ✓ |
|---|----------|--------------------------|
| <p>Review essential Italian grammar (There will be a test on this in your first week back. As there is lots of course content, it is essential you know the basics): <i>YOU MUST KNOW HOW TO FORM THE PRESENT, PERFECT, IMPERFECT, FUTURE AND CONDITIONAL TENSES.</i> YOU MUST KNOW HOW TO CONJUGATE REGULAR –ARE, –ERE AND –IRE VERBS PLUS THE FOLLOWING IRREGULAR VERBS: essere, avere, fare, andare, venire, potere, volere, dovere, uscire, sapere, dire.</p> <p>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.) https://conjugemos.com/activities/italian/verb/1 (Use self-correcting exercises to test yourself.) http://www.oneworlditaliano.com/italiano/verbi-italiani.htm 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 any other grammar points which you struggled with in Year 11</p> | C | |
| <p>Be up to date with Italian news. Read an article on: http://www.corriere.it/ http://www.lastampa.it/</p> | C | |
| <p>...Or if celebrity gossip is more your thing: https://it.yahoo.com/</p> | O | |
| <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=metascore,asc (Here is IMDB’s list of most popular Italian language films for you to select from). Write down which film you saw. Find out about an actor in the film or the director and write a short paragraph in English.</p> | C | |
| <p>Read a short story in Italian: http://italiano.sismondi.ch/letteratura/testi-brevi (You’ll find a range</p> | O | |

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| of short stories here. Some are shorter and more accessible than others. I recommend the short stories by <i>Stefano Benni</i> and <i>Dino Buzzati</i>). Make a note of which one you read. Write a short summary of it in Italian. | | |
| 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 is being said) | O | |
| Listen to an Italian singer or group on Spotify or Youtube. Do some background research on the artist and write a short paragraph in English. What genre are they? Which instruments do they use? | O | |
| Research a tradition or custom from an Italian speaking country, does it surprise you how different this might be to the UK? Make a note of when, where and how it is celebrated. You will share this with the others in September. | O | |
| 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!) https://www.italki.com/home (This is a platform which enables language learners to give each other lessons in their mother tongue) | O | |
| Research an Italian painter, architect or sculptor. Make a note of any outstanding works – where and why is this person famous? | O | |

... 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!