

| | |
|-------|---|
| sopra | above / upon |
| sotto | under / below |
| con | with |
| fra | between / among / "in" with expressions of time |
| per | for / "in order to" + another verb / through / destined for |

1. *A, da, di, in* and *su* are used in these forms only before words that are not preceded by a definite article.
2. *Con* and *per* are used before words that may or may not be preceded by the definite article
3. *Fra* and *tra* are also used before words that may or may not be preceded by the definite article
4. *A* is always used with the names of cities, towns, or villiages. It is also required after a verb of motion such as *andare* and *venire*, followed by the infinitive of another verb.
5. *Da* and *di* usually become *d'* before words beginning with a vowel.
6. *Da* is used to indicate location with *essere, stare, abitare*, or a verb indicating motion, followed by a personal pronoun or the name of a person or a profession. Sometimes *da* occurs between two nouns, between a noun and an infinitive, and between *qualcosa* (something) and an infinitive.
7. *Di* when followed by a proper name usually indicates possession. When it follows *parlare, di* means "about." When used together with *essere* or *dove*, it often means "from." With certain specific adjectives, *di* may be translated as "with" or "in."
8. With the name of a country (unless modified by an adjective) and before a word indicating means of transportation, use *in*

Memorize these idioms:

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| <i>a casa</i> | (at home) |
| <i>a lavoro</i> | (at work) |
| <i>a scuola</i> | (at school) |
| <i>in tempo</i> | (on time) |
| <i>dal dottore</i> | (at the doctor's) |
| <i>dal medici</i> | (at the doctor's) |
| <i>nel 1996</i> | (in 1996) |
| <i>a piedi</i> | (on foot) |
| <i>in ufficio</i> | (in the office) |

Verb Conjugations

Bere (to drink)

| | | | |
|----------------------|------|-------------|---------|
| io | bevo | noi | beviamo |
| tu | bevi | voi | bevete |
| lui, lei, Lei | beve | loro | bevono |

Capire (to understand)

| | | | |
|----------------------|---------|-------------|-----------|
| io | capisco | noi | capiamo |
| tu | capisci | voi | capite |
| lui, lei, Lei | capisce | loro | capsicono |

Dare (to give)

| | | | |
|----------------------|-----|-------------|-------|
| io | do | noi | diamo |
| tu | dai | voi | date |
| lui, lei, Lei | dà | loro | danno |

Dire (to say or tell)

| | | | |
|----------------------|------|-------------|---------|
| io | dico | noi | diciamo |
| tu | dici | voi | dite |
| lui, lei, Lei | dice | loro | dicono |

Fare (to make or do)

| | | | |
|----------------------|--------|-------------|----------|
| io | faccio | noi | facciamo |
| tu | fai | voi | fate |
| lui, lei, Lei | fa | loro | fanno |

Finire (to finish)

| | | | |
|----------------------|---------|-------------|-----------|
| io | finisco | noi | finiamo |
| tu | finisci | voi | finite |
| lui, lei, Lei | finisce | loro | finiscono |

Preferire (to prefer)

| | | | |
|----------------------|------------|-------------|--------------|
| io | preferisco | noi | preferiamo |
| tu | preferisci | voi | preferite |
| lui, lei, Lei | preferisce | loro | preferiscono |

Uscire (to exit or go out)

| | | | |
|----------------------|------|-------------|---------|
| io | esco | noi | usciamo |
| tu | esci | voi | uscite |
| lui, lei, Lei | esce | loro | escono |

Object Pronouns

| Singular | | Plural | |
|----------|--------------------------------------|--------|-----------------|
| me | me | noi | us |
| te | you (fam. s.) | voi | you |
| lui | him | loro | them |
| lei | her | Loro | you (form. pl.) |
| Lei | you (form. s.) | | |
| sè | himself, herself, itself, themselves | | |

These object pronouns are used:

- after a preposition
- immediately after a verb

They are normally used for emphasis or contrast, particularly when they follow the verb:

Piero viene da noi questa sera.

Peter is coming to our place this evening.

Alla Standa vedo spesso lei, ma mai lui.

At Standa I often see her, but I never see him.

Andiamo al cinema con te, non con loro.

We are going to the movies with you, not with them.

Commonly Used Adjectives Preceding the Noun

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <i>bello</i> | beautiful, handsome |
| <i>bravo</i> | able, good, capable |
| <i>brutto</i> | ugly |
| <i>buono</i> | good |
| <i>caro</i> | dear, expensive |
| <i>cattivo</i> | bad |
| <i>giovane</i> | young |
| <i>grande</i> | big, great |
| <i>lungo</i> | long, lengthy |
| <i>nuovo</i> | new |
| <i>piccolo</i> | small, little |
| <i>povero</i> | poor, unfortunate |
| <i>stesso</i> | same |
| <i>ultimo</i> | last |
| <i>vecchio (pl., vicchi, vecchie)</i> | old |
| <i>vero</i> | true, real |

Note: When *molto* or *tanto* accompany one of these adjectives, the whole modifier moves after the noun.

Prepositions

| | |
|----|---|
| a | at / in / to (city, month, arrive at, go to) |
| in | in / to / inside / by (mode of transportation, country, state, continent, region, building, garden, garage) |
| da | from / by / to or at someone's house or place of business / for the purpose of / at the price of / for or since (expressions of time) |
| di | of ('s) possession / one's origins (io sono di...) / about / some, any |
| su | on |

Plural of Masculine Nouns and Adjectives in -co and -io

1. Short nouns and adjectives ending in -co that are normally masculine change to -chi:

| | |
|-------|--------|
| cuoco | cuochi |
| pacco | pacchi |
| parco | parchi |
| ricco | ricchi |

Exceptions: greci, porci, amici, nemici

2. Longer nouns and adjectives ending in -co that are normally masculine change to -ci:

| | |
|----------|----------|
| medico | medici |
| monaco | monaci |
| sindaco | sindaci |
| politico | politici |

3. Masculine nouns and adjectives ending in -io change to -i:

| | |
|------------|-------------|
| figlio | figli |
| foglio | fogli |
| l'orario | gli orari |
| l'orologio | gli orologi |

Exceptions: zio / zii, natio / natii

Possessive Adjectives and Pronouns

| | Masculine | | Feminine | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| | Sing | Pl | Sing | Pl |
| my, mine | il mio | i miei | la mia | le mie |
| your, yours (familiar) | il tuo | i tuoi | la tua | le tue |
| his, her hers, its | il suo | i suoi | la sua | le sue |
| your, yours (formal) | il Suo | i Suoi | la Sua | le Sue |
| our, ours | il nostro | i nostri | la nostra | le nostre |
| your, yours (familiar, pl) | il vostro | i vostri | la vostra | le vostre |
| their, theirs | il loro | i loro | la loro | le loro |
| your, yours (formal, pl) | il Loro | i Loro | la Loro | le Loro |

- There is no difference between possessive adjectives and possessive pronouns
- Remember that the pronoun or adjective agrees with the object, not the speaker.
- When addressing a person directly, omit the definite article:

Mia cara Anna, buon giorno!

- When speaking of a family member, drop the article if the family member fits these four categories:
 1. if it is *not* plural
 2. if it is *not* diminutive
 3. if it is *not* modified by another adjective
 4. if it is *not* the loro form

| | |
|---|------------------------|
| <i>i miei fratelli</i> | (plural) |
| <i>il mio fratello alto</i> | (modified) |
| <i>il loro fratello</i> | (loro) |
| <i>il mio fratelluccio</i> (diminutive) | |
| <i>mio fratello</i> | (okay to drop article) |

To determine the correct possessive adjective or pronoun:

1. look at the **object** (*not* the subject)
2. decide whether it is masculine or feminine and singular or plural.
3. add the appropriate article (if not one of the “family four”)
4. look at the subject to determine which form of the pronoun to add

Articulated Prepositions

When the prepositions *a*, *da*, *di*, *in*, and *su* directly precede a definite article, the following combined forms result:

| | Singular | | | | Plural | | |
|------------|-------------|--|-------------|-------------|------------|--------------|-------------|
| | + <i>il</i> | + <i>lo</i> | + <i>l'</i> | + <i>la</i> | + <i>i</i> | + <i>gli</i> | + <i>le</i> |
| a | al | allo | all' | alla | ai | agli | alle |
| da | dal | dallo | dall' | dalla | dai | dagli | dalle |
| di | del | dello | dell' | della | dei | degli | delle |
| in | nel | nello | nell' | nella | nei | negli | nelle |
| su | sul | sullo | sull' | sulla | sui | sugli | sulle |
| con | col | To avoid making mistakes, don't combine <i>con</i> and <i>per</i> with an article. | | | coi | | |
| per | pel | | | | pei | | |

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| <i>alla stazione</i> | at the station |
| <i>al cinema</i> | to the movies |
| <i>dal binario nove</i> | from Track 9 |
| <i>dall'ufficio</i> | by the office |
| <i>nelle banche</i> | in the banks |
| <i>nella casa</i> | in the house |
| <i>nei parco</i> | in the park |
| <i>sulla busta</i> | on the envelope |
| <i>sulle valigie</i> | on your suitcases |

- The preposition **da**+ the definite article can mean "at" or "to the:"

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| <i>dai parenti</i> | at their relatives' (house). |
| <i>dal tabaccaio</i> | to the tobacconist's |
| <i>dal professore</i> | at the professor's |
| <i>dal dottore</i> | at the doctor's |
| <i>dalla zia</i> | at your aunt's |
- The **preposizioni articolate** formed with **di** also expresses possession:

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| <i>il libro del Mark</i> | Mark's book |
|--------------------------|-------------|

Plural of Feminine Nouns in -cia, -gia and of Feminine Nouns and Adjectives in -ca and -ga

As a general rule, feminine nouns ending in *-cia* and *-gia* form their plural as follows:

- If *-cia* and *-gia* are preceded by a vowel, the plural endings are *-cie* and *-gie*:

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| <i>camicia</i> | <i>camicie</i> |
| <i>ciliegia</i> | <i>ciliegie</i> |
| <i>farmacia</i> | <i>farmacie</i> |
| <i>valigia</i> | <i>valigie</i> |

- If *-cia* and *-gia* are preceded by a consonant, the plural endings are *-ce* and *-ge*:

| | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| <i>arancia</i> | <i>arance</i> |
| <i>faccia</i> | <i>facce</i> |
| <i>pioggia</i> | <i>piogge</i> |
| <i>spiaggia</i> | <i>spiagge</i> |

- Feminine nouns and adjectives ending in *-ca* and *-ga* form their plural by changing the ending to *-che* and *-ghe*:

Nouns:

| | |
|--------------|---------------|
| <i>amica</i> | <i>amiche</i> |
| <i>banca</i> | <i>banche</i> |
| <i>barca</i> | <i>barche</i> |
| <i>paga</i> | <i>paghe</i> |

Adjectives:

| | |
|---------------|----------------|
| <i>bianca</i> | <i>bianche</i> |
| <i>larga</i> | <i>larghe</i> |
| <i>lunga</i> | <i>lunghe</i> |
| <i>ricca</i> | <i>ricche</i> |

Bello (Beautiful, Handsome)

The adjective *bello*, when it precedes a noun or another word, takes the same form as *quello*.

| | Masculine | | | Feminine | |
|-----------------|------------------|--------------|-----------------------|------------------|--------------|
| | Before Consonant | Before Vowel | Before s+consonant, z | Before Consonant | Before Vowel |
| Singular | bel | bell' | bello | bella | bell' |
| Plural | bei | begli | begli | belle | belle |

Buono and Grande (Good, Large)

The adjectives *buono* and *grande*, when they precede a noun or another word, change their singular form as follows:

| Buono | Masculine | | | Feminine | |
|-----------------|------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| | Before Consonant | Before Vowel | Before s+consonant, z, gn, ps | Before Consonant | Before Vowel |
| Singular | buon | buon | buono | buona | buon' |

| Grande | Masculine | | | Feminine | |
|-----------------|------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|------------------|---------------|
| | Before Consonant | Before Vowel | Before s+consonant, z, gn, ps | Before Consonant | Before Vowel |
| Singular | gran | grand' | grande | gran | grand' |

Partitives

When *dei*, *dell'*, *dello*, *della*, *di*, *degli*, *delle* denote part of something or part of a whole category, they're known as partitives. They are equal to English "any" and "some:"

Giovanna deve acquistare della carta da lettere.

Giovanna must purchase some stationery.

In italia abbiamo degli amici molto cari.

In Italy we have some very dear friends.

Ecco delle belle diapositive

Here are some beautiful slides.

The partitive sense of *some*, *any*, and *a few* can also be conveyed by the adjectives **alcuni**, **alcune**, and **qualche**. The expression **un po' di** means "a bit of," "a little" and is used with unmeasured quantities like water, sugar, grain, etc. So:

- *alcuni/alcune* are for plural and countable items
- *qualche* is for singular countable items
- *un po' di* is for singular non-countable items

Conosce alcune ragazze francesi Lei?

Do you know any French girls?

Compriamo alcuni libri divertenti.

We are buying some entertaining books.

Loro devono scrivere qualche lettera oggi.

They must write a few letters today.

Vorrei un po' d'acqua.

I would like a little water.

In negative sentences the partitive is normally not expressed in Italian; it is optional in questions:

Ha parenti in Italia Lei?

Do you have relatives in Italy?

Ha dei parenti in Italia Lei?

Do you have any relatives in Italy?

No, non ho parenti in Italia.

No, I have no relatives in Italy.

Ha qualche parente in Italia Lei?

Do you have a few relatives in Italy?

Si, ho qualche parenti in Italia.

Yes, I have a few relatives in Italy.

Sapere and Conoscere

Sapere expresses knowledge of a fact: a tangible, a yes/no, an ability.

Sapere (to know a fact)

| | | | |
|----------------------|-----|-------------|----------|
| io | so | noi | sappiamo |
| tu | sai | voi | sapete |
| lui, lei, Lei | sa | loro | sanno |

Conoscere expresses knowledge of a person, place or concept:

Conoscere (to know a person, place or concept)

| | | | |
|----------------------|---------|-------------|------------|
| io | conosco | noi | conosciamo |
| tu | conosci | voi | conoscete |
| lui, lei, Lei | conosce | loro | conoscono |

Adjectives *che, quale, quanto, and the interrogative chi*

When the adjectives **che** and **quale** are used in an interrogative sense, they mean either *which* or *what*:

- **Ch**e has only one form, regardless of number or gender.
- The singular **quale** may also be used as **qual** (except before masculine nouns beginning with s+cons., z, gn, or ps.) It changes to **quali** to form the plural:

Che (qual, quale) tabacco preferisce tuo padre?

Che (quali) sigarette comprano loro?

As an adjective, **quanto** agrees in gender and in number with the noun:

Quant'acqua volete?

Quanti expressi porta il postino oggi?

As an adverb, **quanto** remains unchanged:

Quanto costano quello libro?

The interrogative pronoun **chi** means *who* or *whom*:

Chi è lui?

Chi sono Loro?

Per chi comprate quel cappello?

Adjectives: Questo and Quello

- Adjectives agree in gender and number with the nouns they modify. To form the proper adjective, determine the noun's gender and number, find the appropriate article, and add the matching form of the adjective.
- Numbers and adjectives indicating more or less a definite quantity **molto** (how much), **tanto** (so much), **quanto** (how much) precede the noun.
- The demonstrative adjectives **questo** (this) and **quello** (that) always precede the nouns they modify.

| <i>Questo</i> (This) | Masculine | | Feminine | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| | <i>Before Consonant</i> | <i>Before Vowel</i> | <i>Before Consonant</i> | <i>Before Vowel</i> |
| Singular | questo | quest' | questa | quest' |
| Plural | questi | questi | queste | queste |

Examples:

Giovanna compra questi occhiali [gli occhiali (m/pl); le scarpe (f/pl)]
e queste scarpe.

Quest'autunno desidero andare in
Italiana. [il autunno (m/s)]

Molta gente abita in questa città. [la città (f/s)]

| <i>Quello</i> (That) | Masculine | | | Feminine | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| | <i>Before Consonant</i> | <i>Before Vowel</i> | <i>Before s+consonant, z</i> | <i>Before Consonant</i> | <i>Before Vowel</i> |
| Singular | quel (il) | quell' (l') | quello (lo) | quella (la) | quell' (l') |
| Plural | quei (i) | quegli (gli) | quegli (gli) | quelle (le) | quelle (le) |

Note: quello agrees with the word immediately following it.

Examples:

Prendiamo quelle paste e quei [le paste (f/pl); i cappuccini (m/pl)]
cappuccini al bar.

Marco desidera comprare [l'automobile (m/s/v)]
quell'automobile gialla.

Quella signora parla con quegli [la signora (f/s); gli studenti
studenti (m/pl/s+cons)]

2

| | |
|---------------------|--------|
| <i>il cuginolle</i> | cousin |
|---------------------|--------|

| | |
|--------------------|------------|
| <i>la famiglia</i> | the family |
| <i>i parenti</i> | relatives |

Check the vocabulary lists on pages 76-78 of the text for more!

Time in Italian

| <i>Che ora è? / Che ore sono?</i> | What time is it? |
|--|---|
| <i>È mezzogiorno.</i> | It is noon |
| <i>È l'una.</i> | It is one o'clock |
| <i>È mezzanotte.</i> | It is midnight |
| <i>Sono le dieci e dieci.</i> | It is 10:10 |
| <i>Sono le dieci e cinquanta.</i> | It is 10:50 |
| <i>Sono le dieci e mezzo / Sono le dieci e trenta</i> | It is 10:30 |
| <i>Sono le dieci e un quarto / Sono le dieci e quindici</i> | It is 10:15 |
| <i>Sono le dieci e tre quarti / Sono le dieci e quarantacinque</i> | It is 10:45 |
| <i>A che ora parte il primo treno per Milano?</i> | At what time does the first train for Milan leave? |
| <i>Alle dodici e dieci.</i> | At 12:10. |

Future Tense

| Pronoun | Verb Type | | |
|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | <i>• are</i> | <i>• ere</i> | <i>• ire</i> |
| io | • erò | • erò | • irò |
| tu | • erai | • erai | • irai |
| lui, lei, Lei | •erà | •erà | •irà |
| noi | • eremo | • eremo | • iremo |
| voi | • erete | • erete | • irete |
| loro | • eranno | • eranno | • iranno |

Many verbs have irregular verb stems in the future and conditional. The stems change and these shortened endings are added:

| | | | |
|----------------------|------|-------------|--------|
| io | • ò | noi | • emo |
| tu | • ai | voi | • ete |
| lui, lei, Lei | • à | loro | • anno |

| <i>Irregular Verb Stems for the Future Tense</i> | | |
|--|------------------|-------------|
| <i>Infinitive</i> | <i>Meaning</i> | <i>Stem</i> |
| andare | to go | andr- |
| avere | to have | avr- |
| bere | to drink | berr- |
| cadere | to fall, happen | cadr- |
| dare | to give | dar- |
| dire | to say | dir- |
| dovere | to have to; must | dovr- |
| essere | to be | sar- |
| fare | to make or do | far- |

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| | | |
|-------|--------------------------|-------|
| porre | to put, compose, propose | porr- |
|-------|--------------------------|-------|

| | | |
|----------|------------------------------|---------|
| potere | to be able to | potr- |
| rimanere | to remain | rimarr- |
| sapere | to know a fact | sapr- |
| stare | to stay or be (cond.) | star- |
| tenere | to keep, hold, have, support | terr- |
| vedere | to see | vedr- |
| venire | to come | verr- |
| vivere | to live, survive | vivr- |
| volere | to want to | vorr- |

Notes to remember:

- when forming the future of -iare verbs (mangiare, cominciare), drop the final *i* before adding the ending.
- when forming the future of -care and -gare verbs (dimenticare, pagare), add an *h* before adding the ending.

Vocabulary (The Family)

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>i nonni</i> | grandparents |
| <i>il nonno</i> | grandfather |
| <i>la nonna</i> | grandmother |
| <i>i genitori</i> | parents |
| <i>il padre</i> | father |
| <i>il babbo</i> | dad |
| <i>il papà</i> | papa |
| <i>la madre</i> | mother |
| <i>la mamma</i> | mom |
| <i>la suocera</i> | mother-in-law |
| <i>il suocero</i> | father-in-law |
| <i>la nuora</i> | daughter-in-law |
| <i>il genero</i> | son-in-law |
| <i>il cognato</i> | brother-in-law |
| <i>la cognata</i> | sister-in-law |
| <i>il marito</i> | husband |
| <i>la moglie</i> | wife |
| <i>il figlio / il figliolo</i> | son |
| <i>la figlia / la figliola</i> | daughter |
| <i>il fratello</i> | brother |
| <i>la sorella</i> | sister |
| <i>gli fratelli</i> | siblings |
| <i>il nipote</i> | grandson / nephew |
| <i>la nipote</i> | granddaughter / niece |
| <i>lo zio / gli zii</i> | uncle / aunts and uncles |
| <i>la zia</i> | aunt |