

ITALIAN

ROMANCE LANGUAGE OF 62 MILLION

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1. Some Basic Phrases

Buongiorno

bwon-zhor-no
Hello/Good day

A più tardi

ah pyoo tar-dee
See you later

A presto

ah press-to
See you soon

Per favore

pehr fah-voh-reh
Please

Prego

preh-go
You're Welcome

Mi scusi

mee skoo-zee
Excuse me

Sì/No

see/noh
Yes/No

Come si chiama?

koh-meh see kee-ah-mah
What is your name?

Signore, Signora, Signorina

seen-yoh-reh, seen-yoh-rah, seen-yoh-reen-ah
Mister, Misses, Miss

Dove abita?

doh-veh ah-bee-tah
Where do you live?

Abito negli Stati Uniti.

ah-bee-to neh-lyee stah-tee oo-nee-tee
I live in the United States.

Come sta?

koh-meh stah
How are you?

Parla italiano?

par-lah ee-tahl-ee-ah-no
Do you speak Italian?

inglese, francese, tedesco, russo, spagnolo

een-gleh-zeh, frahn-chez-eh, teh-des-koh, roo-soh, spahn-yoh-loh
English, French, German, Russian, Spanish

Buona sera/notte

bwoh-nah seh-rah/noht-teh
Good evening/night

A domani

ah doh-mahn-ee
See you tomorrow

Arrivederci

ah-ree-vuh-dehr-chee
Goodbye

Grazie

graht-zee-eh
Thank you

Mi dispiace

mee dee-spyah-cheh
Sorry

Andiamo!

on-dee-ah-mo
Let's go!

Mi chiamo...

mee kee-ah-mo
My name is...

Di dov'è?

dee doh-veh
Where are you from?

Vengo dagli Stati Uniti.

vehn-go dah-lyee stah-tee oo-nee-tee
I come from the United States.

Sto bene.

stoh beh-neh
I am fine.

[Non] parlo...

[non] par-lo
I [don't] speak...

[Non] capisco.
[non] kah-pees-koh
I [don't] understand.

Quanti anni ha?
kwahn-tee ahn-nee ah
How old are you?

Ti amo.
tee ah-moh
I love you.

Non so. / Lo so.
non soh / low soh
I don't know. / I know.

Ho _____ anni.
oh _____ ahn-nee
I am _____ years old.

2. Pronunciation

Italian Letter(s) English Sound

a	ah
e	eh
i	ee
o	oh
u	oo
ai	eye
au	ow
ei	ay
ia	yah
ie	yeh
io	yoh
iu	yoo
ua	wah
ue	weh
uo	woh
ui	wee
ci or ce	ch
gi or ge	zh
sci	sh
sch	sk
aia	ah-yah
aio	ah-yoh
iei	ee-yay
uio	oo-yoh
uoi	oo-oy
ch	k
h	silent
r	trilled

Note: Italian is a very phonetic language, so pronunciation is very easy. Most words are pronounced exactly like they are spelled.

3. Alphabet

a	ah	q	koo
b	bee	r	ehr-reh
c	chee	s	ehs-seh
d	dee	t	teh
e	eh	u	oo
f	eff-eh	v	voo
g	zhee	z	dzeh-tah
h	ahk-kah		
i	ee	Foreign Letters	
l	ehl-eh	j	ee loon-gah
m	ehm-eh	k	kahp-pah
n	ehn-eh	w	dohp-pyah voo
o	oh	x	eeks
p	pee	y	ee greh-kah (or) eep-see-lohn

4. Definite and Indefinite Articles and Demonstratives

Definite Article - The

<u>Masculine</u>		<u>Feminine</u>	
il	<i>eel</i> sing., before consonants	la	<i>lah</i> sing., before consonants
lo	<i>low</i> sing., before z, gn, or s + cons.	l'	<i>l'</i> sing., before vowels
i	<i>ee</i> plural, before consonants	le	<i>leh</i> plural, before consonants and vowels
gli	<i>lyee</i> plural, before vowels, z, gn, or s + cons.		

Indefinite Articles - A, an, some

<u>Masculine</u>		<u>Feminine</u>	
A, An	un <i>oon</i> before consonant or vowel	una <i>oon-ah</i> before consonants	
	uno <i>oon-oh</i> before z, gn, or s + consonant	un' <i>oon</i> before vowels	
	dei <i>day</i> before consonants	delle <i>dell-eh</i> before vowels and consonants	
Some	degli <i>deh-lyee</i> before vowels, z, gn, or s + cons.		

Demonstratives - This, that, these, and those

he/she/it is **era** they were **erano** he/she/it will be **sarà** they will be **saranno**

Avere - to have

I have **ho** *oh* We have **abbiamo** *ahb-bee-ah-mo*

You have **hai** *eye* You have **avete** *ah-veh-teh*

He/she has **ha** *ah* They have **hanno** *ahn-noh*

Past and Future of Avere

I had **avevo** we had **avevamo** I will have **avrò** we will have **avremo**

you had **avevi** you had **avevate** you will have **avrà** you will have **avrete**

he/she/it had **aveva** they had **avevano** he/she/it will have **avrà** they will have **avranno**

Avere is used with many idioms and expressions that normally use the verb to be in English:

avere fame - to be hungry

avere sete - to be thirsty

avere caldo - to be warm

avere freddo - to be cold

avere fretta - to be in a hurry

avere paura - to be afraid

avere ragione - to be right

avere sonno - to be sleepy

avere bisogno di - to need

avere (number) anni - to be (number) years old

7. Useful Words

and	e	eh
or	o	oh
but	ma	mah
while	mentre	mehn-treh
if	se	seh
because	perché	pehr-kay
although	benché	behn-kay
there is	C'è	ch eh
there are	Ci sono	chee soh-noh
there was	C'era	che-rah
there were	C'erano	che-rah-no
now	adesso, ora	ah-deh-so, oh-rah
perhaps, maybe	forse	for-seh
then	allora	ahl-loh-rah
here is	ecco	ehk-koh

8. Question Words

Who **Chi** kee

What	Che cosa	keh koh-sah
Why	Perché	pehr-keh
When	Quando	kwahn-doh
Where	Dove	doh-veh
How	Come	koh-meh
How much	Quanto	kwahn-toh

Note: When **dove**, **come**, and **quale** are followed by **è** (is), **dove** and **come** contract to **dov'è** and **com'è**; and **quale** drops its **e** to become **qual è**.

9. Numbers / Ordinals

0	zero	dzeh-roh
1	uno	oo-noh
2	due	doo-eh
3	tre	treh
4	quattro	kwaht-troh
5	cinque	cheen-kweh
6	sei	say
7	sette	seht-teh
8	otto	aw-toh
9	nove	naw-vay
10	dieci	dee-ay-chee
11	undici	oon-dee-chee
12	dodici	doh-dee-chee
13	tredici	treh-dee-chee
14	quattordici	kwaht-tohr-dee-chee
15	quindici	kween-dee-chee
16	sedici	seh-dee-chee
17	diciassette	dee-chahs-seht-teh
18	diciotto	dee-choht-toh
19	diciannove	dee-chahn-noh-veh
20	venti	vehn-tee
21	ventuno	vehn-too-noh
22	ventidue	vehn-tee-doo-eh
30	trenta	trehn-tah
40	quaranta	kwah-rahn-tah
50	cinquanta	cheen-kwahn-tah
60	sessanta	sehs-sahn-tah
70	settanta	seht-tahn-tah
80	ottanta	oh-tahn-tah
90	novanta	noh-vahn-tah

100 **cento** chehn-toh

Note: When you have a word that ends in a vowel, like *venti*, and another word that begins with a vowel, like *uno*; the first word loses its vowel when putting the two words together. **Venti** (20) and **uno** (1) make **ventuno** (21). One exception is *cento*; it does not lose its vowel. **Cento** (100) and **uno** (1) make **centouno** (101). And be aware that Italian switches the use of commas and decimals.

Ordinal Numbers

first	primo (a)
second	secondo (a)
third	terzo (a)
fourth	quarto (a)
fifth	quinto (a)
sixth	sesto (a)
seventh	settimo (a)
eighth	ottavo (a)
ninth	nono (a)
tenth	decimo (a)
eleventh	undicesimo (a)
twentieth	ventesimo (a)
hundredth	centesimo (a)

From eleventh on, just drop the final vowel of the cardinal number and add **-esimo**. For numbers like *venitrè*, *trentatrè*, add **-esimo** but do not drop the final *e*. Ordinal numbers are adjectives and must agree with the nouns they modify; **-o** is the masculine ending, **-a** is the feminine ending.

10. Days of the Week

Monday	lunedì	loo-neh-dee
Tuesday	martedì	mahr-teh-dee
Wednesday	mercoledì	mehr-koh-leh-dee
Thursday	giovedì	zhoh-veh-dee
Friday	venerdì	veh-nehr-dee
Saturday	sabato	sah-bah-toh
Sunday	domenica	doh-men-ee-kah

Yesterday	ieri	yer-ee
Today	oggi	ohd-jee
Tomorrow	domani	doh-mahn-ee
Day	il giorno	eel zhor-noh

Note: To say *on Mondays, on Tuesdays, etc.*, use **il** before **lunedì** through **sabato**, and **la** before **domenica**.

11. Months of the Year

January	gennaio	jehn-nah-yoh
February	febbraio	feh-brah-yoh
March	marzo	mar-tsoh
April	aprile	ah-pree-leh
May	maggio	mahd-joh
June	giugno	joo-nyoh
July	luglio	loo-lyoh
August	agosto	ah-goh-stoh
September	settembre	seht-tehm-breh
October	ottobre	oh-t-toh-breh
November	novembre	noh-vehm-breh
December	dicembre	dee-chem-breh
Week	la settimana	lah sett-ee-mah-nah
Month	il mese	eel meh-zeh
Year	l'anno	lahn-noh

Note: Days and months are not capitalized. To express the date, use *È il (number) (month)*. May 5th would be *È il 5 or cinque maggio*. But for the first of the month, use *primo* instead of 1 or uno.

12. Seasons

Summer	l'estate	leh-stah-teh
Fall	l'autunno	low-toon-noh
Spring	la primavera	lah pree-mah-veh-rah
Winter	l'inverno	leen-vehr-noh

Note: To say *in the (season)*, just use *in*. *In estate* is in the summer, *in primavera* is in spring. *D'estate* and *d'inverno* can also be used instead of *in estate* or *in inverno*.

13. Directions

North	nord	nohrd
South	sud	sood
East	est	est
West	ovest	oh-vest

14. Color

white	bianco/a
yellow	giallo/a
orange	arancione
pink	rosa
red	rosso/a
light blue	azzurro/a
dark blue	blu
green	verde
brown	marrone
grey	grigio/a
black	nero/a

Note: The first word is the masculine form and the second is the feminine. Ex: **Rosso** is masculine and **rossa** is feminine. Color words go after the noun.

15. Time

What time is it?	Che ora è? / Che ore sono?	keh oh-rah eh / keh o-reh soh-noh
It's 1:00	È l'una	eh loo-nah
noon	mezzogiorno	med-zoh-zhor-noh
midnight	mezzanotte	med-zah-noh-teh
2:00	Sono le due	soh-noh leh doo-eh
3:10	Sono le tre e dieci	soh-noh leh treh eh dee-ay-chee
4:50	Sono le cinque meno dieci	soh-noh leh cheen-kwah meh-noh dee-ay-chee
8:15	Sono le otto e un quarto	soh-noh leh awt-toh eh oon kwar-toh
7:45	Sono le otto meno un quarto	soh-noh leh aw-toh meh-noh un kwar-toh
1:30	È l'una e mezza	eh loo-nah eh med-zah
6:30	Sono le sei e mezzo	soh-noh leh say-ee eh med-zoh
sharp	in punto	een poon-toh
in the morning	di mattina	dee maht-teen-ah
in the afternoon	del pomeriggio	dell poh-mehr-ee-zhee-oh
in the evening	di sera	dee seh-rah
at night	di notte	dee noht-teh

16. Weather

What's the weather today?	Che tempo fa oggi?
It's nice	Fa bel tempo
bad	Fa brutto tempo
raining	Piove
snowing	Nevica
cold	Fa freddo
cool	Fa fresco
hot	Fa caldo
freezing	Fa un freddo gelido
cloudy	È nuvoloso
foggy	C'è la nebbia
sunny	C'è il sole
windy	Tira vento
humid	È umido
muggy	È afoso
stormy	Il tempo è burrascoso
thundering	Tuona

17. Family and Animals

Family	la famiglia	dog	il cane
Parents	i genitori	cat	il gatto
Mother	la madre	bird	il uccello
Father	il padre	mouse	il topo
Son	il figlio	rabbit	il coniglio
Daughter	la figlia	horse	il cavallo
Brother	il fratello	cow	la mucca
Sister	la sorella	donkey	l'asino
Grandfather	il nonno	goat	la capra
Grandmother	la nonna	sheep	la pecora
Grandson/nephew	il nipote	goose	l'oca
Granddaughter/niece	la nipote	duck	l'anatra
Uncle	lo zio	pig	il maiale
Aunt	la zia	hen	la gallina
Cousin (m)	il cugino	deer	il cervo
Cousin (f)	la cugina		
Husband	il marito		
Wife	la moglie		

18. To Know People and Facts

Conoscere-to know, be acquainted with		Sapere-to know (facts)	
conosco	conosciamo	so	sappiamo
conosci	conoscete	sai	sapete
conosce	conoscono	sa	sanno

Note: **Conoscere** is used when you know people and places. It is conjugated regularly. **Sapere** is used when you know facts. **Sapere** followed by an infinitive means *to know how*.

19. Formation of Plural Nouns

If a word is masculine singular, change the last letter to an **i**. If a word is feminine singular, change the last letter to an **e** if it ends in **a**, or if it ends in **e**, change it to an **i**.

Singular to Plural Nouns

Masculine

-o	-i
-a	-i
-e	-i

Feminine

-a	-e
-e	-i

Note: Some nouns ending in **-co** and **-go** may or may not insert an **h** before changing the o to i. There is no general rule for it. All nouns ending in **-ca** and **-ga** insert an **h** before changing the a to e. Nouns ending in an accented vowel do not change for the plural. (**la città** (*city*) becomes **le città**) There are some masculine nouns that end -a, and these nouns change the -a to -i in the plural: *il programma, il poeta, il pianete, il pilota, il poema, il sistema*. The plural of **l'uomo** (man) is **gli uomini**, while the plural of **la mano** (hand) is **le mani**.

20. Possessive Adjectives

	Masc. Sing.	Fem. Sing.	Masc. Pl.	Fem. Pl.
my	il mio	la mia	i miei (<i>myeh-ee</i>)	le mie
your	il tuo	la tua	i tuoi (<i>twoh-ee</i>)	le tue
his/her	il suo	la sua	i suoi (<i>swoh-ee</i>)	le sue
our	il nostro	la nostra	i nostri	le nostre
your	il vostro	la vostra	i vostri	le vostre
their	il loro	la loro	i loro	le loro

Note: You may leave off the *il* and *la* before family relation words in the singular. All other times, you must use them. Notice that *loro* does not change.

21. To Do or Make

Fare-to do / make

faccio *fah-cho* **facciamo** *fah-chah-moh*

fai *fah-ee* **fate** *fah-teh*

fa *fah* **fanno** *fahn-noh*

Idomatic expressions used with fare:

fare una domanda - to ask a question

fare un viaggio - to take a trip

fare un bagno - to take a bath

fare una passeggiata - to take a walk

fare attenzione - to pay attention

fare un piacere - to do a favor

fare una conferenza - to give a lecture

fare (profession) - to be a (profession)

22. Work and School

architect	l'architetto	teacher (m)	il maestro
author	l'autore	teacher (f)	la maestra
banker	il banchiere	professor (m)	il professore
waiter	il cameriere	professor (f)	la professoressa
waitress	la cameriera	hair stylist (m)	il parrucchiere
saleswoman	la commessa	hair stylist (f)	la parruchiera
salesman	il commesso	secretary (m)	il segretario
accountant	il contabile	secretary (f)	la segretaria
doctor (m)	il dottore	soldier	il soldato
doctor (f)	la dottoressa	journalist	il/la giornalista
musician	il/la musicista	office worker (m)	l'impiegato
barber	il barbiere	office worker (f)	l'impiegata
	biology		la biologia
	chemistry		la chimica
	economics		l'economia

philosophy	la filosofia
physics	la fisica
geography	la geografia
foreign languages	la lingua straniera
mathematics	la matematica
medicine	la medicina
accounting	la ragioneria
history	la storia

23. Prepositions

for	per
beside	accanto
ahead	avanti
among	fra di
before	prima di
against	contro
over	sopra
under	sotto
with	con
without	senza
across	attraverso
after	dopo
during	durante
except	eccetto
toward	verso

24. Prepositional Contractions

		<u>il</u>	<u>lo</u>	<u>l'</u>	<u>la</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>gli</u>	<u>le</u>
a	<i>at, to</i>	al	allo	all'	alla	ai	agli	alle
da	<i>from, by</i>	dal	dallo	dall'	dalla	dai	dagli	dalle
di	<i>of</i>	del	dello	dell'	della	dei	degli	delle
in	<i>in</i>	nel	nello	nell'	nella	nei	negli	nelle
su	<i>on</i>	sul	sullo	sull'	sulla	sui	sugli	sulle
con	<i>with</i>	col	collo	coll'	colla	coi	cogli	colle

Note: The only contractions for **con** that are still used nowadays are *col* and *coi*. But even these contractions are optional.

25. Countries and Nationalities

l'Australia	Australia	australiano	Australian
il Canada	Canada	canadese	Canadian
la Cina	China	cinese	Chinese
la Francia	France	francese	French
la Germania	Germany	tedesco	German
l'Inghilterra	England	inglese	English
la Gran Bretagna	Great Britain	britannico	British
l'Italia	Italy	italiano	Italian
il Giappone	Japan	giapponese	Japanese
il Messico	Mexico	messicano	Mexican
la Russia	Russia	russo	Russian
la Spagna	Spain	spagnolo	Spanish
gli Stati Uniti	United States	statunitense	American
la Svizzera	Switzerland	svizzero	Swiss
l'Austria	Austria	austriaco	Austrian
la Polonia	Poland	polacco	Polish
il Belgio	Belgium	belga	Belgian
la Norvegia	Norway	norvegese	Norwegian
la Svezia	Sweden	svedese	Swedish
la Danimarca	Denmark	danese	Danish
i Paesi Bassi	Netherlands	olandese	Dutch
la Finlandia	Finland	finlandese	Finlander

Note: The adjective **americano** usually refers to someone living anywhere in the American continent, but many people do use it to mean a person from the United States, instead of *statunitense*.

26. To and From Places

	To	From
Country (sing)	in	da (+ contraction)
Country (plural)	negli	da (+ contraction)
City	a	da

27. To Come and to Go

Venire-to come

vengo *vehn-goh* **veniamo** *ven-ee-ah-moh*
vieni *vee-en-ee* **venite** *ven-ee-teh*
viene *vee-en-eh* **vengono** *ven-goh-noh*

Vengo a scuola in macchina. I come to school by car. (It's a *scuola* instead of *alla scuola* because it's an idiom.)

To make a verb negative, add **non** before it: **Non vengo a scuola in macchina.** I don't come to school by car.

Andare-to go

vado *vah-doh* **andiamo** *ahn-dee-ah-moh*
vai *vah-ee* **andate** *ahn-dah-teh*
va *vah* **vanno** *vahn-noh*

Other verbs conjugated in the same pattern as *venire* are:

avvenire - to happen, to occur

convenire - to convene

divenire - to become

provenire - to come from, to proceed

sovvenire - to help

svenire - to faint

Tenere (to keep) verbs are conjugated very similarly to *venire* too, except the voi form ends in -ete instead of -ite:

appartenere - to belong

contenere - to contain

intrattenere - to entertain

mantenere - to maintain

ottenere - to obtain

ritenere - to retain

sostenere - to sustain, to support

trattenere - to withhold, to detain

28. Conjugating Regular Verbs

To conjugate regular verbs, take off the last three letters (-are, -ere, or -ire) and add these endings to the stem:

Regular Verb Endings

-are	-ere	1st -ire	2nd -ire
-o -iamo	-o -iamo	-o -iamo	-isco -iamo
-i -ate	-i -ete	-i -ite	-isci -ite
-a -ano	-e -ono	-e -ono	-isce -iscono

Regular Verbs

	-are		1st -ire
parlare	to speak	dormire	to sleep
cantare	to sing	partire	to leave
arrivare	to arrive	sentire	to hear

abitare	to live	aprire	to open
amare	to love	offrire	to offer
ascoltare	to listen (to)	servire	to serve
cominciare	to begin		
domandare	to ask		
giocare	to play (a game/sport)		
guardare	to look (at)/watch		
imparare	to learn		
insegnare	to teach		
lavorare	to work		
mangiare	to eat		
pensare	to think		
studiare	to study		

-ere

scrivere	to write
vedere	to see
credere	to believe
conoscere	to know/be acquainted with
leggere	to read
mettere	to put
perdere	to lose
prendere	to take
rispondere	to answer
scendere	to go down/get off
vendere	to sell
vivere	to live

2nd -ire

finire	to finish
capire	to understand
preferire	to prefer
colpire	to hit
costruire	to build
pulire	to clean
sparire	to disappear

Sample Regular Verb

Parlare-to speak

parlo	parliamo
parli	parlate
parla	parlano

Note: The present tense and the preposition **da** may be used to describe an action which began in the past and is still continuing in the present. The present perfect tense is used in English to convey this same concept.

Da quanto tempo Lei studia l'italiano? How long have you been studying Italian?
Studio l'italiano da due anni. I've been studying Italian for two years.

29. Reflexive Verbs

Reflexive verbs express actions performed by the subject on the subject. These verbs are conjugated like regular verbs, but a reflexive pronoun precedes the verb form. This pronoun always agrees with

the subject. In the infinitive form, reflexive verbs have -si attached to them with the final e dropped. **Lavare** is to wash, therefore **lavarsi** is to wash oneself. (Note that some verbs are reflexive in Italian, but not in English.)

Reflexive Pronouns

mi	ci
ti	vi
si	si

Io mi lavo. I wash myself.

Noi ci alziamo presto. We get up early.

The plural reflexive pronouns (ci, vi, si) can also be used with non-reflexive verbs to indicate a reciprocal action. These verbs are called reciprocal verbs.

Ci scriviamo ogni settimana. We write to each other every week.

Vi vedete spesso? Do you see each other often?

30. Irregularities in Regular Verbs

Verbs ending in **-care** and **-gare** add an **h** before the **-i** and **-iamo** endings to keep the hard sound. Verbs ending in **-ciare** and **-giare** do not repeat the **i** in front of the **-i** ending.

cercare - to look for		cominciare - to start	
cerco	cerchiamo	comincio	cominciamo
cerchi	cercate	cominci	cominciate
cerca	cercano	comincia	cominciano

31. Past Indefinite Tense

To form the past tense (something happened, something has happened, or something did happen), conjugate **avere** or sometimes **essere** and add the past participle. To form the past participle, add these endings to the appropriate stem of the infinitives:

-are	-ato
-ere	-uto
-ire	-ito

Verbs that can take a direct object are generally conjugated with **avere**. Verbs that do not take a direct object (generally verbs of movement) are conjugated with **essere** and their past participle must agree in gender and number with the subject. **Avere** uses **avere** as its auxiliary verb, while **essere** uses **essere** as its auxiliary verb. Negative sentences with the past indefinite tense are formed by placing *non* in front of the auxiliary verb.

Io ho visitato Roma. I visited Rome.

Tu non hai visitato gli Stati Uniti. You didn't visit the United States.

Abbiamo conosciuto due ragazze. We met two girls.

Maria è andata in Italia. Maria went to Italy. (Note the agreement of the past participle with the subject.)

32. Irregular Past Participles

fare	fatto
aprire (to open)	aperto
bere (to drink)	bevuto
chiedere (to ask)	chiesto
chiudere (to close)	chiuso
conoscere	conosciuto
coprire (to cover)	coperto
dare	dato
dire	detto
leggere	letto
mettere (to put)	messo
offrire (to offer)	offerto
perdere (to lose)	perso (or perduto)
prendere	preso
rispondere (to answer)	risposto
scrivere (to write)	scritto
soffrire (to suffer)	sofferto
spendere (to spend)	speso
vedere (to see)	visto (or veduto)
vivere (to live)	vissuto
scendere (to go down)	sceso
rompere (to break)	rotto

Sample Avere Verb

Avere-to have

ho avuto abbiamo avuto

hai avuto avete avuto

ha avuto hanno avuto

Note: Ho avuto means I have, I have had, or I did have.

33. Essere Verbs

arrivare	arrive
andare	go
uscire	go out

entrare	enter
costare	cost
venire (venuto)	come
essere (stato)	be
partire	leave
stare (stato)	stay, be
sparire	disappear
tornare	come back/return

These verbs that are conjugated with essere must agree with the subject. Irregular past participles are in parentheses.

Sample Essere Verb

Andare-to go

sono andato/a	siamo andati/e
sei andato/a	siete andati/e
è andato/a	sono andati/e

Note: Sono andato means *I went, I was going, or I did go*. Remember that -o is masculine and -a is feminine. The -i ending indicates all males or males and females; whereas the -e ending indicates only females.

34. Food and Meals

breakfast	la prima colazione	tea	il tè
lunch	la colazione	bread	il pane
dinner	il pranzo	salt	il sale
fork	la forchetta	pepper	il pepe
spoon	il cucchiaio	steak	la bistecca
knife	il coltello	cake	la torta
plate	il piatto	chicken	il pollo
napkin	la salvietta	coffee	il caffè
cup	la tazza	fish	il pesce
glass	il bicchiere	french fries	la patate fritte
ice	il ghiaccio	soup	il brodo
saucer	il piattino	jam	la marmellata
dessert	il dolce	rice	il riso
ice cream	il gelato	salad	l'insalata

35. Piacere and Servire

Piacere - to like and Servire - to need

piaccio	piacciamo	servo	serviamo
piaci	piacete	servi	servite
piace	piacciono	serve	servono

Piacere (a) literally means "to be pleasing," so to form a sentence you have to invert the word order. You must also use the prepositional contractions with **a**.

Maria piace a Giovanni. John likes Mary. (*Literally:* Mary is pleasing to John)

Gli studenti piacciono ai professori. The teachers like the students. (*Literally:* The students are pleasing to the teachers).

The most common forms are the third person singular and plural when used with object pronouns. The object pronouns that are used with these two verbs are somewhat similar to the reflexive pronouns:

mi	I (to me)	ci	we (to us)
ti	you (to you)	vi	you (to you)
gli / le	he / she (to him / her)	gli	they (to them)

So to say *I like* something, use **Mi piace** if it is singular and **Mi piacciono** if it is plural.

Mi piace il calcio. I like soccer.

Mi piacciono i treni. I like trains.

Servire has the same construction as piacere. It is also used primarily in the third person singular and plural forms and takes an indirect object.

Ti servono della frutta? Do you need any fruit? (*Literally:* By you is needed some fruit?)

Il pane serve a Marco. Marco needs the bread. (*Literally:* The bread is needed by Marco.)

36. Fruits, Vegetables and Meats

fruit	la frutta	cucumber	il cetriolo
apricot	l'albicocca	onion	la cipolla
pineapple	l'ananasso	bean	il fagiolo
watermelon	l'anguria (il cocomero)	mushroom	il fungo
orange	l'arancia	lettuce (salad)	l'insalata
banana	la banana	eggplant	la melanzana
cherry	la ciliegia	olive	l'oliva
strawberry	la fragola	potato	la patata

raspberry	il lampone	celery	il sedano
lime	la limetta	spinach	gli spinaci
lemon	il limone	zucchini	gli zucchini
apple	la mela	meat	la carne
pear	la pera	lamb	l'agnello
peach	la pesca	goat	il capretto
plum	la prugna (la susina)	rabbit	il coniglio
grape	l'uva	liver	il fegato
vegetables	i legumi	pork	il maiale
broccoli	i broccoli	beef	il manzo
carrot	la carota	bacon	la pancetta
cauliflower	il cavolfiore	ham	il prosciutto
cabbage	il cavolo	veal	il vitello

37. To Take, Eat or Drink

Prendere - to take, eat or drink and Bere - to drink

prendo	prendiamo	bevo	beviamo
prendi	prendete	bevi	bevete
prende	prendono	beve	bevono

Note: You must express some in Italian even though we leave it out in English. Use the proper contractions from the top of the page. Or you can use **un po' di**, which literally means *a little bit*. *Bere* is only used to mean to drink when it is used in the general sense, as is *mangiare* - to eat.

38. Commands

	-are	-ere	-ire
<i>tu</i> form (sing. fam.)	-a	-i	-i/-isci
<i>Lei</i> form (sing. pol.)	-i	-a	-a/-isca
<i>voi</i> form (pol. pl.)	-ate	-ete	-ite
<i>noi</i> form (Let's ...)	-iamo	-iamo	-iamo

Note: To make a command negative, add **non** before the command. Except for the singular familiar commands, when you use non and the infinitive.

Irregular Commands

	<u>andare</u>	<u>venire</u>	<u>fare</u>	<u>dare</u>	<u>dire</u>	<u>essere</u>	<u>avere</u>	<u>stare</u> (to be, stay)
sing. fam.	va'	vieni	fa'	da'	di'	sii	abbi	sta'
sing. pol.	vada	venga	faccia	dia	dica	sia	abbia	stia
plural	andate	venite	fate	date	dite	siate	abbiate	state
Let's	andiamo	veniamo	facciamo	diamo	diciamo	siamo	abbiamo	stiamo

39. More Negatives

non...mai	never
non...più	no longer, no more
non...niente	nothing
non...nessuno	nobody
non...neanche	not even
non...né...né	neither...nor

Note: The non goes before the verb and the second part goes after. *I have nothing. Non ho niente.*

40. Holiday Phrases

Buon Anno!	Happy New Year!
Buona Pasqua!	Happy Easter!
Buon Compleanno!	Happy Birthday!
Buon Natale!	Merry Christmas!
Buone Feste!	Happy Holidays!

The Italian National Anthem: **Inno di Mameli**

by Goffredo Mameli

Fratelli d'Italia, l'Italia s'è desta,
Dell'elmo di Scipio s'è cinta la testa.
Dov'è la vittoria? Le porga la chioma,
Ché schiava di Roma Iddio la creò.

Stringiamci a coorte, siam pronti alla morte,
siam pronti alla morte, l'Italia chiamò. Sì!

*Italian brothers, Italy has arisen,
Has put on the helmet of Scipio,
Where is victory?*

*Created by God
The slave of Rome,
She crowns you with glory.
Let us unite,
We are ready to die,
Italy calls.*