

ITALIAN (ITN315115)

EXAMINATION ASSESSMENT REPORT

GENERAL COMMENTS

Overall students performed well in this exam and it was pleasing to see that only very few left any gaps.

It was evident, however, that students had an over-reliance on dictionaries. Over-use of dictionaries robs candidates of valuable exam time and students must be urged to build their store of vocabulary throughout the year.

Students sometimes failed to provide enough detail in their responses for the reading and listening sections. Some even mixed languages for their answers. A reminder for students to read the instructions carefully – a general rule of thumb is that, if the question is in English, the response should be in English, and vice versa.

The greatest concern was that quite a few candidates did not read the actual questions carefully enough. It is recommended that they use the reading time to highlight important aspects of each question. This is particularly important for Part A, Listening and Responding. One example is in Text 1 “what is the *first* thing she is curious to learn about Matilde’s family?” Many students missed the “first” and listed one of the later queries she had. Another example is in Part 2, section A, Question 6, (g) which asks how the “grandmother” may have felt. Several candidates responded to how “Tina” may have felt. Therefore they lost marks, not only in that question, but in the subsequent question which was a follow-up to it.

As with the Oral section of the exam, Part 3 showed that the standard is improving every year and it appears that students really enjoy studying Italian. The only grammar point which stood out as an issue, is the “Passato Prossimo”(perfect tense).

Apart from Question 13, there was an even distribution of choice of writing topics, with six candidates choosing question 9, four candidates for questions 10 and 12, and five choosing question 11.

To earn a good mark in this section markers were looking for evidence of a wide range of structures and vocabulary with appropriate use of both simple and complex sentences.

In the orals, the examiners were particularly impressed with candidates' self-correction which shows that the students are reflecting on their responses rather than simply relying on rote learning. Students who had prepared well demonstrated confidence and were able to engage in a genuine conversation.

LISTEN TO THE EMAIL BEING READ OUT AND ANSWER, IN ENGLISH, THE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW

SPOKEN TEXT I

a) Her cousin	1 mark
b) If they speak English (1/2) at home (1/2)	1 mark
c) Studying at uni (1) or grown up (1) or live in another city (1)	1 mark
d) Famous (1/2) artist (1/2)	1 mark
e) They have so many (1/2) museums (1/2)	1 mark
f) Italian (1) indian (1)thai (1) spicy (1) any 3	3 marks
Total	/8

SPOKEN TEXT 2

a) Room 19 (1) for 16 nights (1)	2 mark
b) Because it is situated in the corridor/hallway (1) or next to his room (1)	1 mark
c) 30 (1/2) May (1/2)	1 mark
d) In the restaurant (1/2) near(1/2) the entrance (1/2) of the hotel (1/2)	2 marks
e) It's really close (1) From hotel go straight 100 m (1) Then turn right (1) Then left (1) cross big street (1) (any 3 pieces of information)	3 marks
f) Thinks it is too complicated (1) Asks the receptionist to take him there (1)	2 marks
g) Get changed	1 mark
Total	/12

SPOKEN TEXT 3

a) At 6.15	1 mark
b) Got out of bed (1) prepared a coffee (1) had a shower (1) (any 2 of these)	2 marks
c) Beautiful (1/2) New (1/2) jacket (1/2) grey (1/2) trousers (1/2) clean (1/2) shirt (1/2) tie (1/2) (any 6 pieces of information)	3 marks
d) Rode bike (1/2) to station (1/2), 20 mins (1/2) from his home (1/2) and then train (1/2) to centre / Bologna (1/2) then a bus (1/2) to the office (1/2) (any 6 pieces of information)	3 marks
e) Made an urgent (1/2) phone call (1/2)	1 mark
f) He had to wait an hour for the bus (1) It was silent in Bologna (1) Little traffic (1) Few people (1) (any three)	3 marks
g) It was Sunday (1)	1 mark
Total	/14

SPOKEN TEXT 4

a) How both Italy and Australia are getting tougher on people using phone whilst driving and also walking (general gist for 2 marks)	2 marks
b) 3 (1/2) months (1/2)	1 mark
c) Lose 5 points (1) and pay from 160 Euro (1)	2 marks
d) More than (1/2) a third (1/2) or 42 (1/2) % (1/2)	1 mark
e) People can be distracted (1/2) for up to 27 (1/2) seconds (1/2) after the interruption (1/2)	2 marks
f) They can never use the mobile whilst driving (1) or they must park to use phone	1 mark
g) Phone must be fixed/fastened/secured (1) and not obscure vision (1)	2 marks
h) Write messages (1) send emails (1) check social media (1) take photos (1) hold phone in your hand (1) (any 4)	4 marks
i) Pedestrians can't cross the road (1) looking at their mobile (1)	2 marks
j) Call in (1/2) to share their own (1/2) experiences (1/2) and opinions (1/2)	2 marks
Total	/19

SPOKEN TEXT 5

a) Wash the dishes (1) next week (1)	2 marks
b) Because he needed to study	1 mark
c) She is going out 1/2 with friends 1/2 or friends are coming over (1/2) to collect her (1/2)	1 mark
d) He thinks is not treated the same as his sister just because he is younger (anything similar)	2 marks
e) Go out too (1) or he won't study tonight(1)	1 mark
Total	/7

READING COMPREHENSIONS

QUESTION 6

- a) At her grandmother's / I in the countryside / I (2 marks)
- b) 1-2 (1) months / I or every (1) summer (1) (2 marks)
- c) Because they lived far away / I in France / I (2 marks)
- d) Very beautiful ½ , house ½ old ½ , 15 ½ rooms ½ a tower ½ , pond ½ in the middle ½ of the garden ½ full of fish ½ (any six elements) (3 marks)
- e) Bike riding, fishing, running, climbing trees, hiding, playing with the cats, sitting under a tree, telling stories, reading ½ each – any 6 (3 marks)
- f) (i) Write her a card / I (2 marks)
(ii) NO, as she would always forget, / I or NO, her head was full of other things such as sun, trees, cats stories and cousins / I (2 marks)
- g) Which of the words below describes how the grandmother may have felt at times. Choose only one answer (2 marks)
- sad
- frustrated
- happy
- nostalgic
- a) She says she didn't know how to keep them calm. Or they were always hungry or they played practical jokes e.g. throwing water on each other or she couldn't get them to sleep (4 marks)
(any two)
- b) (2 marks)
- City life
- My cousins
- Games and activities
- Summer memories

Total /24