



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit  
State Examinations Commission

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## Guidelines for marking of (Optional) School-based oral test in Italian at the Junior Certificate Examination.

The following marking-scheme is offered to teachers by way of suggestion (as is the format of the test). If another marking scheme is chosen, details must be submitted to the SEC before 1<sup>st</sup> May. It is strongly recommended, however, that where there is divergence from the detail of the suggested marking scheme the broad division of marks, i.e. General questions: 40% and Role-plays: 60% should be adhered to.

### 1. Broad division of marks (Total: 80 marks)

(a) General questions	32 (8 x 4)
(b) Role-plays:	48 (2 x 24)

### 2. General Criteria for marking individual sections of test:

For each communicative task (i.e. general question, role-play or other task chosen) the main criterion must be whether the task is in fact accomplished, i.e. whether the pupil would have made himself/herself understood in an Italian context. The candidate who carries out the wrong task or whose utterances an Italian native would not be likely to understand must be awarded less than 40% of the marks in that section. Conversely, the candidate who carries out the right tasks and does so in a manner comprehensible to an Italian native despite a number of mistakes in pronunciation, vocabulary, structures etc. must be awarded half marks. The remaining marks for each section could be awarded for proficiency in pronunciation, vocabulary and structures. (Structures will feature more prominently in the Role-plays than in the General questions section).

It should not be necessary at this level for the candidates to show native-speaker proficiency in order to obtain high or even full marks.

3. The marks awarded for the oral (80/400) test account for 20% of the whole examination. (In the case of candidates who are not presented for an oral test, 320 = 100%).

4. The following marking sheet is offered as guidance.

# STATE EXAMINATIONS COMMISSION

## General Questions

	0	1	2	3	4
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					

Total:

### Marking Scheme:

- 4 Full, unambiguous communication.
- 3 Good communication, but with hesitation either in understanding the question or in responding.
- 2 Part of the message is missing.
- 1 Most of the message is missing.
- 0 Silence – unintelligible – a grammatical sentence but not the required message.

### Example:

**Question:** *Hai fratelli o sorelle?*

- (Ho) un fratello e due sorelle (4)
- Mmm ... Non capisco ... (question asked again) .. sì, (ho) un fratello (3)
- ..... sorella..... (2)
- Ho ...un ...una (1)
- (Ho) Quindici anni (0)

(Each responding/initiating utterance in a role-play can be marked in the same way.)

## GENERAL CONVERSATION

The examiner is requested to select **eight** of the following or similar questions. In doing so he/she is asked to respect as far as possible the normal coherence of everyday conversation, i.e. not to skip arbitrarily from topic to topic and to allow the candidate to elaborate on particular responses. The examiner should feel free to paraphrase and to encourage the candidate as necessary.

1. Quanti anni hai?
2. Quando è il tuo compleanno?/la tua data di nascita?
3. Dove abiti?
4. Hai fratelli o sorelle?
5. Come si chiamano (i fratelli/le sorelle)?
6. Quanti anni hanno (i fratelli/le sorelle)?
7. Hai un animale in casa?
8. Ti piacciono gli animali?
9. A che ora ti alzi la mattina durante la settimana? (e il sabato?)
10. Che cosa ti piace fare nel tuo tempo libero?
11. Sei sportivo/a?
12. Quale sport preferisci?
13. Come vieni a scuola?
14. Abiti vicino alla scuola?
15. Quante materie studi?
16. Quale (materia) preferisci?
17. Studi altre lingue?
18. Com'è la tua città?
19. Cosa c'è da fare qui?

20. C'è un cinema qui?
21. Vai spesso al cinema?
22. Ti piace guardare la televisione?
23. Qual è il tuo programma preferito/i tuoi programmi preferiti?
24. Ti piacciono i videogiochi?
25. Giochi al computer?
26. Ti piace la musica?
27. Che tipo di musica ti piace?
28. Suoni uno strumento?
29. Hai molti CD?
30. Sei stato/a in Italia?
31. Hai visitato l'Italia? Ti piace?
32. Aiuti in casa?
33. Lavori in giardino?
34. Che cosa fai questo fine settimana/weekend?
35. Cosa hai fatto il weekend passato?

## **CANDIDATE'S CARD**

### **SECTION A: TASK 1**

You and a friend are visiting an Italian town and you ask a '*vigile*' how to get to the tourist office. Your friend doesn't speak Italian and you will have to explain the directions to him/her in English.

1. Attract the policeman's attention.
2. Ask him how to get to the tourist office.
3. Tell him you don't understand and ask him to repeat what he said.
4. Your friend wants to know what he said. Repeat the directions in English as if explaining to your friend.
5. Ask the policeman if it is far. Thank him for his help.

### **SECTION A: TASK 2**

You go into the clothing department of a store to buy a sweater. The examiner will play the role of the salesperson and will start the conversation.

1. Greet the shop assistant. Say that you want to buy a sweater.
2. Say what colour you would like.
3. The salesperson brings you a sweater. Ask if you can try it on.
4. You try it on but it is too big for you. Tell the salesperson that it is too big.
5. The salesperson gives you another one to try on. You like it and ask how much it costs.

## CANDIDATES'S CARD

### SECTION A: TASK 3

#### *Ristorante il Corsaro*

##### *Menù del Giorno*

Zuppa di pesce  
Risotto ai funghi  
Pasta al pomodoro



Pollo arrosto  
Bistecca ai ferri  
Fritto misto di pesce



Gelato alla fragola  
Macedonia di frutta  
Torta della casa



Birra  
Vino rosso/bianco  
Acqua minerale

€15 servizio incluso

You are a customer in this restaurant. The examiner will play the role of the waiter. Choose a dish from each of the three courses offered and something to drink. Ask for the bill and check if service is included.

## EXAMINER'S CARD

### SECTION A: TASK 1

You are a 'vigile' in an Italian town. Two visitors need directions to the tourist office. One of them doesn't speak any Italian.

- 1 *Buongiorno. Posso aiutarvi?*  
(Asks you how to get to the tourist office.)
- 2 *L'ufficio del turismo? Allora, deve prendere la prima via a sinistra e poi girare subito a destra*  
*L'ufficio del turismo si trova di fronte alla Posta.*  
(Says that he/she doesn't understand and asks you to repeat the directions. Do so slowly.)
- 3 (The visitor who doesn't speak Italian asks his/her friend to repeat what you said in English.)
- 4 (Asks you if it is far.)  
*No. Non è lontano, cinque minuti a piedi.*
- 5 (Thanks you for your help.)  
*Prego.*

### SECTION A: TASK 2

You are a salesperson in a clothing department. A customer wishes to buy a sweater.

- 1 *Buongiorno. Posso aiutarla?*  
(Customer greets you and says that he/she wants to buy a sweater.)
- 2 (You ask what colour. The customer/candidate is free to choose a colour.)  
*Di che colore?/che colore preferisce?*
- 3 (You show the customer a sweater. He/she asks to try it on.)  
*Sì. I camerini sono di là.*
- 4 (You give the customer a smaller size.)  
*Ecco la misura più piccola.*
- 5 (The customer likes this one and asks you how much it costs.)  
*Costa €45.*

## EXAMINER'S CARD

### SECTION A: TASK 3

You are the waiter in this restaurant. The customer/candidate is to order one dish from each of the three courses and something to drink. He/she is to ask for the bill and check if service is included.

#### *Ristorante il Corsaro*

##### *Menù del Giorno*

Zuppa di Pesce  
Risotto ai funghi  
Pasta al pomodoro

o

Pollo arrosto  
Bistecca ai ferri  
Fritto misto di pesce

o

Gelato alla fragola  
Macedonia di frutta  
Torta della casa

o

Birra  
Vino rosso/bianco  
Acqua minerale

€15 servizio incluso

## **CANDIDATE'S CARD**

### **SECTION B: TASK 1**

You and your friend are in Italy on a walking holiday. You are looking for accommodation in a Youth Hostel (*Ostello della Gioventù*). Your friend doesn't speak Italian so you have to book in for both of you. You have to act as an interpreter for your friend. The examiner will play the role of Warden of the Youth Hostel.

- 1 Ask if there is accommodation for two people for the night.
- 2 Ask how much it costs.
- 3 Repeat what you are told in English as if explaining to your friend.
- 4 Ask where the kitchen is.
- 5 Repeat what you are told in English as if explaining to your friend.

### **SECTION B: TASK 2**

You are with a friend in a railway station in Italy. Your friend doesn't speak Italian and you are helping him/her to buy a return ticket to Rome and to find out when the next train is leaving. You have to act as an interpreter for your friend. The examiner will play the role of the ticket clerk at the '*biglietteria*'.

- 1 Ask for a return ticket to Rome.
- 2 Ask the ticket clerk to repeat what he said.
- 3 Translate what he said into English as if explaining to your friend.
- 4 Ask at what time the next train to Rome leaves.
- 5 Say the departure time in English as if interpreting for your friend.

## CANDIDATE'S CARD

### SECTION B: TASK 3

The examiner will play the role of your Italian pen friend. You want to know more about his/her school.

- 1 (a) Ask how many pupils there are: (b) and then say whether you think it is a big or a small school.
- 2 Ask at what time classes start and finish.
- 3 (a) Ask what are his/her favourite subjects: (b) and then say what subjects you prefer.
- 4 Ask if the teachers are strict.
- 5 (a) Ask about sports facilities (e.g. gym, swimming pool, football pitch):  
(b) and then say what sports facilities there are in your school.

## EXAMINER'S CARD

### SECTION B: TASK 1

You are the Warden of a Youth Hostel. Two young people on a walking holiday are looking for accommodation.

- 1 (They ask if there is accommodation for two people.)  
*Sì, abbiamo camere per stasera.*
- 2 (They ask how much it costs.)  
*Quindici euro a notte.*
- 3 (Candidate repeats this in English as if explaining to his/her friend.)
- 4 (They ask where the kitchen is.)  
*In fondo al corridoio sulla destra.*
- 5 (Candidate repeats this in English as if explaining to his/her friend.)

### SECTION B: TASK 2

You are a ticket clerk in an Italian railway station. Two Irish students, one of whom does not speak Italian present themselves. The one who speaks Italian is assisting his/her friend to buy a return ticket to Rome.

- 1 (Asks for a return ticket to Rome.)  
*Un biglietto di andata e ritorno per Roma - €27*
- 2 (Asks you to repeat what you said.)  
*€27*
- 3 Candidate repeats price in English as if explaining to his/her friend.)
- 4 (Asks at what time the next train for Rome leaves.)  
*Alle 17.55*
- 5 (Candidate repeats 17.55 in English as if explaining to his/her friend.)

## EXAMINER'S CARD

### SECTION B: TASK 3

You are the candidate's Italian pen friend. He/she wants to know about your school. (His/her instructions are in brackets and some possible answers to his/her questions are suggested.)

- 1 (a)Ask how many pupils there are: (b) and say whether you think it is a big or a small school.)  
*Ci sono 600 studenti in tutto. React to candidate's comment. Sì, è grande.*
- 2 (Ask at what time classes start and finish.)  
*Le lezioni cominciano alle 9 e finiscono alle 4.*
- 3 (a)Ask what are his/her favourite subjects: (b) and then say what subjects you prefer.)  
*Mi piacciono molto la matematica e la geografia.*
- 4 (Ask if the teachers are strict.)  
*Dipende. Forse due o tre sono un po' severi. Però in generale sono simpatici.*
- 5 (a)Ask about sports facilities e.g. gym, swimming pool, football pitch): (b) and then say what sports facilities there are in your school.)  
*Sì, ci sono una palestra, un campo da tennis e un campo per giocare a calcio.*

**Note: The interpretation in English may be found confusing and is not an essential feature of a role-play. Teachers should feel free to develop their own role-plays according to the material covered in individual classes. The above are offered merely by way of guidance.**