

# **Italian Conversations**

## **Parallel text**

**Phrases and Short sentences**

**No exercises**

**No questions**

**No puzzles**

**No cartoons**

**National Library of Australia**

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**Consult my Grammar in a Nutshell**

# Romance languages and more

## National Library of Australia

Compared to English, Romance languages are as complex as a Persian carpet. Regular verbs alone have 17 Tenses and Compound Tenses, each one consisting of six different patterns, a different one for each person, that's why personal pronouns are not used unless to emphasise(except in French). And yet, millions of people have been speaking these languages for thousands of years.

Humans are born with the ability to invent and use linguistic complexities, because the brain is a pattern making – and a pattern using system.(Edward de Bono)

- |  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1.English-Italian Course+Supplement    | <b>PHRASES</b>           |
| 2.English-Spanish Course+Supplement    | <b>&amp;</b>             |
| 3.English-Portuguese Course+Supplement | <b>SHORT SENTENCES</b>   |
| 4.English-French Course+Supplement     | <b>ENGLISH COMPANION</b> |

To visualise the stories

- All the above courses together with English-Hungarian, English-Romanian, English-Dutch and English-German(Deutch) have a **Parallel Text** and contain 100 lessons for advanced students.
- **Amazingly unique: ALL BOOKS** have the **same English text!**

The Supplements for beginners and teachers contain the first 50.

I hereby sincerely thank all those people who accepted the complex task to translate my English text. Their excellence will be appreciated for a very long time by people all over the world. Also thanks of course to the secretary who had the amazing ability to fluently type all lessons in 7 languages without being able to speak them!

### 1. **Extraordinary and revolutionary textbooks.**

As an introduction, all lessons start with

1. **Pronunciation practise** using stress rules, highlighted syllables and personal phonetics. When in doubt, consult a dictionary. The stress is on the syllable after': fan'tastic.

2. **Derivatives**-some A-4 pages can contain as many as **50**! That's why it's easier for English speaking people to learn Romance languages because they have already used them for quite a while without realising it because stress is usually on a different syllable: **conference-conferenza**(Italian). Without its grammatical complexity, English could be called a Latin dialect. No wonder it has become an International communication medium.

Sometimes, recognising derivatives may require the knowledge of English words you've never used: **salutare**(It), **salutary**.

Not so obvious ones: **ushire**(It); **usher** – **dichiarare**(It), **declare** – **cercare**(search).

Some words consist of 2 parts: **settimane**(It)- 7 mornings, **cumpleanno**-complete a year(birthday). However, once you have started the habit of finding answers, you'll improve.

Teachers should give tests to find out the linguistic capability of students. It's a good introduction to start learning a foreign language.

### 3. Cognates:

Apart from being aware of derivatives, it's helpful to have knowledge of **cognates**.

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the German brothers Grim-collectors of fables- discovered the relationship between Latin- and English letters.

**P & F: (Fish):** pisces-**p**esce-**p**ez-**p**eixe-**p**oisson (Dutch **v**is. German **f**isch)

(**F**oot):**p**ed, **p**iede, **p**ie, **p**é, **p**ied(**v**oet, **f**uss)

(**T**hou): **t**u, **t**ú

(**M**outh): **m**ent, **m**ento, **m**enton(**m**ond, **m**und)

(**B**rother): **f**rater, **f**ratello, **f**raternidade(**b**roeder)

(**F**ather): **p**ater, **p**adre(**v**ader, **F**ater)

(**H**earth): **c**oris, **c**uore, **c**orazon, **c**oracão, **c**œur

(**H**ound): **c**anis, **c**ane, **c**ão

(**H**undred): **c**entum, **c**ento, **c**ien, **c**em, **c**ent

(**L**ip): **l**abium, **l**abbro, **l**abio, **l**ábio, **l**èvre(**l**ip)

(**H**ibernate): **i**nverno, **i**nvierno, **i**nverno, **h**iver

## Others

Scrivere-scribe, travailler-labour,  
lavorare-labour, move-mobile-mover,  
sapore-sabor-savour

4. All courses have **the same** English text!

It means that if students want to learn more than one Romance language, they **only** have to **visualise** the English story **once**. **Visualisation** means mentally **seeing** the setting and mentally **hearing** what the actors **say**.

5. **An Educational First:**

The traditional, but useless request “Don’t forget” is now obsolete. The many notes help students to **Remember!** The often tricky spelling of English words can now also be **taught** by using **Word Building**: label-labelling, pistol-revolver, petrol-petroleum, receive-reception, two-twelve, table-tablet, final-finally.

**Eat words:**

**Breakfast**(break fasting!) – **tea** – **bread** **wheat** – **cereal** – **meadow**  
**lea** – **yeast** – **cream-** **peanut** butter – **meat** – **veal** – **steak** - **beans**  
**peas** – **pears** – **peaches**...

6. **Communication:**

Just as well children learn to speak before going to school because **script** is a mirror image of **speech**; language does not start with grammar!

Word order in any language is dictated by the **fluency** a sentence can be pronounced, not by rules! Consequently, it's better to train your ears to hear!

## 7. Sentences & Notes:

Lessons do not start with grammatical details, exercises and questions so students **cannot** make **mistakes**; they can only forget!

The notes **only** relate to a particular lesson:

- Differences between English and a Romance language are **highlighted**.
- Irregular verbs are usually written in full.
- Special attention is given to the **Preterit** and the **Subjunctive**, Tenses that don't exist in English, except: I wish I were...

Observations show how to say or write something in one language and how to say or write the same information in another one.

8. By eliminating the **Pareto Principle** - 80% of a textbook only contains 20% of the necessary information - my "Romance Grammars in a Nutshell" only have a quarter of the usual number of pages. They are based on the following wisdom:

1. If you explain too much, you explain nothing! ("The inner game of tennis" by Galwey).

2. The brain cannot absorb pure data; it has to be seen through the spectacles of an idea. (Edward de Bono)

One could now actually say that **one example** speaks a **thousand** words.

## 9. Pronunciation practise

- Stress rules are given in the Foreword of each supplement. Only the less common stress on a syllable is **highlighted**.
- To improve fluency of speech, the words are to be read **aloud** a couple of times, faster and faster because that will also foster an alert eye. In schools, teachers and students should do this exercise.
- Learning the meaning of words is not enough, students should listen to Radio-and T.V. programs to become aware of **intonation**, the **sound pattern** of phrases and sentences produced by **pitch variation** in the voice. However, older students will usually keep their native accent!

10. **Vocabulary**: Professional Memory Training Principles (see my "Creative Writing").

To improve learning translations, students must say aloud:

1. "I **want** to **remember**."
2. "**How** can I **remember**?"

Finding answers has to become a habit. Anything goes, as long as it works! Example: **Hambre** (Spanish for hunger) think **hamburger**!

11. Study suggestions:

- Initially, study time could be 10 minutes twice a day, preferably at a time when there are no other commitments.
- Phrases or short sentences should be read aloud while doing other chores.
- **Remember**: The Perfect Tense in conversations is translated by the Imperfect Tense.

- Write a summary of 10 sentences; repeat it during the day.
- Write a number of key-words in a sentence and use them to tell the story.
- **Mentally** translate the foreign lessons
- **Mentally** translate the English one by using the parallel text.

## 12. **Romance-English:** The evolution of language.

Part 1, a to n

From Romanian to Dutch & Deutch(German)

An interesting discovery for Dutch speaking students: Dutch is the only language that can pronounce **all** syllables of English words in order to learn their spelling:

English: UN**F**ORTUNATELY: 5 syllables

Dutch: UNFORTUN**A**TELY: all 6 syllables are pronounced.

English: EXRA**O**RINARY: 5 syllables

Dutch: EXTRAORDIN**A**RY: 7 syllables

**Note:** this exercise is done while saying **and** counting fingers!

# Foreword

## **The history of language**

Only humans have the necessary speech equipment: **langue(French) for tongue(a foreign tongue), larynx, teeth, lips, mouth, breath.**

Language started with pointing, mimics, gesture and bodily actions, ughs & grrrs. Eventually speech and signs. Many languages have come and gone; there are 6000 languages spoken today; some more than a billion people, some only by a few.

Languages evolved as rapidly as Homo Sapiens spread over the world. He is thought to be genetically wired to communicate with the discovery of a so-called language gene called FoxP2. The difference between human FoxP2 and the chimp FoxP2 is 2 amino acids.

## **THE LAST STEP TO PERFECTION**

- It took 40 years to improve teaching and learning a language!

I have replaced vocabularies by

## **PHRASES & SHORT SENTENCES**

It's important to read them aloud first. The use of **green** accented syllables helps to do that and will improve memorising them, because you use three of your five senses: **seeing, saying and listening**.

They are the simplest language units in communication and can be pronounced fluently; they are therefore easily remembered and repeated while doing other chores.

- It's the way a language is at first learnt orally.
- It's important to **visualise** the whole English story first.
- **Visualising** means **mentally seeing** the setting and **mentally hearing** what the actors **say**; it's the most important professional Memory Training Principle.

Saying just one word at the time is not speaking a language although saying queso instead of pointing to cheese is a beginning.

Both my Maths-and Languages text books have now become the only ones entirely based on acknowledged scientific principles rather than on thoughtless and compulsory habits.

**A NEW HABIT**

- When I go to bed, I first plan what's has to be done the next few days.
- All my new ideas were formed in bed.  
No wonder, it always takes a long time to fall asleep.
- Repeating phrases and sentences has now become a new activity with remarkable results. I can easily mentally repeat 6 or more lessons word for word.

However, when I look at the clock, I don't know what time it is 1 second later!

Mobile phone watchers are fast losing the art of visualising and to mentally remember what they have seen. At Subway, they check their phones rather than looking at the ingredients in front of them! At an early age, they will most probable suffer early dementia!

#### **NOTE**

When the lesson only contains isolated sentences, I have written the first one or two in **green** .

### **PHRASES AND SHORT SENTENCES**

The first eleven lessons already consist of short ones. You may like to separate them like lesson 12.

## Stress rules

1. **Stress** on the last syllable: words ending in a consonant **except** n or s: **Azul**-(h)**otel**(h always silent)-**Brasil**-**arroz**-**señor**-**uste**(d).

2. **Stress** on the 2<sup>nd</sup> last syllable: words ending in a vowel, n & s: **triste**-(h)**ablan**-**escriben**-**señoritas**, **señora**

3. **Stress** on the accented letters: **alemán**-**inglés**-**Canadá**-**está**-**café**-**también**-**sábado**-**jóven**-**exámen**-**lápiz**

Note: some words have the same spelling but only one has an accent: **el**(the), **él**(he), **dónde**(only in questions), **sí**(yes), **si**(if).

## Personal phonetics

The sonant(spoken vowel) in the English test words is the same as in the Spanish ones:

[but] – [car] – [oak] – [on] – [book] –  
[and] – [end] – [in] – [ee] – [door] – [say]  
– [sir] – [boy] – [my] – [now] – [go] –  
[loch] – [onion] – [by]

**Note:** the end e **always** sounds like the E in England[in]. So: café latte (milk coffee).

end      in

**Not** [ay]

## Study Guide

### 1. Visualisation

It is the most important Professional Memory Training Principle:

- Mentally **see** the setting of a story

- Mentally **hear** what the actors **say**
- **Invent** what they look like

Note: when the lesson contains unrelated phrases, each one should be visualised. It's amazing how it will improve memory.

Other examples:

1. When I want to go shopping, I make a list. I visualise the whole store and write what I **see**: bananas, cordial, grapes, beans...

**VISUALISATION** undoes the damage done by continuously watching your mobile phone.

## In un ristorante del centro

In a downtown restaurant

**Sergio e Maria mangiano**

Sergio and Maria eat

**in un ristorante del centro**

in a downtown restaurant

**Buona sera, signori- Che cosa **ordinano****

Good evening. What do you want to order

**Per primo piatto,**

For the first course,

**io prendo spaghetti al pomodoro.**

I'll have(take) spaghetti with tomato

**Poi un arrosto di vitello.**

then a veal roast.

**E per contorno, patate fritte?**

and for vegetables, chips?

**No, un'insalata verde, per piacere**

No, a green salad, please

**Tu Maria, cosa prendi?**

You Maria, what do you have?

**Io non mangia pasta stasera**

I won't eat pasta tonight

**Non ho molta fame**

I am not very hungry.

**Desidera una minestra allora?**

Do you want soup then?

**Si, una minestra di verdura**

Yes, a vegetable soup

**Certo signora.**

Certainly, mam.

**E per secondo piatto, cosa prende?**

And for the second course, what will you have?

**Del formaggio e delle frutta**

**Some** cheese and **some** fruit

**Che desiderano bere, vino bianco o rosso?**

What do you like to drink, white-or red wine?

**Mezzo litro di vino bianco, freddo**

Half a litre of cold white wine

**e anche una bottiglia di acqua minerale; ho sete**

and also a bottle of mineral water; I am thirsty

**Benissimo. E dopo, dolce e caffè?**

Very well. And then, dessert and coffee?

**Si, due gelati. Poi un espresso**

Yes, two icecreams. Then an espresso

**e un cappuccino per lei.**

and cappuccino for her.

**Grazie, signori... e buon appetito!**

Thanks and enjoy your meal!

**Ecco il conto...**

Here is the bill...

**E un bicchiere di spumanti-Offre la casa**

And a glass of spurmanti it's on the house

## **2.Alla stazione ferroviaria**

**Scusi, sa che treni ci sono oggi per Napoli?**

Excuse me, do you know which trains go to Napels today?

**Certo. A che ora desidera partire?**

**Certainly. At what time do you want to leave?**

**Dopo le due del pomeriggio**

**After 2 o'clock in the afternoon**

**C'è un diretto alle tredici e quindici**

**There is direct one at 1 o'clock and 3 o'clock pm**

**Poi un rápido alle dici otto e trenta.**

**Then a fast one at 6:30 pm.**

**Quando arriva a Napoli il diretto?**

**When does the direct one arrive at Napels?**

**Alle sedici e cinquantotto.**

**At 7:58.**

**Da che binario parte?**

**From which platform does it leave?**

**Dal binario número quattro.**

**From platform number 4.**

**Bene, prendo il diretto.**

**Good, I'll take the direct one.**

**Quanto costa il biglietto?**

**How much does the ticket cost?**

**Preferisce viaggiare in prima o seconda classe?**

**Do you prefer to travel in first or in second class?**

**In seconda, grazie. Costa 28 euro**

**In second class, thanks. It costs 28 euros**

**Ecco 30 euro. Ed ecco il resto.**

**Here is 30 euros. And here is the change.**

**Mille grazie.**

**Thanks a lot.**

**Prego, signorina. Buon viaggio!**

**You're welcome miss; bon voyage!**

### **3. Compleanno in famiglia**

#### **Family birthday**

**Ma, fra due giorni il babbo ha quarant'anni.**

**Ma, in two days, dad will be 40.**

**Che** facciamo per festeggiare il suo compleanno?

**What will we do to celebrate his birthday?**

**Andiamo tutti a mangiare fuori**

**Are we all going to eat out**

**Chi viene con noi?**

**Who is coming with us?**

**Lo zio Piero, sua moglie e i tuoi cugini**

**Uncle Peter, his wife and your cousins**

**I genitori del babbo vengono?**

**Do dad's parents come?**

**Soltanto la donna**

Only grandma.

**Il nonno è all'estero per affari.**

Grandpa is abroad on business.

**Domani però arriva la sorella di tuo padre**

However tomorrow your father's sister will come.

**Veramente? Che bella sorpresa per lui.**

Really? What a nice surprise for him.

**Viene anche suo marito?**

Does her husband also come?

**Si, vengono tutti e due.**

Yes, they both come.

**Così conosci finalmente I tuoi parenti canadesi.**

So you will finally know your Canadian relatives.

**Ma Luca, non dire nulla al babbo!**

But Lucas, don't say anything to your father!

## 4. In un albergo di Milano

In a hostel in Milan

**James** e Susan **visitano** per la prima volta l'Italia.

James and Susan visit Italy for the first time.

Quando **arrivano** alla stazione

When they arrive at the station

**prendono** subito un taxi.

they immediately take a taxi.

**Dopo pochi minuti,**

After a few minutes,

**entrano** in un albergo del centro.

they enter a hostel in the city center.

**Benvenuti a Milano signori!**

Wellcome in Milan, people!

Que **desideranno**? Ha una camera a due letti?

What would you like? Have you a room for two?

**Per quante notti? Per tre notti, forse quattro.**

**For how many nights? For 3 nights, perhaps 4.**

**Loro vengono dagli Stati Uniti. Da dove?**

**Do you come from the USA. From where?**

**Da Boston. Ecco i nostri passaporti**

**From Boston. Here are our passports**

**Abbiamo una camera libera,**

**We have a free room**

**al terzo piano, con bagno.**

**on the third floor, with bathroom.**

**Quanto viene al giorno?**

**How much per day?(does it come to)**

**\$150, colazione inclusa. Va bene?**

**\$150, breakfast included. Is that ok?**

**Si. Ecco le chiavi della loro camera.**

**Yes. Here are the keys to your room.**

**Se vogliono, possono mangiare**

**If you want, you can eat**

**Nel ristorante dell'albergo. Eccellente!**

**In the hostel restaurant. Excellent!**

**Grazie. A che ora apre il ristorante?**

**Thanks. At what time does the restaurant open?**

**Serviamo la colazione dalle sette alle dieci.**

**We serve breakfast from 7 till 10.**

**il pranzo da mezzo giorno alle 2:30.**

**Lunch from midday till 2:30.**

**La cena dalle venti alle ventidue.**

**From 8 to 10 pm**

**Scusi, dove posso comprare**

**Excuse me, where can I buy**

**qualche cartoline e **dei** francobolli?**

**some postcards and stamps?**

**Da un tabaccaio, signora.**

**At a tabacconist, mam.**

**C'è un tabaccaio qui vicino?**

**Is there a tabacconist nearby?**

**Sì, signora. Proprio davanti all'albergo**

**Yes, mam. Right in front of the hostel**

**Appena esce dalla porta.**

**Just when you go out of the door.**

**Grazie, lei è molto gentile.**

**Thanks, you are very kind.**

**Non c'è di che, signora.**

**Don't mention it, mam.**

## **5. A fare la spesa**

**Doing the shopping**

**Quando la signora Venturi va a fare la spesa,**

**When mrs Venturi is going to do the shopping,**

**passa sempre dal macellaio,**

**she always goes to the butcher,**

**dal fornaio e dal frutti vendolo**

**to the baker and to the green grocer**

**due volte al mese va anche**

**twice a month, she also goes**

**al supermercato per comprare**

**to the supermarket to buy**

**il latte, il burro, dell'olio d'oliva**

milk      butter,      olive oil

**e alcune uova.**

and a few eggs.

**-Vorrei due bistecche di manzo**

I would like two beef steaks

**Vanno bene queste? Sì, quanto pesano?**

Are these ok?(go)      yes, how heavy are they

**Trecento grammi ciascuna**

300      grams      each

**Va bene così. Altro?**

Is that ok?      anything else?

**Sì, sei etti di carne tritata.**

Yes, 600 grams of minced meat.

**Oggi non voglio pane, sólo mezzo chilo di pasta**

**Today I don't want bread, only half a kilo of pasta**

**Che tipo pasta? Pasta all'uovo.**

**What type of pasta? Egg pasta.**

**Signora, guardi che bella frutta!**

**Mam, look what a beautiful fruit!**

**Sì, è proprio bella!**

**Yes, it's really nice!**

**Prendo un chilo di mele e mezzo chilo di pere.**

**I'll have half a kilo of apples and half a kilo pears**

**Vuole anche **della** verdura fresca?**

**Do you also want **some** fresh greens?**

**Si, **degli** zucchini,**

**Yes, **some** zucchini,**

**un po' di **prezzemolo****

a bit of parsley  
e anche **dell'**aglio.

and also **some** garlic.

## 6. In una banca di Firenze

In a bank in Florence

Vorrei incassare **degli** assegni per viaggiatori.

I would like to cash in **some** travellers cheques.

Com'è il cambio del dollaro oggi?

What is the dollar exchange rate today?

Buono, più alto della settimana scorsa

Good, higher than last week

Quanto vuole cambiare?

How much do you want to change?

Trecento dóllari, ecco **il** mio passaporto.

300 dollars, here is my passport.

**Deve firmare gli assegni, per favore**

sign the cheques, please

**Certo. Quando è arrivata a Firenze?**

Certainly. When did you arrive in Florence?

**Pochi giorni fa.**

A few days ago.

**Ma lei parla molto bene L'italiano!**

But you speak Italian very well!

**Dove ha imparato?**

Where did you learn it?

**Negli Stati Uniti... all'università**

In the USA... at the university

**e da quanto tempo è in Italia?**

and how long are you in Italy?

**Da due settimane solamente.**

Since two weeks ago, only.

**Le** piace il nostro paese?

Do you like our country?(does our country please **you**)

**Molto, specialmente Firenze.**

Very much so, especially Florence.

**Una domanda per favore**

One question please

**Aprono domani le banche?**

Are the banks open tomorrow?

**No, il sabato tutte le banche sono chiuse.**

No, all the banks are closed on Saturday.

**Adesso può passare dal cassiere**

Now you can go to the cashier

**per ritirare il suo denaro.**

**to withdraw your money.**

**Grazie mille e arrivederla.**

**Thanks very much and see you later.**

## **7. Una visita médica**

**A visit to the doctor**

**La signora Sandri si preoccupa**

**Mrs Sandri is worried**

**delle salute di suo marito.**

**about the health of her husband.**

**Da qualche tempo Piero non si sente bene**

**For some time, Peter didn't feel well**

**Lei telefona al médico di famiglia**

**She rings the family doctor**

**e fa un appuntamento per **il** marito.**

**and makes an appointment for **her** husband.**

**Che cos'ha signor Sandri?**

**What's wrong Mr Sandri?**

**Non so veramente.**

**I don't know really.**

**Ho spesso un forte mal di testa...**

**I often have a strong headache...**

**e qualche dolore al petto.**

**and some chest pain.**

**Quando, la mattina prima di alzarsi?**

**When, before getting up in the morning?**

**No, generalmente la sera quando ritorno a casa.**

**No, generally at night when I come back home.**

**Lavora molto in questi giorni?**

**Do you work a lot these days?**

**Sì, sono molto occupato in ufficio**

**Yes, I am very busy in the office**

**C'è sempre tanto da fare.**

**There is always so much to do.**

**Vediamo **la** pressione del sangue**

**Let us see **your** blood pressure.**

**Bene, è normale. E **l'**appetito come va?**

**Good, it's normal. And how is **your** appetite?**

**Mangio regolarmente**

**I eat regulary**

**Ma sempre in fretta e furia**

**But always in a pressing hurry**

Seconde me, lei ha bisogno di riposarsi, di rilassarsi un po'

According to me, you need to rest and relax a bit

Però è meglio fare **delle** analisi.

But it is better to do **some** tests.

Devo andare **all'**ospedale? Quando?

Do I have to go to hospital? When?

Mercoledì mattina alle nove.

Wednesday morning at 9.

Così potrà ritornare da me lunedì prossimo

So you will be able to return to me next Monday

**Intanto**, prenda queste pillole per **il** mal di testa

Meanwhile, take these pills for **your** headache

Quante volte al giorno?

How many times a day?

Ogni quattro ore.

Every four hours

**Grazie, dottore. A lunedì...**

**Thanks, doctor. Till Monday...**

## **8. Una telefonata**

**Il telefono squilla.**

**The telephone rings.**

**La signora Benetti va a rispondere**

**Mrs Benetti is going to answer**

**Alza il telefono e dice: Pronto? Qui parla?**

**She lifts the phone and says: Hello? Who is speaking?**

**Sono io, Ricardo. Posso parlare con Alberto?**

**Its I, Ricardo. Can I talk to Alberto?**

**Sì, è qui. Un momento, glielo chiamo.**

**Yes, he is here. One moment, I'll call him.**

**Ciao Riccardo, che c'è di nuovo?**

**Hi, Riccardo, what's new?**

**Ti chiamo per darti una bella notizia**

**I'll call to give you good news**

**Dimmi... sembri molto felice**

**Tell me... you seem very happy**

**Ho vinto un'importante borsa di studio**

**I won an important scholarship(study burse)**

**Negli Stati Uniti. E vero? Congrazulazioni!**

**In The USA is that right? Congratulations!**

**Quando hai saputo?**

**When did you learn it?**

**Ho appena adesso ricevuto un'interurbana**

**I just now received a long distance call**

**Partirò per Boston I primi di settembre.**

**I will leave from Boston the 1<sup>st</sup> of September.**

**Fino alla fine di giugno**

**Till the end of June**

**Oltre a Boston, riuscirai a visitare altre città?**

**Apart from Boston, will you manage to visit another city?**

**Spero di sì, almeno durante le vacanze di Natale.**

**I thinks so, at least during the Christmas holidays.**

**Ricordati di mandarmi una cartolina da NY!**

**Remember to send me a card from NY!**

**Certamente.**

**Certainley.**

**Intanto, per festeggiare ti invito a pranzo.**

**Meanwhile, to celebrate I invite you to have lunch.**

**Puoi venire da me domani all'una?**

**Can you come to me tomorrow at 1 o'clock?**

**Con immenso piacere.**

**With immense pleasure.**

**Porterò lo spumante. Va bene.**

**I will bring the spumante. All right.**

**Ci vediamo domani, allora. Ciao!**

**Then we'll see each other tomorrow, bye now!**

## **9. In un negozio di abbigliamento**

**In a clothing shop**

**Rodolfo ha bisogno di comprare un abito**

**Rodolfo needs to buy a suit**

**per la prossimo primavera.**

**for next Spring.**

**Va perciò in un negozio di abbigliamento**

**So he is going to clothing shop**

**il cui proprietario è un amico di suo padre.**

who's owner is a friend of his father.

**Il commesso gli mostra parecchie cose**

The sales person shows him various things  
**e l'aiuta nella scelta.**

and helps him in the choice.

**Le piace questa giacca?**

Do you like this jacket?

**Mi piace, ma è larga per me.**

I like **it**, but it's (too) large for me.

**Provi questa giacca blu allora.**

Try this blue jacket then.

**È la sua misura.** Si guardi allo specchio prego.

It is your size(measure). Yes look in the mirror please.

**Mi sta a pennello! La prendo**

It looks great on me! I'll take it(Pres. for the immediate future)

**Vorrei anche un buon paio di calzoni.**

I would also like a good pair of trousers.

**Le piacciono queste pantaloni grigi?**

Do you like these grey pants?(do these grey pants please **you**)

**Andranno bene con la giacca blu.**

They will go well with the blue jacket.

**Sì, ha ragione. E non sono troppo pesanti.**

Yes, you're right. And they are not too heavy.

**Desidera altro?**

Do you want anything else?

**Sì, abbia la bontà di mostrarmi qualche camicie.**

Yes, please show me some shirts(have the goodness)

**Camicie di cotone o di seta?**

Cotton- or silk shirts?

**Di cotone.**

**Di che colore?**

Cotton ones(of cotton). (of) What colour?

**Ne vorrei due.** Una bianca a maniche lunghe  
I'd like two(**of them**). A white one with long arms  
**e una celeste sportiva, a maniche corte.**  
and a sky-blue sport shirt, with short arms.

**Che misure di collo parta? Quaranta.**

What size collar have you got? 40.

**Ecco delle belle camicie.**

Here are **some** nice shirts.

**Non sono affatto care!**

They are not expensive in fact!

**Le abbiamo appena ricevute dalla fabbrica.**

We just got them from the factory.

## **10.Una gita domenicale**

A Sunday outing

**L'Italia non è un paese molto grande;**

Italy is not a very big country;

**è infatti più piccola que California.**

it is in fact smaller than California.

**La gente che abita in alcune regioni**

People who live in some regions

**della penisola, come la Toscana.**

of the peninsula, like Toscana.

**si trova vicino al mare come alle montagne.**

are as close to the sea as to the mountains.

Giulia, quali sono le previsioni del tempo per domani?

Julia, what is the weather forecast for tomorrow?

**Non ho ascoltato la radio**

I didn't listen to the radio

**Domattina forse pioverà**

Tomorrow morning, it will perhaps rain

**ma nel pomeriggio farà bel tempo.**

but in the afternoon, the weather will be nice.

**Ci sarà un po' di vento,**

There will be some wind

**ma anche molto sole,**

but also a lot of sun,

**allora possiamo fare una gita in macchina.**

so we can go for a drive in the car.

**Ottima idea. Dove andiamo?**

A very good idea. Where are we going?

**A Viareggio. Non ci siamo mai stati**

To Viareggio. We never went there

**Ma non è lontano? Solo centoventi chilometri**

But isn't it far? Only 120 km

**Se partiamo alle quattro,**

If we leave at four

**siamo lì prima delle sei.**

**we will be there at 6**(the present for the near future)

**Prendiamo l'autostrada?**

**Will we take the highway?**

**No, la strada statale.**

**No, the main road(of the state).**

**Si va più piano, ma il panorama è più pittoresco**

**One goes slower, but the countryside is more picturesque**

**Ci portiamo dietro qualcosa da mangiare?**

**Do we bring something to eat?**

**No, Giulia. Ceniamo a Viareggio**

**No, Julia. We are having dinner at Viareggio**

**in ristorante sul mare.**

**in a restaurant near the sea.**

**Allora domani mangiamo pesce!**

**So tomorrow we will eat fish!**