



Italiano Spontaneo

*Travel Language Phrasebook
Italian-English*

by Jacopo Gorini



**Learn Italian with the Turtle Method:
dialogues, audio recordings and flashcards**



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How to use this book

This phrasebook is based upon a tried and tested language learning method, jokingly known among my students and myself as the “turtle method”.

The name comes from the fact that this method is “slow” but “sure”. It is based on Professor Stephen Krashen’s theories (University of Southern California) and it primarily consists of listening to and repeating comprehensible language input in a stress-free environment.

This method will help you to speak Italian spontaneously, without worrying about grammar, nor the need to mentally translate. You will focus on listening and conversation, balanced with reading and writing.

A few weeks from now, you will have made surprising progress and you will have stored new sentences and vocabulary in your long-term memory.

A couple of months from now, once you have finished the book, you will have learned 300 Italian words, including the best expressions to use in common situations, and the most important verb forms you might need while travelling. Above all, you will have practiced Italian pronunciation every day, which is essential for natural conversations.

At the end of the book, you will find a guide on how to download the audio recordings which are to be used alongside the phrasebook for each lesson.

Buono studio con il metodo tartaruga!

Jacopo Gorini

The turtle method's 5 exercises

Each lesson is designed to be repeated every day for a 7 day period. For instance, if you start the lesson “Conoscersi” on a Monday, you will do the turtle method's 5 exercises and repeat the same exercises each day until Sunday. The following week, you start the second lesson, “Salutarsi”, repeat the exercises for a week, and so on. Keep it up until you have reached the end of the book.

The five exercises you should repeat every day are:

- 1. Listen and Read:** read the mini-dialogues and listen to the corresponding audio recording at the same time (mp3 file: “1 – Ascolta e Leggi”). Read also the side translation, if necessary.
- 2. Listen and Repeat:** listen to the mini-dialogues and repeat them out loud, one sentence at a time, during the pauses in the recording (mp3 file: “2 – Ascolta e Ripeti”). If this is too hard at the beginning, you could read the transcript as you listen and repeat.
- 3. Listen and Answer:** listen to the first part of the dialogue and answer during the pause. Then listen to the correct answer (mp3 file: “3 – Ascolta e Rispondi”).
- 4. Listen and Write:** listen to the mini-dialogues and write what you hear on a piece of paper (mp3 file: “4 – Ascolta e Scrivi”). When finished check that your writing matches the transcript.
- 5. Study the flashcards:** cut out the flashcards from the lesson. Look at the English sentence or at the picture, and try to say the Italian translation out loud. Then turn the card over and check: if you get it right, put the card aside and move on to the next one. If you get it wrong, repeat the word/phrase a few times and then place the card at the bottom of the deck, so that you study it again in the same study session.

After 7 days, move on to the next lesson.

Every day, study both the new flashcards and the old ones from the previous lessons.



Conoscersi – Getting to know each other

1.
– Ciao! Come ti chiami?
– Mi chiamo Jacopo.
Piacere.

2.
– Non capisco... Puoi ripetere, per favore?
– Certo.

3.
– Parli italiano?
– Un poco.

4.
– Di dove sei?
– Sono inglese, di Londra.

5.
– Che lavoro fai?
– Sono insegnante.

6.
– Per quanto tempo sei in Italia?
– Per tre settimane.

7.
– Da quanto tempo sei in Italia?
– Da pochi giorni.

1.
– Hi! What's your name?
– My name is Jacopo. Nice to meet you.

2.
– I don't understand...
Can you repeat, please?
– Of course.

3.
– Do you speak Italian?
– A little.

4.
– Where are you from?
– I'm English, from London.

5.
– What do you do for a living?
– I'm a teacher.

6.
– How long are you in Italy for?
– For three weeks.

7.
– How long have you been in Italy?
– For a few days.

8.

- Ti piace Roma?
- Sì, mi piace molto.

9.

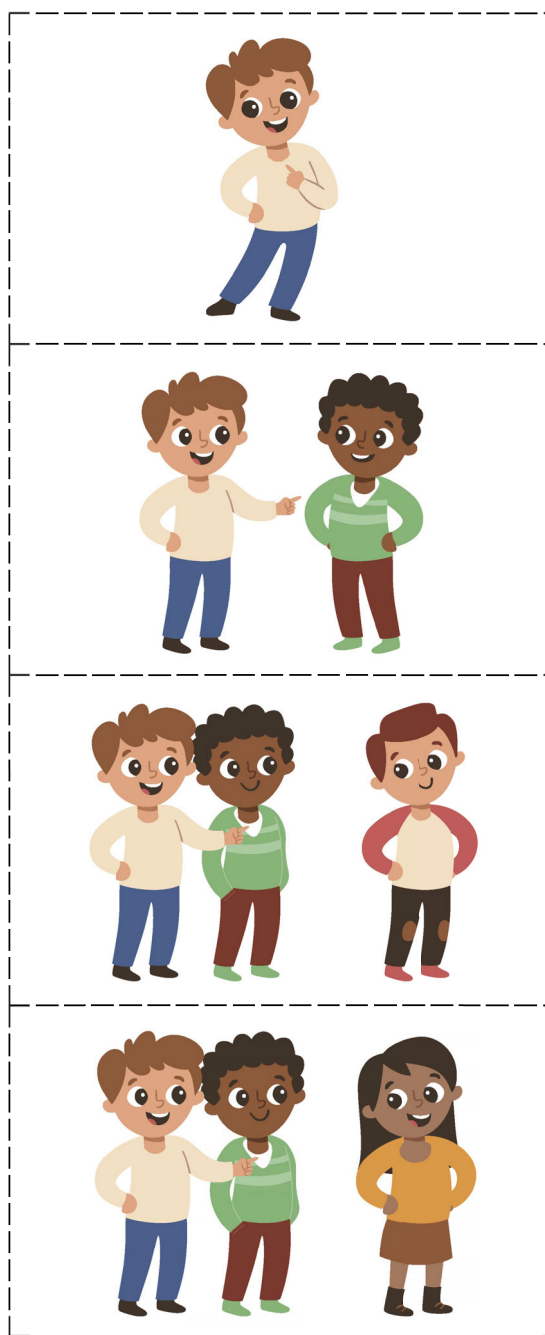
- Qual è il tuo numero di telefono?
- 0123456789

8.

- Do you like Rome?
- Yes, I like it a lot.

9.

- What's your phone number?
- 0123456789



io

tu

lui

lei



Speak

noi

voi

loro

Parlare

io parlo – tu parli

lui/lei parla – noi parliamo

voi parlate – loro parlano

be

do

I don't understand...

Can you repeat, please?

Essere

io sono – tu sei

lui/lei è – noi siamo

voi siete – loro sono

Fare

io faccio – tu fai

lui/lei fa – noi facciamo

voi fate – loro fanno

Non capisco...

Puoi ripetere, per favore?