

CORRIGENDA FOR " ITALIAN IS EASY" BY R.V.SCHODER,SJ

SPELLNG CORRECTIONS:

<u>page</u>	<u>for</u>	<u>read</u>
1, line 28	<u>paurra</u>	<u>paúra</u>
5, line 11	<u>die, de'</u>	<u>dei, de'</u>
8, line 7	<u>Questa casa è mio</u>	<u>Questa casa è mia</u>
10, col.3, 100	<u>centa</u>	<u>cento</u>
12, col.2, line 13	<u>aveva, -e</u>	<u>aveva, -o</u>
20, title of # 41	<u>WORD</u>	<u>WORDS</u>
21, col.2, line 32	<u>cugina, il, la</u>	<u>cugino, -a, il, la</u>
21, col.2, line 33	<u>dogona</u>	<u>dogana</u>
23, col.1, line 24	<u>enywhere</u>	<u>anywhere</u>
24, title of # 2	<u>Prigiono</u>	<u>Prigionì</u>
24, # 3, line 5	<u>de... vagetazione</u>	<u>da... vegetazione</u>
24, footnote 6	<u>plane</u>	<u>plain</u>
25, #5, line 12	<u>scretissima</u>	<u>secretissima</u>
26, #7, line 6	<u>sembiana</u>	<u>sembrava</u>

ACCENTS, PUNCTUATION:

2, # 5.2	madre; <u>madri</u> ;	madre: <u>madri</u> ;
7, #8.1, line 7	<u>C'e freddo</u>	<u>C'e freddo</u>
8, # 23, line 4	<u>chi colui che</u>	<u>chi, colui che</u>
15, # 36.18	('to conduct':	('to conduct'):
17, #39.3, line 3	<u>glielo daro</u>	<u>glielo darò</u>
18, line 16	can could'	can, could'
20, # 18	<u>si di</u>	<u>si, di</u>
22, col.1	<u>lunedi</u>	<u>lunedì</u>
24, line 7 end	com'e	com'e
24, # 2, line 7 end	piu	più
24, # 3, line 8	antichite	antichità

ITALIAN IS EASY

I F

you know Latin, and  
use these charts

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## INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the following pages is to provide a complete foundation for the rapid acquisition of a reading knowledge of Italian.

The ability to read Italian is an instrument of great value in one's study and education, for not only is it the key to Dante, the supreme figure in medieval literature and one of the truly great authors of the world, but it opens to one's use a large store of excellent learned books in theology, philosophy, history, literary studies, and religious writing. Many documents, too, of the Holy See are published in Italian, and the pages of the leading Italian periodicals contain some of the best editorial and essay writing in Europe. Italian fiction and poetry offers much to enjoy, and is usually not difficult.

Fortunately for all this, Italian is perhaps the easiest of all languages to learn. Especially for those who have a good knowledge of Latin, Italian, with its great affinity to Latin and in many ways to English also, presents few real difficulties, at least in gaining a good reading knowledge of the language. Only the pronouns cause the learner much trouble, and that rapidly disappears with increasing familiarity with their usage gained from progressive reading. For the rest, most elements and aspects of Italian are readily understood and remembered because of their close similarity to Latin or to the Latin or Italian element in English. With the aid of the following pages, anyone with facility in Latin should be able to acquire the beginnings of a good reading knowledge of Italian quite quickly.

The distinctive feature of the present course in Italian is its building on an assumed good knowledge of Latin. In this way, only those aspects of Italian which are different from Latin need be learned; the rest is already known at the start! This explains how the following few pages can give a really adequate coverage of all fundamental and frequently used elements of Italian. All the important items of inflection and grammar are presented in charts for brevity and simplified conspectus. Vocabulary is handled in a new way: a set of rules of change governing the development of Latin words into Italian makes it easy to recognize on first sight the vast majority of Italian words, since these are of Latin origin more or less disguised. A basic word-list is then given of all the most commonly used Italian vocables which are not obvious from Latin in the light of the general rules, or are not of Latin origin at all. By learning these words, then, and the general rules for words of Latin source, one can rapidly arrive at a very extensive Italian vocabulary, with no time or effort wasted.

This booklet might well be used at the end of a Latin course in high school or college, to show students a concrete benefit of their Latin studies by the ease with which they can now also learn Italian. (A similar carry-over into Spanish in the light of resemblances to Latin could also be worked out).

Once one has mastered these few pages, and the appended practice readings, it should prove quite simple to read ordinary clear Italian, with the aid of a dictionary for the occasional less common or technical words. From extensive reading, facility will soon increase. Should one wish further detailed

aid, C. H. Grandgent's ITALIAN GRAMMER (Heath, 1904), or Joseph L. Russo's PRESENT DAY ITALIAN (Heath, 1947) will be found useful. An extensive Italian vocabulary of 2500 words (mostly contained, however, in the rules and word-list of this booklet) is given in Bodmer and Hogben, THE LOOM OF LANGUAGE (Norton, 1944) and in various other books.

Those who wish a speaking command of the language should supplement this booklet with the conversational phrases and drills given in such guides as Berlitz SAY IT IN ITALIAN, or Mario Pei's GETTING ALONG IN ITALIAN (Bantam). There are also various recordings for audio study.

Though the present course is primarily aimed at modern Italian, it will be found quite adequate for Dante also, as his language is about 95% identical with the modern literary usage; where it does differ, in spelling or ending or word-connotation, this is nearly always in the direction of still closer affinity to Latin, and hence will cause less difficulty to those for whom these pages are intended.

## PRONUNCIATION

1. SOUNDS: Same as in English, with the following clarifications and exceptions:

VOWELS: NB. A vowel is pronounced short if in a closed syllable (one ending in a consonant), long if in an open syllable (ending in that vowel). E.g., eb-bē, cōn, dā, sō-nō. Stress on a closed syllable tends to make its vowel sound longer.

a stressed (both open and closed) is like a in father (padre, sale)  
a unstressed is more like a in about (lavoro, porta)

e long is like a in  fate (mele, vedere)

e short is like e in get (nessuno, bello). Also if with grave accent (e, ché) i in open or stressed syllable is like i in machine (yini, villa)

i unstressed and closed is shorter, like i in pit (misterio, interno)

o long is like o in Rome (Roma, sole)

o short is like o in soft (sonno, porta)

u long is like oo in moon (luna, fumo)

u short is like oo in book (ultimo, pubblico)

N.B. Some pronounce the short vowels much more like the corresponding long vowels, but less prolonged. (That is, same quality but less quantity)

When i or u precede a stressed a, e, o, a diphthong results, with the unstressed vowel lightly and quickly run over to fuse into the other; the i sounds like a light y, the u like w (piede, fiore, piazza; guerra, buono, guasto).

Other diphthongs: au is like ow in now (ravaco)

ui is like we (guida)

iu is like you (più, giudice)

Otherwise, when vowels come together, each is pronounced (via, due, pio, paüfra).

CONSONANTS: each one is pronounced clearly, and twice when doubled (det-to, bel-la). But double c, g sound as one, making preceding vowel short (Ricci, legge = rich-y, ledge-ay).

c before e or i is like ch of chip (cielo, cena)

c elsewhere is like k (corpo, cura)

ch always is like k (chiaro, che). Hence, h is added to keep c hard before i or e (e.g., plural of Dantesco: Danteschi)

sc before e or i is like sh of ship (scienza, scena)

sc elsewhere, and sch always, are like sk (scandalo, scherzo)

g before e or i is soft, as in gem (gigante, gente)

g elsewhere is hard, as in get (gondola, gatto)

gh is always hard (ghetto)

gl before i is like ll of billion (figlio, egli)

gn is like ni in onion (ogni, ligne)

gu = gw, even before e or i (guerra, guida)

qu = kw, even before e or i (quello, quieto)

h is always silent (hanno, ahi)

n followed by hard c, hard g, or q is like ng in sing (banca, lungo)

r is trilled (cara, burro, grande)

z is like ts or dz -- the ts sound in words where Latin has ti before a vowel (gratia: grazia), the dz sound where Latin has di before a vowel (medio: mezzo)

2. STRESS: Usually as in Latin. In Italian, this means mostly on second-last syllable -- but not always:

1. On last syllable, when so marked: grave accent the only one normally used (città, parlerò)
2. On third last syllable always in 3rd pl. of verb -- unless the ending has a double n, when stress is on second-last (parlano, but future parleránno). Also words in -olo, -ola (piccolo, scafola).
3. Several verbs depart from Latin stress pattern in infinitive (see list at #20, below).

NOTE: Italian texts rarely mark any accent except on the last syllable (a grave '!'); but in these notes an acute ('') will be used to point out stress where useful.

DRILL: dormire, credere, tenere, parente, márgine, amico, fratello, virtù.

### NOUNS

3. GENDER: Same as in Latin, with all Latin neutrals becoming masculine, as there is no neuter in Italian (e.g., corpo masc.)

4. CASES: Only one, all inflection being supplied by prepositions.

### PLURAL:

1. Monosyllables, words with written accent, words ending in -i, -ie, -u, or in a consonant retain the singular form -- though their article -lo, or in a consonant change to plural (re, maestà, di, specie, virtù, lapis), or modifiers change to pl. form (re, maestà, di, specie, virtù, lapis).
2. Words in -o, or -e, and masculines in -a change to -i for plural (libro: libri; madre: madri; poeta: poeti).
3. Feminines in -a change to -e (figlia: figlie).
4. Nouns in unaccented -cia, -gia, -io drop the -i, then use regular plural ending (faccia: facce; figlio: figli).
5. Nouns in -ca, -ga, -co, -go often add h before plural ending to retain the hard c or g sound (monarca: monarchi; antico: antichi), but many allow the c or g to soften (amico: amici).
6. Some plurals are irregular (esp. dio: dei; uomo: uomini).

### ARTICLE

#### 6. DEFINITE ('the')

MASC. SG.	MASC. PL.	FEM. SG.	FEM. PL.
<u>il</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>la</u> , <u>(l')</u>	<u>le</u>

OR: lo, (l')      gli

NOTE: 1. il, i is used before masc. nouns beginning with a consonant other than z, or s-compound (that is, s followed by another consonant) (il poeta, i libri, il Santo, i principi)

2. lo, gli is used before masc. nouns beginning with z, or with s-compound. (lo zelo, lo spazio, gli spiriti)

3. l', gli is used before masc. nouns beginning with a vowel (l'amore, gli uomini).

(a) gli, becomes gl' before -i- (gl' innocenti)

4. la, l', le is used before all fem. nouns, la becoming l' before a vowel (la morte, l'anima, le anime).

(a) le becomes l' before e- (l'erbe).

5. USAGE: same as in Greek, hence wherever used in English and also in possessive, abstract, and generalizing expressions (il nostro libro; la morte; gli uomini sono creature di Dio).

#### 7. INDEFINITE ('a', 'an'):

MASC. : uno, un      FEM. : una, un'

NB: uno is used like lo; un with all other masculines; una with all feminines, eliding to un' before a vowel (uno spazio, uno zio, un poeta, un uomo, una rosa, un'anima).

### ADJECTIVES

#### 8. FORMATION: same types and rules as nouns:

MASC.	FEM.	M-F (from Latin 3rd decl.)
<u>caro</u>	<u>cara</u>	<u>felice</u>
<u>cari</u>	<u>care</u>	<u>felici</u>

NB: bello, Santo, grande, buono shorten before all consonants except z or s-compound (bel, San, gran, buon). Note that z and s-compound always require a preceding vowel: lo, bello, uno, buono, grande. The four previously mentioned adjectives also elide before vowels (bell', Sant', grand', buon').

9. USAGE: adjectives agree with their nouns in gender and number (buona madre, magno poeta, dolci frutti).

10. COMPARISON: the comparative is formed by prefixing più ('more': Lat. plus) or meno ('less'); the superlative by prefixing il più or il meno (più lungo; 'longer', la più lunga via: 'the longest road').

11. A few comparatives and superlatives follow Latin forms instead (buono: migliore; grande: maggiore, grandissimo; acre: acerrimo).

12. 'Than!' is che, or (before a noun, pronoun, or numeral) di (più ricco che felice; più ricco di me).

#### 11. AUGMENTATIVE AND DIMINUTIVE SUFFIXES,

added to nouns, adjectives, adverbs:

-one (big): nasone 'big nose'

-otto (large): nasotto 'rather large nose'

-uto (long): nasuto 'schnozzle'

-ino (little; fondness): nasino 'cute little nose'; bellina 'pretty little girl'

-etto (small): nasetto; libretto 'booklet'

-ello (poor little): fiorello; Poverella

-uccio (dear little): Giorguccio 'Georgie'

-uzzo (wretched little): canuzzo 'whelp'

-accio (worthless): vinaccio

-astro (fake): medicastro 'quack'; poetastro

NB: More than one suffix may be used: fiorellino 'pretty little flower'.

### ADVERBS

#### 12. FORMATION:

- Some are like masc. sg. of adj.: molto 'much'; poco 'little'.
- Some are fem. sg. of adj. plus -mente: sinceramente, felicemente.
- Others are like Latin adverb: bene, sempre, circa.
- Special: come 'how'; là 'there'; etc. (See list, p. 23)

#### 13. COMPARISON:

Same as in adjectives: più prudentemente; il più prudentemente; etc.

Some special forms from Latin: meglio, etc.

### PREPOSITIONS

14. A list of all important prepositions which are not obvious from Latin parallels:

<u>a:</u>	at, to	✓ <u>in cambio di:</u>	in place of
<u>accanto:</u>	at the side of	✓ <u>innanzi:</u>	before (in time or place)
<u>addosso:</u>	at the back of	✓ <u>intorno:</u>	around, about
<u>allato:</u>	at the side of	✓ <u>invece di:</u>	instead of
<u>attorno:</u>	around	✓ <u>lontano da:</u>	far from
<u>avanti:</u>	before (in place)	✓ <u>lungi da:</u>	far from
<u>da:</u>	from; by, of; as; since;	✓ <u>lungo:</u>	along
	at (=French <u>chez</u> )	✓ <u>malgrado:</u>	in spite of
<u>davanti:</u>	before (in place), in front of	✓ <u>per:</u>	for; by; through; (w. verb:) on the point of, about to
<u>dentro:</u>	within, inside of	✓ <u>presso:</u>	near
<u>di:</u>	of, out of; by, with	✓ <u>prima di:</u>	before (in time)
<u>di qua di:</u>	this side of	✓ <u>senza, sanza</u>	without (=Latin <u>sine</u> )
<u>di là di:</u>	that side of	✓ <u>(archaic):</u>	as far as, up to
<u>dietro:</u>	behind	✓ <u>sino a:</u>	under
<u>dopo:</u>	after	✓ <u>sotto:</u>	on
<u>eccetto:</u>	except	✓ <u>su, sur:</u>	among, between
<u>fino a:</u>	as far as, up to, till	✓ <u>tra:</u>	except
<u>fino da:</u>	since; from	✓ <u>tranne:</u>	towards
<u>fra:</u>	among, between; within ( <u>fra due anni</u> )	✓ <u>verso:</u>	
<u>fuorchè:</u>	except		
<u>fuori di:</u>	out of; except		

#### 15. SPECIAL USAGE OF PREPOSITIONS:

- con, in, per in older writers change a following article to a prefixed i before s-compounds or another consonant (in strada = in la strada; per spazio = per lo spazio).
- per after the verbs essere or stare ('to be') gives them the idiomatic sense of 'to be about to...' (era per cadere 'he was on the verge of falling')

#### 3. FORMS IN FUSION WITH THE ARTICLE:

	il	i	lo	gli	la	le
a	al	ai, a'	allo	agli	alla	alle
di	del	de <sup>l</sup> , de'	dello	degli	della	delle
da	dal	dai, da'	dallo	dagli	dalla	dalle
in	nel	nei, ne'	nello	negli	nella	nelle
con	col	coi, co'	collo	cogli	colla	colle
su	sul	sui, su'	sullo	sugli	sulla	sulle
per	pel	pei, pe'	per lo	per gli	per la	per le

## PRONOUNS

16. PERSONAL: column (a) gives forms when without preposition; (b) gives forms with preposition.

SG:	(a)	1st (b)	(a)	2nd (b)	(a)	3rd Masc. (b)	(a)	3rd Fem. (b)
Nom.	io	---	tu;	3 Ella 3 Lei, 3 La, 3 Essa	---	egli, (ei), esso	ella, (la), essa	
Gen.	--- (di)me	---	---	(di)te	4 ne	(di)lui	4 ne	(di)lei
Dat.	mi, 1 me (a)me	---	ti, 1 te, (a)te	3 Le	gli, li, glie	(a)lui	le, 1 glie (a)lei	
Acc.	mi, 2 me (dopo) me	---	ti, 2 te (dopo)te 3 La	lo, il, (dopo)lui 2 lui	la, (dopo)lei 2 lei			
Abl.	---	(da)me	---	(da)te	---	(da)lui	---	(da)lei
PL:								
Nom.	noi	---	voi;	---	églino, essi	elleno, esse		
Gen.	---	(di)noi	---	(di)voi	2 ne	(di)loro	2 ne	(di)loro
Dat.	ci, 1 ce; (a)noi ne	---	vi, 1 ve; (a)voi 3 Li, 3 Loro	---	loro, gli (a)loro	loro (a)loro		
Acc.	ci; ne; (dopo) noi 2 noi	vi, 2 voi; (dopo) voi 3 Le, 3 Loro	li, gli; (dopo) loro	le, 2 loro (dopo) loro				
Abl.	---	(da)noi	---	(da)voi	---	(da)loro	---	(da)loro

### 17. NOTES:

me, te, ce, ve, glie are the forms used as indirect object if followed by ne (see below, 4) or by an accusative pronoun as direct object. When preceded by the verb, the indirect and direct object forms fuse with it and with one another, while glie fuses both before and after a verb; thus: Datemeli il libro 'Give me the book', but me lo date or Datemelo 'Give it to me'. Glielo date 'Give it to him'. Me ne date 'Give me some'.

These forms, same as column (b), are used (following the verb) when emphasis is desired: Mi conosce 'He knows me', but Conosce me, ma non voi 'He knows me, but not you'.

These forms (usually capitalized), with the verb in the 3rd person, are used in polite address: Le prometto di visitarla 'I promise you, Sir (Madame), to visit you'; (La) mi crede, Signore 'Believe me, my dear sir'; Loro érano già partiti 'Gentlemen, you were already gone'. The explanation of this construction is that these third-personal forms stand for an abstract 'your reverence', 'your honor,' etc.

<sup>4</sup> Ne also means 'some (of it, of them)': Gia ne ho 'I already have some' (Cf. French en: J'en ai "I have some"; Pourquoi en parlez-vous? 'Why do you speak of it?'). It is often just a superfluous particle without parallel or translation in English: Che ne volete? 'What do you want?' Se ne venne 'He betro himself, he came'.

### 18. USAGE OF PERSONAL PRONOUNS:

1. ci and vi are also adverbs\* meaning 'here, there; to it, to them; of it, of them' (only of things, not persons): Ci verro Domenica 'I will come here Sunday'. Ci (yi) vado 'I am going there'. Mi scrisse dieci lettere, ma non vi risposi 'He wrote me ten letters, but I did not reply to them'. With the 3rd sing. or pl. of the verb 'to be', ci and vi mean 'there is (are, were, etc.)', like the French il y'a: Ci (vi) sono molti Santi in cielo 'There are many Saints in Heaven'. C'e freddo 'It is cold', etc.

2. Personal pronouns fuse with four verb forms: infinitive, positive imperative, present participle, past participle -- the initial consonant of the pronoun doubling if the verb ends in an accented vowel: Per vederci 'To see us'. Dammi! 'Give (it to) me!' Vedéndolo 'Seeing it...' Vedutoti 'Having seen you...'

3. When the direct object of a verb is a personal pronoun, the past participle agrees with it in gender and number: L' ho veduta 'I have seen her'. (Lit.: 'I have her-seen': Habeo eam visam). Vi ha chiamati 'He has called you'. With noun-objects and indirect objects, the participle remains unchanged: Ha scritto tre libri 'He has written three books'. Vi ha parlato 'He has spoken to you'.

### 19. REFLEXIVE PRONOUNS:

	1st	2nd	3rd
Sg.:	mi	ti	si
Pl.:	ci	vi	si

1. These change their final vowel to e before ne or after a preposition: Fecero da se 'They did it by themselves'. Otherwise as above: Ci amiamo 'Let us love each other'.

2. In polite address, the 3rd person is used for the 2nd: Si divertono, amici? 'Are you enjoying yourselves, my friends?'

3. The way to express non-reflexive 'self' is the personal pronoun with the adjective stesso: Noi stessi la vedemmo 'We ourselves saw her'.

4. NOTE: meco, teco, seco may be substituted for con me, con te, etc.

### 20. POSSESSIVE PRONOUNS AND ADJECTIVES:

	SINGULAR	PLURAL
	Masc. Fem.	Masc. Fem.
my, mine	il mio la mia	i miei le mie
your, yours	il tuo la tua	i tuoi le tue
his, her	il suo la sua	i suoi le sue
hers its; your (polite)		
our, ours	il nostro la nostra	i nostri le nostre
your, yours	il vostro la vostra	i vostri le vostri
their, theirs;	il loro la loro	i loro le loro
your (polite)		

\*This adverbial vi is from Latin ibi (as is also French y, similarly used)

## 21. USAGE OF POSSESSIVES:

- All except loro adapt ending to agree with object expressed: I miei maestri 'My teachers'; La sua voce 'Her (your, his) voice'; but I loro maestri 'Their teachers'.
- The article is used preceding a possessive when a definite or specific sense is intended: Due fratelli suoi 'Two of his brothers', but I due fratelli suoi 'His two brothers'. Questa casa è mia 'This is my house (not yours)' but Questa casa è la mia 'This (not that one) is my house'.
- When it is obvious whose possession is intended, the definite article usually replaces the possessive adjective: Ha perduto il libro 'He has lost his book.' Mi duole la testa 'My head aches' (Lit.: "To me (dative of reference) the head aches")

## 22. DEMONSTRATIVE ADJECTIVES:

quest-o, -a, -i, -e (=hic): this, these  
cotesto (codesto), -a, -i, -e (=iste): that, those (near you)  
quello, -a, -i, -e (=ille): that, those (NB: masc. pl. is quei before a consonant, quegli before a vowel, z, or s-compound: quei signori, quegli studi, quegli uomini.)

## 23. DEMONSTRATIVE PRONOUNS:

costui (m.), costei (f.), costoro (pl.): this man, this woman, these persons.  
colui (m.), coleì (f.), coloro (pl.): that man, that woman, those persons.  
chi colui che: he who (e.g., chi crede, or colui che crede 'He who believes').  
quel, quello, quegli; pl. quelli: he; that, that one, those (Quel che vedete: 'The one you see')  
quella; pl. quelle, quei: she; they  
quest-o, -a; -i, -e: that one; those  
ciò: this, that -- indeclinable, stand for whole thought, not a single word.  
Ciò è facile 'That's easy'.

## 24. INTERROGATIVE PRONOUNS AND ADJECTIVES:

chi: who? whom?    che, che cosa: what?  
qual(e): which? (pl.: quali)  
quanto, -a: how much?    quanti, -e: how many?

## 25. INDEFINITE PRONOUNS AND ADJECTIVES:

ambedue, tutti e due: both    più: more  
altro: else, other    poco: little, few  
altrui: another, other(s)    parecchi: several  
chiunque: anybody, whoever    qualche; pl. alcuni, alcune: some  
ciascuno, ogni, ognuno, tutto: every, all, each    qualchecosa: anything, something  
medesimo: self, same    qualscuno, qualcheduno: anybody, somebo  
meno: less    qualunque: whatever  
nessuno: no one    stesso: same, self, the very  
niente: nothing    tropo: too much, too many

## 26. RELATIVE PRONOUNS:

che (subject, object): who, whom, which  
cui (indir. object, after preposition): whom, which  
il quale (la quale, i quali, le quali) (subject): who, which  
chi, colui che: he who  
chiunque: whoever

NB: whose is expressed by cui or quale with the article: Un uomo, le cui sorelle conoscete 'A man whose sisters you know'; Le donne, delle quali feci la casa 'The ladies whose house I built'.

## CONJUNCTIONS

27. List of all important conjunctions (those starred require the subjunctive unless introducing a statement of undoubted fact):

\*acciocchè: in order that  
\*affinchè: that, in order that  
anche: also, too  
anche se: even if, although  
anzi: even; rather  
\*benchè: though, although  
chè: for (=enim)  
che: that, than; until; how!  
cioè: that is, i.e.  
come: as (manner)  
dacchè: since (in time)  
dopo che: after  
dunque: therefore, then, so  
e, ed: and (=et)  
finchè (non): until, till, as long as  
ma: but  
\*a meno che: unless  
mentre che: while (in time)  
nè: nor    nè...nè: neither...nor  
neppure, nemmeno: nor, neither  
nondimeno: nevertheless  
  
o, od: or (aut)  
ora: now (in time)  
oppure, ossia, overro: or  
perchè: because; \*in order that; why?  
perciò: therefore  
però: however, nevertheless; therefore  
piuttosto: rather, sooner (preference)  
poichè: since, because  
\*prima che: sooner than, before (time)  
\*purchè: provided that  
pure: also: however, nonetheless  
quindi: consequently, then  
\*quantunque: although  
\*se: if, whether (si)  
\*sebbene: though, although  
senonchè: unless  
\*senza che: without, unless  
sicchè: so that (result)  
siccome: as, since (causal)  
tuttavia: continually; however, still

## NUMERALS

### 28. THE MAIN NUMERALS:

Ordinals:

1 <u>uno</u>	<u>primo</u>	first	21 <u>ventuno</u>	<u>ventunesimo</u>
2 <u>due</u>	<u>secondo</u>		22 <u>ventidue</u> , etc.	<u>ventiduesimo</u> , etc.
3 <u>tre</u>	<u>terzo</u>		30 <u>trenta</u>	<u>trentesimo</u>
4 <u>quattro</u>	<u>quarto</u>		40 <u>quaranta</u>	etc.
5 <u>cinque</u>	<u>quinto</u>		50 <u>cinquanta</u>	
6 <u>sei</u>	<u>sesto</u>		60 <u>sessanta</u>	
7 <u>sette</u>	<u>séttimo</u>		70 <u>settanta</u>	
8 <u>otto</u>	<u>ottavo</u>		80 <u>ottanta</u>	
9 <u>nove</u>	<u>nono</u>		90 <u>novanta</u>	
10 <u>dieci</u>	<u>décimo</u>		100 <u>cento</u>	
11 <u>undici</u>	<u>undicésimo</u>		300 <u>trecento</u>	
12 <u>dodici</u>	<u>dodicésimo</u>		1000 <u>mille</u>	
13 <u>tré dici</u>	<u>tredecésimo</u>		6000 <u>seimila</u>	
14 <u>quattordici</u>	<u>quattordicesimo</u>		1/2 <u>meta, mezzo</u>	
15 <u>quindici</u>	<u>quindicésimo</u>		1/3 <u>un terzo</u>	
16 <u>sédici</u>	<u>sedicésimo</u>		1/4 <u>un quarto</u>	
17 <u>diciasette</u>	<u>diciassetésimo</u>		1/5 <u>un quinto</u>	
18 <u>diciotto</u>	<u>diciottesimo</u>		2/6 <u>due sesti</u>	
19 <u>diciannove</u>	<u>diciannovésimo</u>		3/7 <u>tre séttimi</u>	
20 <u>venti</u>	<u>ventésimo</u>		8/12 <u>otto dodicesimi</u>	
		etc.		

## VERBS

### 29. PRENOTES TO THE ITALIAN VERB:

1. The 2nd sg. is used for familiar address, in speaking to friends or relatives, etc.
2. The 2nd pl. is used both familiarly and in addressing dignitaries.
3. In polite address, the 3rd sg. (with Lei or Ella -- note capitals) and 3rd pl. (with Loro) are used to express 'you' -- with 'your excellency' or the like understood.
4. The ordinary auxiliary verb is avére; but in the passive, reflexive, reciprocal, and usually in the intransitive forms, and with verbs of 'being' the auxiliary is essere (for which stare may be substituted to emphasize state or condition of being).
5. Unless otherwise marked, the stress accent is always on second-last syllable, except that in the 3rd pl. it is always on the third-last unless the ending has double-n (párlano; parleranno).
6. In these charts, as an aid to rapid memorization of verb forms, any ending or thematic vowel (between stem and ending) different from that in the corresponding form of the 1st conj. is in CAPS. All forms not in caps, then, are identical with 1st conj. already learned.
7. In the 3rd conjugation, the extra syllable -isc- is inserted between stem and ending in the sg. and the 3rd pl. of the pres. indic.,

## VERBS, cont.

subjunctive, and imperative -- as though these forms were based on an infinitive in -iscere. A few verbs, however, omit this -isc- insertion, viz.: dormire, fuggire, sentire, servire, vestire, pentire, ('to repent'), and usually aborrire, bollire ('to boil'), assorbire, mentire, nutrire, tossire, inghiottire ('to swallow'), partire, sortire.

Thus: dorm-o, dorm-i, dorm-e, dórm-on; subj.: dorm-a; imperat. dorm-i; etc.

## REGULAR VERB FORMS

P A R T S		AUXILIARIES	1ST. CONJ.	2ND. CONJ.	3RD. CONJ.
Infinitive	avére	essere	parlare	ricevere	capire
Past Indic.	ebbi	fui	parlai	ricevei	capii
Past. Part.	avuto	(stato)	parlato	ricevuto	capito
Gerund	avendo	essendo	parlando	ricevendo	capendo
PRESENT 'I do' etc.	ho	sono	parl-o	ricev-o	cap-ISC-o
	hai	sei	parl-i	ricev-i	cap-ISC-i
	ha	è	parl-a	ricev-E	cap-ISC-e
	abbiamo	siamo	parl-iamo	ricev-iamo	cap-iamo
	avete	siete	parl-ate	ricev-Ete	cap-Ite
	hanno	sono	parl-an(o)	ricev-Ono	cap-ISC-on(o)
IMPERFECT 'I was doing'	aveva, -ebo	era, -o	parl-ava, -avo	ricev-Eva, -Evo	cap-Iva, -ivo
	avevi	eri	parl-avi	ricev-Evi	cap-Ivi
	aveva	era	parl-ava	ricev-Eva	cap-Iva
	avevamo	eravamo	parl-avamo	ricev-Evamo	cap-Ivamo
	avevate	eravate	parl-avate	ricev-Evate	cap-Ivate
	avévan(o)	érano	parl-ávan(o)	ricev-Evan(o)	cap-Ivano
PAST (ABSOLUTE) 'I did'	ebbi	fui	parl-ai	ricev-Ei, -ETTi	cap-II
	avesti	fosti	parl-asti	ricev-Esti	cap-Isti
	ebbe	fu	parl-ò	ricev-E, -ETTE	cap-ET
	avemmo	fummo	parl-ammo	ricev-Emmo	cap-Immo
	aveste	foste	parl-aste	ricev-Este	cap-Iste
	ébbero	fúrono	parl-árono	ricev-Erona, -ETTERo	cap-Irono
FUTURE 'I shall do'	avrò	sarò	parl-erb	ricev-erb	cap-Irb
	avrai	sarai	parl-erai	ricev-erai	cap-Irai
	avrà	sarà	parl-erà	ricev-erà	cap-Irà
	avremo	saremo	parl-eremo	ricev-eremo	cap-Iremo
	avrete	sarete	parl-erete	ricev-erete	cap-Irete
	avranno	saranno	parl-eranno	ricev-eranno	cap-Iranno
PRESENT 'I would (should could) do'	avrei	sarei	parl-erei	ricev-erei	cap-Irei
	avresti	saresti	parl-eresti	ricev-eresti	cap-Iresti
	avrebbe	sarebbe	parl-errebbe	ricev-errebbe	cap-Irebbe
	avremmo	saremmo	parl-eremmo	ricev-eremmo	cap-Iremmo
	avreste	sareste	parl-ereste	ricev-ereste	cap-Ireste
	avrébbero	sarébbero	parl-erébbero	ricev-erébbero	cap-Irébbero
PRESENT '(that) I do'	abbia	sí	parl-i	ricev-A	cap-ISC-A
	abbi, -ia	sí, síá	parl-i	ricev-A	cap-ISC-A
	abbia	síá	parl-i	ricev-A	cap-ISC-A
	abbiamo	siamo	parl-iamo	ricev-iamo	cap-iamo
	abbiate	siate	parl-iate	ricev-iate	cap-iate
	abbiano	síano, síeno	parl-ino	ricev-Ano	cap-ISC-Ano
PAST '(that) I did'	avessi	fossi	parl-assi	ricev-Essi	cap-Issi
	avessi	fossi	parl-assi	ricev-Esse	cap-Issi
	avesse	fosse	parl-assé	ricev-Esse	cap-Isse
	avéssimo	fóssimo	parl-dssimo	ricev-Essimo	cap-Isximo
	aveste	foste	parl-aste	ricev-Este	cap-Iste
	avéssero	fóssero	parl-dssero	ricev-Essero	cap-Issero
PRESENT 'do!'	abi	sí, síá	parl-a	ricev-I	cap-ISC-I
	abbiate	siate	parl-ate	ricev-Ete	cap-Ite

## VERBS, cont.

## 31. PASSIVE:

Formed in two ways: (1) Proper form of essere in compound tense (see next section), plus past participle of verb in question: Questa lettera è stata scritta da Luigi 'This letter has been written by Louis'; Le case furono distrutte dall' incendio 'The houses were destroyed by the fire'. (2) With indefinite reflexive si and the impersonal construction: Come si pronunzia questa parola? 'How is this word pronounced?' Si dice 'It is said' (= the impersonal 'One says').

## 32. COMPOUND TENSES (formed with the auxiliaries):

1. PRESENT PERFECT ('I have done'): ho avuto, hai avuto, ha avuto, etc.; sono stato, sei stato, è stato, etc.; ho parlato, hai parlato; ho ricevuto; ho capito, etc.
2. PLUPERFECT ('I had done'): aveva avuto or ebbi avuto, avevi avuto or avesti avuto, etc.; era stato or fui stato, eri stato or fosti stato, etc.; aveva parlato or ebbi parlato, etc.; aveva (ebbi) ricevuto, etc.; aveva (ebbi) capito, etc.
3. FUTURE PERFECT ('I shall have done'): avrò avuto, avrai avuto, etc.; sarò stato, sarai stato, etc.; avrò parlato, etc.; avrò ricevuto, etc.; avrò capito, etc.
4. PAST CONDITIONAL ('I would have done'): avrei avuto, avresti avuto, etc.; sarei stato, saresti stato, etc.; avrei parlato, etc.; avrei ricevuto, etc.; avrei capito, etc.
5. IMPERFECT SUBJUNCTIVE ('That I have done'): abbia avuto, abbi avuto, etc.; sia stato, sii stato, etc.; abbia parlato, etc.; abbia ricevuto, etc.; abbia capito, etc.
6. PLUPERFECT SUBJUNCTIVE ('That I had done'): avessi avuto, etc.; fossi stato, etc.; avessi parlato, etc.; avessi ricevuto, etc.; avessi capito, etc.

## 3. NOTES ON THE VERB:

1. The usual spelling-changes to preserve the right sound (see #1, SOUNDS) prevail in the verb, e.g.: pago, paghi, etc.
2. Note the characteristic tense-signs: v in the imperfect, r in the future, e in the conditional, ss in the past subjunctive.
  - (a) The 1 pl. always ends in -mo, the 2 pl. in -te, the 3 pl. in -no or -ro, the 2 sg. (except in some forms of pres. subj.) in -i.
  - (b) The conditional regularly builds on the future stem; both closely follow the infinitive except for its penult vowel.
3. Wherever there is a thematic vowel (between stem and ending), it is the same as the vowel in the penult of the word's infinitive.
4. The gerund (which is indeclinable) also functions as present participle, never changing form to agree with related words. Thus: Andava cantando 'I walked along singing', Andavate cantando 'You walked along singing', etc.
5. A final i- of the stem often drops before an -i or -e of the ending:

VERBS, cont.

cominci-are, but cominc-ero, etc.

6. The 1st sg. imperfect in -o is used only in conversation; the literary form is -a.
7. Infin. and 3 pl. may drop final syllable, e.g.: párlan(o), parlerán (no esser(e)).
8. In the 2nd conjugation, the accent on the infinitive sometimes differs from that of the corresponding Latin form. Some notable instances: sapére, cadére, álgere, árdere, assóbere, licere, m(u)overe, ridere, rílucere, rispondere, n(u)ocere.
34. **IRREGULAR VERBS:**

Many Italian verbs are irregular only in the formation of their principal parts (which, of course, carry over into all forms built on these parts). But in such cases, the irregularity is nearly always parallel to the principal parts of the corresponding Latin verbs, hence will be obvious on sight and need not be listed here. All the more important irregularities of form other than those of the verbs in the class above mentioned are given below, and one should familiarize oneself with the following list for ease in recognition, even if not memorizing them. Imperfect forms are regular; conditional follows future stem:-

35. **FIRST CONJUGATION IRREGULAR FORMS:**

1. andare ('to go'): PRES. INDIC.: vado or vo, vai, va, andiamo, andate, vanno; PAST: andái, etc.; FUT.: andrò, etc.; CONDIT.: andrei, etc.; PRES SUBJ.: vada, vada, vada, andiamo, andiate, vádano.
2. fare ('to do'): L. facere: PRES IND.: faccio or fo, fai, fa, facciamo, fate, fanno; PAST: fecí, facesti, fece, facemmo, faceste, féceró; FUT.: farò, etc.; PRES. SUBJ.: faccia, faccia, faccia, facciamo, facciate, facciano.
3. dare ('to give'): PRES. IND.: do, dai, da, diamo, date, danno; PAST: diedi or detti, desti, diede, or dette, demmo, deste, diedero or dét-tero; FUT.: darò; PRES. SUBJ.: dia, día, día, diamo, diate, diano or dieno.
4. stare ('to stand', 'to be'): PRES. IND.: sto, stai, sta, stiamo, state, stanno; PAST: stetti, stesti, stette, stemmo, steste, stétttero; FUT.: starò, etc.; PRES. SUBJ.: stía, stía, stía, stiamo, stiate, stiano or stiéno.

36. **SECOND CONJUGATION IRREGULAR FORMS:**

1. sapére ('to know'): PRES. IND.: so, sai, sa, sappiamo, sapete, sanno; PAST: seppi, sapesti, seppi, seppe, sapémno, sapeste, ssépero; FUT.: saprò; PRES. SUBJ.: sappi-a, etc.
2. cadére ('to fall'): some forms built on stem caggi- instead of stem cad-. PAST: caddi.

3. dovere ('to owe'), ('must'): PRES. IND.: deo or debbó, devi (or debbi), deve or debbe, dobbiamo, dovete, devono or débbono; PAST: dovei or dovetti; FUT.: dovrò; PRES. SUBJ.: deva or debba, deva or debba, deva or debba, dobbiamo, dobbiate, dévano or débbano.
4. sedére ('to sit'): some forms built on stem sied-, others on stem seg-.
5. vedére ('to see'): two stems: ved-, vegg-; PAST: vidi.
6. giacére ('to lie still'): two stems: giac-, giacci-, former used only in Pres. IND. 2 sg., 3 sg., 2 pl.: giaci, giace, giacete; PAST: giacqui.
7. piacére ('to please') and tacere ('to be silent') follow pattern of giacere above.
8. solére ('to be wont'): PRES. IND.: soglio, suoli, suole, sogliamo, solete, sogliono; PRES. SUBJ.: soglia, etc.; no past or future forms used.
9. dolére ('to grieve'): PRES. IND.: dolgo or doglio, duoli, duole, dolgiamo, dolet, dolgono or dolgiono; PAST: dolsi, etc.; FUT.: dorrò, etc.; PRES. SUBJ.: dolg(i)a, etc.
10. rimanere ('to remain'): PRES. IND.: rimango, rimani, rimane, rimaniamo, rimanete, rimangono; PAST: rimasi, rimasti, rimase, etc.; FUT.: rimarro; PRES. SUBJ.: rimanga, rimanga, rimanga, rimaniamo, rimaniate, rimángano.
11. tenére ('to hold'): PRES. IND.: tengo, tieni, tiene, teniamo, tenete, tengono; PAST: tenni; FUT.: terrò; PRES. SUBJ.: tenga, tenga, tenga, teniamo, teniate, tengano.
12. valére ('to be worth'): PRES. IND.: valgo or vaglio, vali, vale, vagliamo, valete, válgono or vágliono; PAST: valsi; FUT.: varro; PRES. SUBJ.: valga or vaglia, etc.
13. volére ('to wish'): PRES. IND.: voglio or vo', vuoi, vuole, vogliamo, volete, vógliono; PAST: volli; FUT.: vorro; PRES. SUBJ.: vóglia, etc.
14. parére ('to seem'): PRES. IND.: páio, pari, pare, paiamo or pariamo, parete, páiono; PAST: parvi; FUT.: parro; PRES. SUBJ.: paia, etc. 1st. pl. also pariamo.
15. potere ('to be able'): PRES. IND.: posso, puoi, púo, possiamo, potete, possono; PAST: potei; FUT.: potro; PRES. SUBJ.: possa, etc.
16. bere or bévere ('to drink'): two stems throughout: be-, bev-.
17. chiedere ('to ask'): a few forms also built on stem chiegg-; PAST: chiesi.
18. condurre ('to conduct'): PRES. IND. and SUBJ. built on stem conduc-; PAST: condussi.
19. nuocere ('to harm'): two stems: nuoc-, noc(c)-, e.g.: nuoce, nociamo, nocciono; PAST: nocqui.
20. porre ('to put': L. ponere): PRES. IND.: pongo, poni, pone, poniamo or pongiammo, ponete, póngono; PAST: posi; FUT.: porro; PRES. SUBJ.: pong-a, -a, -a, poniamo, poniate, póngono.
21. trarre or träere ('to drag'): PRES. IND.: traggo, (traggi or) trai, trague or trae, traiamo or traggiamo, traete, trággono; PAST: trassi;

- FUT.: trarro; PRES. SUBJ.: tragga, traggia, traggia, traiamo or traggiamo, traiate, traggano.
22. verre or vellere ('to tear up'): two stems: velg-, vell- throughout.
  23. cogliere or corre ('to gather'): two stems: cogli-, colg-; PAST: colsi; FUT.: corro.
  - ✓ 24. scégliere ('to choose'), sciogliere ('to untie, to set free'), togliere ('to take') are inflected after pattern of cogliere with corresponding two stems.
  25. giungere ('to arrive'): two stems: giung-, giugn-; PAST: giunsi.
  26. cíngere ('to gird'), piángere ('to weep'), pingere ('to paint'), stringere ('to bind'), tingere ('to dye'), ungere ('to anoint'), are inflected like giungere, on two stems.

### 37. THIRD CONJUGATION IRREGULAR FORMS:

1. morire ('to die'): PRES. IND.: muoio (or muoro), muoi or muori, muore, muoiamo or moriamo, morite, muóiono or muórono; PAST: moríi; FUT.: morro or moriro; PRES. SUBJ.: muoia or muora, muóia or muora, muoiamo or moriamo, muoiate, muóiano or muóran.
2. venire ('to come'): PRES. IND.: vengo or vegno, viene, viene, veniamo venite, véngono or végnono; PAST: venni; FUT.: verò; PRES. SUBJ.: venga or vegna, venga or vegna, venga or vegna, veniamo, veniate, vengano or vegnano.
3. udire ('to hear'): PRES. IND.: odo, odi, ode, udiamo, udite, ódono; PAST: udii; FUT.: udirò or udrò; PRES. SUBJ.: oda, oda, oda, udiamo udiate, ódano.
4. salire ('to ascend'): PRES. IND.: salgo (or salisco), sali or salisci, sale or salisce, saliamo or sagliamo, salite, sálgono or saliscono; PAST: salíi or salsi; PRES. SUBJ.: salga or salisca, salga or salisca, salga or salisca, saliamo or sagliamo, sagliate, sálgano or saliscano.
5. uscire or escire ('to go out'): PRES. IND.: esco, esci, esce, usciamo, uscite, escono; PAST: uscii; PRES. SUBJ.: esca, esca, esca, usciamo usciate, escano.

### 38. IDIOMS WITH VERBS

1. Idioms with averé: aver caldo ('to be warm'), aver freddo ('to be cold'), aver sonno ('to be sleepy'), aver fretta ('to be in a hurry'), aver giudizio ('to be sensible'), aver paura ('to be afraid'), aver ragione ('to be right'), aver torto ('to be wrong'), aver anni ('to be... years old'); e.g., abbiamo freddo 'we are cold', Luigi ha venticinque anni 'Louis is 25 years old'.
2. Idioms with essere: essere in pensiero ('to be worried'), essere in pena ('to be anxious').
3. Idioms with andare: andare a cavallo ('to ride horseback'), andare a piedi ('to walk'), andare a fondo ('to sink to the bottom').
4. Idioms with dare: dar fuoco ('to set afire'), dar da intendere ('to make one believe'), dar del Lei ('to address one in the polite form',

- 'to be formal').
5. Idioms with fare: fare with an infinitive means to have someone else do the action, e.g., Ho fatto scrivere una lettera 'I have had a letter written'; far fare ('to have made'); far bel tempo ('to be good weather'), far male ('to hurt'), far un giro ('to take a stroll'), far il sarto, etc. ('to be a tailor', etc.), far domanda ('to ask').
  6. Idioms with stare: star bene, male ('to be comfortable, uncomfortable', 'to look well, bad'), star in pena ('to be worried'); stare with gerund means continued present action, e.g., sto cercando 'I am looking for'

### 39. SYNTAX

Italian syntax is extremely easy, being for the most part identical with the corresponding construction in either Latin or English. It will help to note a few points:

1. THE INFINITIVE is often used with the article as subject or object of a verb or preposition where English would use a gerund in -ing; e.g., Mi piace il studiare ('I like studying'); Invece di dirmi ('Instead of telling me...'). After fare, sentire, udire, vedere, lasciare ('to let'), and the preposition da, an active infinitive has passive sense; e.g., Faro fondare una scuola 'I will have a school founded'; I ho sentito dire 'I have heard it said'; Non vi lasciate ingannare 'Do not let yourselves be deceived'; Che cosa è da darle? 'What can be given him?', etc.
- An infinitive after a can stand for a whole conditional clause:  
A dirlo, sarai ucciso 'If you say that, you will be killed'. An infinitive is also used to express a negative command in the singular:  
Non lo ricevere 'Don't accept it!'
2. THE GERUND can stand for a whole conditional clause, just as a with the infinitive: dicendolo, sarai ucciso 'If you say it, you will be killed'.
3. THE FUTURE is used to express future action antecedent to another future act, where Latin would have the future-perfect and English the present: Quando lo farò, glielo darò 'When I make it, I shall give it to him'. The future is also used to express probability, concession, with no idea of futurity: Avrà molti amici 'He probably has many friends'; Saranno ricchi, ma non sono felici 'They may indeed be rich, but they are not happy'.
4. THE CONDITIONAL is used only in the conclusion of a conditional sentence or of a 'should-would' construction, or in indirect discourse after a past main verb to express what in direct discourse would be future. The tense of the conditional form is the present except when it means 'would have' -- in past contrary to fact. The verb in the conditional or 'if-clause' is never the conditional tense, but the imperfect subjunctive (or past subj.) in a 'should-would' or present contrary to fact construction, the pluperfect subjunctive in a past contrary to fact sentence.

Thus: (1) Past indirect discourse: Disse che lo pagerebbe 'He said he would pay it'.

(2) 'Should-would' Se vi andasse, morrebbe 'If he should go there,

he would die'.

- (3) Potential (incomplete 'should-would'): Sarebbe buon re 'He would be a good king'.
- (4) Present contrary to fact: Se avessi (abbia avuto) quel libro, sarei contento 'If I had that book I would be satisfied'.
- (5) Past contrary to fact: Se fosse venuto, l'avrei ucciso 'If he had come, I would have killed him.'
  - (a) Rarely, an imperfect indicative may replace the subjunctive or conditional form in either the 'if-clause' or the conclusion or both, e.g.: Se veniva, lo uccideva 'If he had come, I would have killed him'.

Simple factual conditional sentences take the indicative in both clauses. Thus:

(1) Se non è vero, è ben trovato 'If it's not true, it's a clever fiction'.

(2) Se lo fece, sarà punito 'If he did it, he will be punished'.

NOTE: English 'may, might, can could' are properly expressed by the corresponding tense and form of potere; 'must, should, ought' by dovere; 'would' expressing volition, by volere.

Thus: Potrebbe essere vero 'It might (could) be true'; Deve pagarlo 'He ought to pay him'.

5. THE SUBJUNCTIVE is used very much as in Latin, in all constructions depending on a main verb of saying, thinking, wishing, feeling, etc. and wherever the subordinate thought is indefinite, speculative, merely reported rather than affirmed. It is also used after an impersonal verb; after a superlative or the ideas 'first, last, only'; in indirect discourse and indirect questions; and in relative clauses which restrict the antecedent main verb to one particular verification of all its possible applications. Thus:

Disse ch'il quadro fosse bello 'He said the picture was beautiful'.

Desidero che t'acca 'I want him to be silent' (I desire that he be silent').

Chiunque sia, non lo riceverò 'Whoever he may be, I shall not receive him'.

Si muoia oggi, perdurerà il mondo 'If I should die today, the world will go on!'

Dicono che sia santo 'They say he is a Saint'. (maybe he is, maybe not)

E giusto che parli ora 'It is proper that you now speak'.

Scrisse il più bello libro ch'io conosca 'He wrote the finest book I know of'.

Domando se il Papa fosse eletto 'He asked whether the Pope had been elected'.

Vorrei vedere un poema che tu abbia scritto 'I'd like to see some poem you have written'. (but I am not now interested in seeing anyone else's)

A present subjunctive also supplies the missing 1st and 3rd persons of the imperative: Viva il re! Muoiano tutti traditori! 'Long live the

King! Let all traitors die!'

A past subjunctive is used to express a wish unlikely of fulfillment: Fosse vero! 'Would it were true!' Venissero ora! 'If only they would come now!'

6. A DOUBLE NEGATIVE is employed with the negations niente, nulla, nessuno, e.g.: Non ho niente (nulla) 'I don't have anything'; Non vedo nessuno 'I don't see anyone'.

#### 40. RULES FOR RECOGNIZING DISGUISED LATIN ORIGINALS OF ITALIAN WORDS

The great majority of Italian words come from late colloquial Latin. In many, this Latin origin is transparent; in many others it is somewhat disguised by the changes in ending and spelling the words have undergone according to regular principles of linguistic development\* and the peculiar usage of Italian speech. The following 26 rules exhibit and illustrate the main changes involved in the process. One who is familiar with them will readily see through the externals of most Italian words their Latin original, and thus immediately perceive their meaning, at least in context. Of course there are some exceptions and irregularities not wholly fitting in with the rules as given, and some words undergo a second change after that accounted for by regular rules. But in a vast majority of cases, the rules will explain the relationship of a word to its Latin original. Certain technical, literary, learned words introduced by scholars at a late stage of the language (as in English also) are much closer to the Latin form itself, as not being natural outgrowths of Latin in common speech. (NB: in the rules which follow, the word 'to' means 'becomes', 'changes into'. Note that the Italian form most closely parallels the ablative singular of the Latin: libro, pace, libertà(te), etc.):

- ✓ 1. Final m, t, c, s, d, st drop: altum to alto; dat to da; sic to si; foris to fuori; corpus to corpo; ad to a; est to e, etc. (i.e., all Latin final consonants drop except n (con, in), r (per).
- ✓ 2. A vowel between consonants in the penult often drops: domina to donna, altera to altra, aspera to aspra, calido to caldo, viride to verde, etc.
- ✓ 3. An internal i may drop: directo to dritto, civitate to città, etc.
- ✓ 4. i and e often interchange: si to se ('if'), se to si ('self'), dicto to detto, capillo to capello, magistro to maestro, bibere to bevere; meliore to migliore, sicuro to sicuro.
- 5. Short stressed e to ie: pede to piede, tenet to tiene, tepido to tiepido, etc.
- 6. Short stressed o to uo: potest to puo, novo to nuovo, homo to uomo, etc.
- 7. au to o, a, u: paucu to poco, causa to cosa, aut to o, paupere to povero; Augusto to Agosto, ausculto to ascolto; audire to udire, auriculio to orecchio, etc.

\*Cf. similar changes in Latin itself: primitive pat-tus becoming passus, miliētis becoming miliēs, ag-tus becoming actus, etc.

8. u sometimes to o: multo to molto, cum to con, mulier to moglie, etc.
- ✓ 9. ct, pt, to tt: dicto to detto, octo to otto; scripto to scritto, septem to sette, etc.
10. b before a consonant may drop out or assimilate: obstare to ostare; subdito to suddito.
- ✓ 11. b, and occasionally p, between vowels may change to v: habere to avere, amabat to amava; ripa to riva.
12. Internal g may drop or double: nigro to nero, lege to legge, etc.
- ✓ 13. Initial pl, cl, fl to pi, chi, fi: pleno to pieno; clave to chiave, declaro to dichiaro; flamma to fiamma; similarly, initial gl may change to ghi: glacies to ghiaccio, gleba to ghiova.
- ✓ 14. Internal l to gl (=ly) or drops: consilio to consiglio, filia to figlia, valeamus to vagliamo; nebula to nebbia, circulo to cerchio, vetulus to vecchio, oculo to occhio, etc.
15. Internal n, ln, mn before a vowel to gn(=ny): balneo to bagno, omne to ogni.
16. ns to s: sponsa to sposa, insula to isola, conscientia to coscienza, etc.
17. Internal r may change to l before another syllable with r: arbore to albero, peregrino to pellegrino.
- ✓ 18. Internal ti, si di to zz or gi: palatio to palazzo, medio to mezzo, pretio to prezzo or pregio, statiione to stagione, occasione to cagione, Ambrosio to Ambrogio, etc.
19. Final -tia to -za: scientia to scienza, sapientia to sapienza, etc.
- ✓ 20. v occasionally changes to gu to keep near the old Latin u-sound: visa to guisa, vastare to guastare.
- ✓ 21. j to gg: pejore to peggiore, majore to maggiore, objecto to oggetto.
- ✓ 22. x to s(s): exemplo to esempio, exprimere to esprimere, dixit to disse, maximo to massimo.
- ✓ 23. Initial qu to ch: quem to che, quis to chi, quid to che; but may remain: quando, etc.
24. Initial s occasionally changes to sc: simia to scimmia.
- ✓ 25. Initial syllable sometimes drops: ecclesia to chiesa, inimico to nemico, historia to storia, infantulo to fanciullo, etc.
- ✓ 26. Initial dis- or ex- often changes to s: dispicet to spiace, discolorare to scolorare, excavare to scavare.
41. A BASIC ITALIAN VOCABULARY OF IMPORTANT WORDS NOT FROM LATIN OR NOT OBVIOUS BY RULE

## VERBS

- ✓ afferrare: grasp, seize  
 ✓ affrettarsi: hurry  
aver bisogno di, abbisognare: have need of  
ballare: dance  
bastare: suffice  
bestemmiare: curse, swear  
bruciare: burn
- ✓ burlarsi di: laugh at  
cacciare: hunt  
camminare: walk  
compitare: spell  
cucire: sew  
fondere: melt  
gettare, lanciare: throw

- gonfiare: inflate  
graffiare: scratch  
gridare: cry out, shout  
guadagnare: earn  
guardare: look at  
guarire: heal, cure  
impiegare: employ, hire  
indovinare: guess  
ingannare: deceive  
✓ lagnarsi (di): complain about  
lusingare: flatter  
mangiare: eat  
nascondere: hide  
raschiare: scrape  
riguardare: concern  
✓ rincrescersi: be sorry  
povesciare: upset

- affrancatura, 1': postage  
albergo, 1': hotel  
anca, 1': hip  
arnese, 1' (m.): tool  
artiglio, 1': claw  
ascia, 1': axe  
asciugamano, 1': towel  
avviso, 1': notice, warning  
bastimento, il: ship  
baule, il: trunk  
bicchiere, il: a glass  
biglietto, il: ticket  
bocca, la: mouth  
bosco, il: forest, thicket  
brocca, la: jug  
buco, il: hole  
bue, il: ox  
bugia, la: lie  
busta, la: envelope  
cambiamento, il: exchange  
cameriere, il: waiter  
campagna, la: country (rural)  
campione, il: sample  
canto, il: street-corner  
capotreno, il: conductor

*- hanche**bovis*

## VERBS, Cont.

- ✓ sbagliarsi: err, make mistake  
✓ sbarazzarsi di: get rid of  
✓ scacciare: chase away  
schiauciare: crush  
scivolare: slip  
✓ scoppiare: burst  
scuotere: shake, agitate  
spazzolare: brush  
✓ spiegicare: extinguish  
✓ spezzare: break  
✓ spingere: push  
strappare: pull out  
✓ sviluppare: develop  
✓ tagliare: cut  
✓ tirare: pull  
tuffarsi: dive  
✓ vantarsi (di): boast of

## NOUNS

- cárico, il: load, cargo  
carnagione, la: complexion  
caviglia, la: ankle  
chiodo, il: nail  
cima, la: summit  
ciuco, il: donkey  
codardia, la: cowardice  
cómrito, il: task  
contadino, il: peasant  
conto, il: bill of charges  
corriere, il: messenger, mail  
cucchiaio, il: spoon  
cugina, il, la: cousin  
dogona, la: customs  
doménica: Sunday  
duomo, il: cathedral  
facchino, il: porter  
fango, il: mud  
farfalla, la: butterfly  
fattoria, la: farm  
febbraio: February  
ferita, la: injury, wound  
firma, la: signature  
folla, la: crowd  
forbici, le: scissors

fornai, il: baker  
 ✓ forza, la: force  
 ✓ francobollo, il: stamp  
 ✓ fretta, la: haste  
 ✓ fucile, il: gun  
 ✓ gamba, la: leg  
 ✓ gennaio: January  
 ✓ ginocchio (L:genu): knee  
 ✓ giovedì: Thursday  
 ✓ giuoco, il: game, play  
 ✓ gomito, il: elbow  
 ✓ gomma, la: eraser, a rubber  
 ✓ guancia, la: cheek  
 ✓ guanciale, il: pillow  
 ✓ Iddio (vDomine<d>dio): God  
 ✓ impiegato, l': employee  
 ✓ impresa, l': enterprise  
 ✓ indirizzo, l': letter-address  
 ✓ Inghilterra, l': England  
 ✓ inglese, un: an Englishman  
 ✓ inverno, l': Winter  
 ✓ lepre, la: hare  
 ✓ lotta, la: struggle  
 ✓ luglio: July  
 ✓ lunedì: Monday  
 macellaio, il: butcher  
 ✓ mancanza, la: lack, want  
 mancia, la: tip  
 ✓ marciapiede, il: pavement  
 martedì: Tuesday  
 matita, la: pencil  
 marea, la: tide  
 mercoledì: Wednesday  
 moglie, la: woman, wife  
 mucchio, il: heap  
 nonna, la: grandmother  
 ✓ nonno, il: grandfather  
 orlo, l': edge, border  
 ovest, l': the west  
 ✓ paese, il: country, nation  
 palla, la: ball  
 paniere, il: basket  
 ✓ paura, la: fear (L: pavor)

✓ pezzo, il: piece  
 piatto, il: dish, plate  
 ✓ pioggia (L:pluvio): rain  
 polso, il: wrist  
 posto, il: seat, place  
 ✓ prete, il: priest  
 ✓ pulizia, la: cleanliness  
 ✓ primavera, la: Spring  
 ✓ raffreddore, il: a cold  
 ✓ ragazza, la: girl  
 ✓ ragazzo, il: boy  
 ✓ regalo, il: gift, present  
 ✓ romanzo, il: a novel  
 rugiada, la: dew  
 ruscello, il: stream  
 ✓ sabato: Saturday  
 ✓ sabbia, la: sand  
 scatola, la: box  
 ✓ scelta, la: choice  
 ✓ scherzo, la: joke, fun  
 ✓ schifo, lo: disgust  
 scoglio, lo: rock  
 secchio, il: bucket  
 sega, la: saw  
 sentiero, il: country path  
 ✓ settimana, la: week  
 ✓ sforzo, lo: effort  
 ✓ sguardo, lo: glance, look  
 ✓ soffitto, il: ceiling  
 ✓ spiaggia, la: beach  
 spiccioli, gli: small change  
 ✓ stagione, la: season of year  
 ✓ tazza, la: cup  
 ✓ tedesco, il: a German  
 ✓ tramonto, il: sunset  
 tranvai, il: trolley car  
 uccello, l': bird  
 ✓ valigia, la: suitcase, valise  
 venerdì: Friday  
 vergogna, la: shame, modesty  
 vettura, la: car of a train, coach  
 ✓ zia, la: zio, lo: aunt, uncle  
 zoccolo, lo: hoof, sandals

cattivo: bad, wicked  
 fresco: cool, fresh  
 gradevole: agreeable  
 grigio: gray  
 pggro, leggiro: light  
 liscio: smooth  
 lontano: distant  
 marrone: brown  
 ✓ medesimo (L. met-ipsimus, a, um:  
 me-met-ipsum, etc.): same

## ADJECTIVES

orgoglioso: proud, haughty  
 pazzo: mad, crazy  
 pesante: heavy  
 piccolo: small, little  
 saggio: wise  
 sciocco: foolish  
 sciolto: loose, slack, free  
 smussato: smooth  
 stanco: tired  
 straniero: strange, foreign

allora: then, at that time  
 almeno: at least  
 altrove: elsewhere  
 ancora: again, yet, still, also  
 appena: hardly, scarcely  
 apposta: on purpose  
 assai: enough  
 attraverso: through, across  
 così: thus, so  
 appertutto: everywhere  
 domani: tomorrow  
 dovunque: anywhere, wherever  
 due volte: twice  
 fa: ago (due giorni fa)  
 finora: hitherto  
 già (L:iam): already, once  
 fu, abasso: below, down

## ADVERBS

indietro: backward  
 inoltre: besides, furthermore  
 insieme: together  
 insù: upward  
 là: there; al di là: beyond  
 mai: ever; never  
 oggi (L:odie): today  
 perfino: even  
 pian piano: slowly  
 poi (L:postea): then, after  
 presto: quickly  
 qua, qui: here, hither  
 soltanto: only  
 spesso: often  
 talvolta: at times  
 tre volte: three times  
 una volta: once

## 42. ILLUSTRATIVE READINGS FOR PRACTICE

1. GIOVANNI PAPINI, Storia di Cristo, pp. 141-144: The Essence of Christianity:  
 "Voi dunque siate perfetti com'è perfetto il Padre vostro celeste."  
 Poche parole, nude, piane, senza filosofia: ma sono la magna carta della nuova razza, della terza razza non ancor nata. La prima fu quella delle bestie senza Legge, e il suo nome fu guerra; la seconda, dei Barbari dirottati alla Legge, e la suo più alta perfezione fu la Giustizia, ed è la razza che dura ancora, e la Legge non ha ancora finito di soppiantare la Bestialità. La terza dev'esser la razza degli Uomini veri, non soltanto Giusti ma Santi, non omiglianti alle Bestie ma a Dio.

L'idea di Gesù è una sola, questa sola; trasformare gli Uomini da Bestie in Santi per mezzo dell'Amore.... Per approssimarsi alla Santità, bisogna mirare alla Divinità. Siate santi, perché Dio è santo. Siate perfetti, perché Dio è perfetto.

\* race, <sup>2</sup> rough-hewn

Chi ricuserà d'esser simile a Dio, d'essere con Dio? 'Dii estis' La divinità è in noi; la bestialità la fascia<sup>1</sup> e la stringe come una mala corteccia che ritarda la nostra crescenza. Chi non vorrà esser Dio? Siete davvero contenti, uomini, d'essere uomini, uomini come oggi siete, mezzi uomini e mezze bestie...? Siete così soddisfatti della vostra umanità bastarda e imperfetta, della vostra animalità appena infrenata, della vostra santità soltanto desiderata? Vi pare che la vita degli uomini come ieri fu, com'è oggi, sia così cara, contenta, beata che non si debba nulla tentare perché non sia più così, perchè sia tutta diversa, opposta a questa, più simile a quella che da millenni immaginiamo nel futuro e nel cielo? Non si potrebbe di questa vita fare un'altra vita, mutare questo mondo in un mondo più divino, far discendere, alla fine, il cielo, la legge del cielo, sulla terra?

Questa nuova vita, questo mondo terreno ma celeste, è il Regno dei Cieli. E perchè il Regno venga, noi dobbiamo inciuciare, indiare, trasumanare noi stessi; diventare<sup>2</sup> simili a Dio; imitare Iddio. Il segreto della imitazione d'Iddio è l'Amore, la via certa della trasumanazione è l'Amore, l'amore dell'uomo per l'uomo, l'amore dell'amico e del nemico. Se quest'amore è impossibile, la nostra salvezza è impossibile. S'è repugnante, è segno che ci repugna la felicità. S'è assurdo, le nostre speranze di redenzione non sono che assurdità.

2. SILVIO PELLICO, Le Mie Prigioni: Memorie, p. 207-8: His Release from Persecution:

Chi mai, chi mai potrebbe descrivere la consolazione del mio cuore e dei cuori a me diletti, quando rivedi e riabbracciai padre, madre, fratelli? Non vi era la mia sorella Giuseppina, che il dover suo teneva a Chieri, ma udita la mia felicità, s'affrettò a venire per alcuni giorni in famiglia. Renduto a que' cinque carissimi oggetti della mia tenerezza, io era il più invidiabile dei mortali.

Ah! delle passate sciagure<sup>3</sup> e della contentezza presente, come di tutto il bene ed il male che mi sarà serbato, sia benedetta la Provvidenza, della quale gli uomini e le cose, si voglia o non si voglia, sono mirabili strumenti ch'ella sa adoperare a fini degni di sé.

3. GUIDA DI NAPOLI, p. 15, 21: "Qui troviamo il Vesuvio, unico vulcano attivo continentale d'Europa, che da migliaia<sup>4</sup> di anni continua a gettare<sup>5</sup> sulla pianura<sup>6</sup> e nell'atmosfera campana i suoi prodotti solidi e fluidi, i quali, mentre seminano alle volte terrore e morte, fertilizzano il terreno in modo de determinare la più ricca vegetazione. Qui troviamo ancora i Campi Flegrei, che con le loro innumerevoli esplosioni hanno modellato il più bel paesaggio<sup>7</sup> del mondo.

Napoli fu, durante tutta l'antichità classica, una fra le più considerevoli città della Campania, situata in posizione privilegiata per bellezza naturale e per vantaggi commerciali, nella zona settentrionale dell'ampio golfo che da essa tuttora<sup>8</sup> prende il nome. Tutti gli storici de età classica la consideravano città greca, e ne attribuivano per lo più la fondazione a coloni venuti dalla vicina Cumae.

<sup>1</sup> load down, burden <sup>2</sup> to become <sup>3</sup> misfortunes <sup>4</sup> thousands <sup>5</sup> spout, throw out  
<sup>6</sup> plain <sup>7</sup> countryside <sup>8</sup> still

4. F. X. Calcagno, S. J., Ascetica Ignaziana, parte II, vol. I, p. 47:  
God Working for Us:

Maggiore meraviglia<sup>1</sup> è che Dio stesso non teme di avvilire la sua dignità coll'adoperare la sua potenza in vantaggio dell'uomo. 'Ma ciò che sorpassa tutto è che Voi medesimo vi siete degnato di servire all'uomo' (De Imitatione Christi 3. 10). Il Signore è sempre occupato a lavorare per noi. Lavora per mantenerci in vita, poichè se cessasse per un solo istante l'azione conservativa di Dio, cadremmo subito nel nulla dal quale siamo usciti per mezzo della creazione. Lavora per aiutarci ad operare, perchè senza il concorso immediato di Dio nelle azioni che facciamo, ci mancherebbe<sup>2</sup> la virtù sufficiente per l'esercizio della nostra attività. Lavora nell'ordine della grazia, somministrandoci gli aiuti soprannaturali necessari per i nostri bisogni spirituali, e promovendo in tutti i modi l'opera della nostra santificazione.

5. DANTE, Vita Nuova 1-2: His First Meeting with Beatrice:

In quella parte del libro de la mia memoria dinanzi a la quale poco si potrebbe leggere, si trova una rubrica la quale dice: "Incipit vita nova." Sotto la quale rubrica io trovo scritte le parole le quali e mio intendimento d'assemplare in questo libello; e se non tutte, almeno la loro sentenza.

Nove fiate<sup>3</sup> già appresso lo mio nascimento era tornato lo cielo de la luce quasi a uno medesimo punto... quando a li miei occhi apparve prima la gloriosa donna de la mia mente, la quale fu chiamata da molti Beatrice, li quali non sapeano che si chiamare... Apparve vestita di nobilissimo colore, umile e onesto, sanguigno, cinta e ornata a la guisa che a la sua giovanissima etade si convenia. In quello punto dico veracemente che lo spirito de la vita, lo quale dimora ne la secretissima camera de lo cuore, comincia a tremare sì fortemente, che apparirà ne li menimi polsi orribilmente; e tremando disse queste parole: "Ecce deus fortior me, qui veniens dominabitur mihi."

6. DANTE, Paradiso 33. 1-21:

St. Bernard's Praise of Mary

"Vergine madre, figlia del tuo figlio,  
umile e alta più che creatura,  
termine fisso d'eterno consiglio,  
tu se' colei che l'umana natura  
nobilitasti sì, che 'l suo fattore  
non disdegno di farsi sua fattura.  
Nel ventre tuo si raccese l'amore  
per lo cui caldo nell'eterna pace  
così è germinato questo fiore.

Qui se' a noi meridiana face  
di caritate, e giuso<sup>4</sup>, intra i mortali,  
se' di speranza fontana vivace.  
Donna, se' tanto grande e tanto vali,  
che qual vuol grazia ed a te non ricorre,  
sua disianza vuol volar sanz' ali.  
La tua benignità non pur<sup>5</sup> soccorre

<sup>1</sup> marvel <sup>2</sup> mancare' to be lacking <sup>3</sup> times <sup>4</sup> down below <sup>5</sup> only, solely

a chi domanda, ma molte fiate  
liberamente al dimandar precorre.  
In te misericordia, in te pietate,  
in te magnificenza, in te s'aduna  
quantunque in creatura<sup>e</sup> di bontate!"

7. DANTE, Paradiso 27. 1-9:

The Universe Sings God's Glory

"Al Padre, al Figlio, allo Spirito Santo"  
cominciò "gloria!" tutto il paradiso,  
sì che m'inebriava il dolce canto.  
Ciò ch'io vedeva mi sembrava un riso  
dell'universo; per che mia ebbrezza  
intrava per l'udire e per lo viso.  
Oh gioia! oh ineffabile allegrezza!<sup>2</sup>  
oh vita integra d'amore e di pace!  
oh sanza brama<sup>3</sup> sicura ricchezza!

<sup>1</sup> seemed <sup>2</sup> delight <sup>3</sup> desire, longing