

A LEVEL ITALIAN



BRIDGING COURSE

This bridging course is designed to help you make the transition from GCSE Italian to A Level. It is an extremely demanding course which will require effort both in classwork and homework, and in the independent study you will undertake.

The aims of this bridging course are:

- To consolidate the grammar and vocabulary you have learnt at IGCSE
- To introduce some of the structures you will encounter at A Level
- To introduce you to the kind of resources you will use during the course
- To encourage independent study
- To further your interest in Italian culture
- To prepare you to do a piece of writing at the start of Year 12 which will enable you and your teacher to gauge the level you are currently working at, and to set initial targets.

Solid preparatory work over will give you a head start in September, and enable you to make as much progress as possible over the challenging A level course.

Task 1:

The first two sub-topics which you will study in Lower Sixth are 'l'evoluzione della famiglia italiana' and 'la musica'.

For each sub-topic, you should produce a vocabulary list of 50 words. This should be subdivided into:

- Adjectives
- Verbs
- Nouns
- People
- Places
- Miscellaneous

You will be expected to be familiar with the key topic-related vocabulary in September. You might also create a Quizlet list of these words.

Task 2:

For each sub theme '**changing family structures**', '**education**', '**the world of work**', '**media**', '**festivals and traditions**' find one article from an Italian magazine / newspaper website (list of sites in this booklet) **about Italy**. Read the articles and make a list of vocabulary (10-15 words from each). Bring the articles to the first lesson in September to discuss them in English initially and then in Italian.

Research an Italian musician and produce a fact file of them including selecting a song that they have performed or written with a paragraph in which you give your opinions in Italian.

Possible names:–

1. Mahmood
2. Laura Pausini
3. Ghali
4. Jovanotti
5. Fabri Fibra

Task 3:

Watch the film 'La vita è bella'. You will be studying it in Year 12.

Task 4:

Revise the following verb tenses using your GCSE notes so that you are confident switching between them: present tense, *passato prossimo*, imperfect tense, future tense, conditional tense

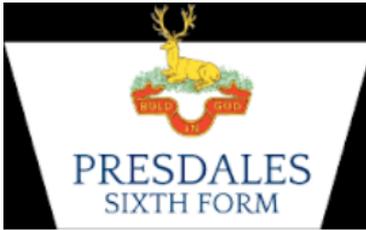
Independent study resources for Italian

www.repubblica.it – Italian newspaper
www.lastampa.it – Italian newspaper
www.corriere.it – Italian newspaper.
www.quotidiano.net – Italian newspaper
www.donnamoderna.com – Italian woman's magazine
www.espresso.repubblica.it – Italian news magazine
www.focus.it – current affairs and general interest magazine website.
www.gazzetta.it – Italian sports newspaper
www.it.notizie.yahoo.com – very accessible news page
www.garzantilinguistica.it – excellent online dictionary – you need to register as a member.
<http://www.grammaticaitaliana.net> – Italian grammar website
www.italian-verbs.com – Italian verbs can be conjugated here
www.youtube.it
<http://www.movieplayer.it/film> - you can watch trailers and read reviews of a range of films
www.italianpod.com – listen to broadcasts in Italian, with the English translation and a range of exercises
www.iluss.it – useful website for grammar practice with a section of free materials.
www.oneworlditaliano.com – free grammar exercises to use.
http://telelinea.free.fr/italien/index_en.htm - French website with free Italian grammar exercises.
<http://www.cioe.it/home> - Italian magazine - sections on fashion, music, sport and health, celebrity gossip.
www.cosmopolitan.it – Italian site for Cosmopolitan magazine.
<http://www.xtm.it/> - link to music magazine site.
<http://www.sorrisi.com/> - Italian TV and music magazine.
<http://www.oggi.it/> - Italian equivalent of Hello magazine.
<http://www.focusjunior.it/> online magazine for young people.

Italian Cinema.

Italian films that you should consider seeing in order to develop an in-depth grasp of Italian culture and history. Some will be seen in class but there are plenty of others on the list.

1. Ladri di Biciclette (1940s) – Vittorio de Sica – black and white neorealist film
2. Roma Città aperta (1940s) – Roberto Rossellini- black and white neorealist film
3. La Dolce Vita (Federico Fellini) – 1960s – film concerning the media, film stars and influence of the press – first use of the term paparazzo for photographer.
4. Otto e Mezzo (Federico Fellini) – 1960s – experimental film from the point of view of a film director.
5. Nuovo cinema paradiso (1988)
6. Caro diario (1993)
7. Il Postino (1994)
8. Va' dove ti porta il cuore (1996)
9. La vita è bella (1997)
10. I cento passi (2000)
11. L'ultimo bacio (2001)
12. Io non ho paura (2003)
13. La meglio gioventù (2003)
14. Notte prima degli esami (2006)
15. Mio fratello è figlio unico (2007)
16. Il Divo (2009)
17. La grande bellezza (2013)



Italian A level at Presdales



- 6 lessons per week as well as one lesson (individually or in pairs) with our Italian Assistant.
- Continuous progression
- Clear and coherent structure
- Manageable content
- Inspiring and engaging themes.
- Popular literary texts and films.
- Creativity and spontaneity.
- Knowledge of Italian culture and history.
- Preparation for further study and university.
- Fun, satisfaction, and a sense of achievement!



For each class, you will need:

- A lever-arch file
- File dividers
- A4 lined paper
- A4 clear pockets for handouts
- Pens/pencils/ruler
- Italian Grammar Drills workbook (we will give you details in September)

And don't forget these (provided by school but equally important!)

- Vocabulary book
- This booklet (as it gives you an overview of the course to refer to)

Also necessary:

- Access to your school email address in case you need to contact us
- Access to Google classroom

A closer look at the Italian A level course...

The Sixth Form entry grade for Italian is B at IGCSE/GCSE with a good writing grade. Students with an A* or an A at IGCSE/GCSE will find it easier to access the course.

Why study Italian at A level?

The qualifications offer a suitable progression route to further study at university level and add to students' employability profile, particularly for UK organisations trading overseas as well as with international companies based in the UK and globally. Students can progress to a wide range of careers in areas such as journalism and media, education, science, medicine, the civil service, sales, marketing, retail, and charities.

Fully linear

A levels will be fully linear, with students sitting their exams at the end of the two-year course. The A Level qualification will be graded on a six-grade scale from A* to E.

Themes and Topics

A level Year 1	
Section A: Changes in Italian society	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Changing family structures• Education• The world of work
Section B: Political, intellectual and artistic culture in Italian-speaking countries	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Music• Media• Festivals and traditions
A level Year 2	
Section A: Italy: an evolving society	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The positive impact of immigration in Italy• Problems of migration in Italy• The North/South divide
Section B: From Fascism to today	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The rise of Mussolini to power• Fascism during WW2• Transition from Dictatorship to Democracy



The Examinations
Exam board: Edexcel

A Level

Paper 1:

1. Listening
2. Reading
3. Translation into English
 - 40% of the qualification
 - No dictionaries

Paper 2:

1. Translation into Italian
2. Written response about literary text
3. Written response about film or second literary text
 - 2 hours and 40 minutes
 - 30% of the qualification
 - No dictionaries or documentation relating to the books/film studied.

Paper 3

Speaking

1. Discussion on a Theme.
Students discuss one Theme based on a stimulus containing two different statements
 - Presentation and discussion on independent research relating to the society and culture of the language studied. Internally conducted and externally assessed
 - Total assessment time: 21 to 23 minutes including preparation time for 5 minutes.
 - 30% of the qualification

