

**Oral**

Overall, the candidates had been well-prepared for the oral and they had good, clear accents. It was evident from their remarks that they had loved studying Italian and that their teachers had played a large part in their enjoyment of the language.

The candidates had a very good range of vocabulary for basic, everyday topics. Teachers had obviously worked hard to make sure conversations were natural sounding and very few candidates had chunks of conversation learned by heart.

The examiners made sure that a range of basic tenses were covered. Generally, the tense the candidates struggled with the most was the 'imperfetto' and often they replied using the 'passato prossimo'. The upside of this was that the candidates at least realised that they should be using a past tense in their reply.

Even if a question had to be rephrased, candidates stayed in the language throughout the exam, which is commendable.

All of the oral examiners felt that the candidates tried their hardest to do their best and to make their teachers proud.

**Reading and Responding**

Overall candidates dealt with the reading passages very well. It must be noted that one of the words in the third passage 'mattarello' was not found in a smaller dictionary. For this reason the question referring to this was simply omitted.

The candidates are to be reminded that if a question is out of /2 then they should look for **at least** 2 pieces of information.

Suffixes and prefixes such as -etto (small) and words such as quasi, circa should not be ignored and marks are usually awarded for this information.

Candidates also need to take care when using a dictionary. They need to be trained to be discerning about the word they look up and see if it makes sense in the context of the passage/story. Sometimes the first word they look up is just not appropriate.

It was particularly pleasing to see that although there is no direct translation to 'mettere una pietra sul passato' (m of Question 3) that most candidates were able to interpret the meaning from overall message of the story.

The final marking scheme as agreed by the marking team is as follows:

**Question 1**

- a. Wanted to buy  $\frac{1}{2}$  toys  $\frac{1}{2}$
- b. Waiting for shop  $\frac{1}{2}$  to open  $\frac{1}{2}$
- c. 7 years old /1
- d. Last  $\frac{1}{2}$  night  $\frac{1}{2}$  **or** around  $\frac{1}{2}$  4am  $\frac{1}{2}$
- e. Infront of / outside /1, toy shop /window /1
- f. About  $\frac{1}{2}$  3  $\frac{1}{2}$  km  $\frac{1}{2}$  from his home  $\frac{1}{2}$
- g. Small  $\frac{1}{2}$  backpack  $\frac{1}{2}$  with favourite  $\frac{1}{2}$  toys  $\frac{1}{2}$
- h. Asleep /1
- i. His savings /1
- j. Some  $\frac{1}{2}$  passersby  $\frac{1}{2}$  saw child alone  $\frac{1}{2}$  wandering /walking around the streets  $\frac{1}{2}$
- k. Hospital /1
- l. Ride  $\frac{1}{2}$  in police car  $\frac{1}{2}$
- m. A few  $\frac{1}{2}$  hours  $\frac{1}{2}$
- n. Fairy tale / Christmas fable /1

**Question 2**

- a. Reclaim faith in self /2 **or** hold head high /2
- b. Strikes /1 collapse of government /1 daily delays /1
- c. Italian /1
- d. Libraries /1 streets /1
- e. From 5<sup>th</sup> Feb /1 to 30<sup>th</sup> May /1
- f. All tastes /1 and ages /1 **or** inventive types /1 those keen on design /1
- g. US Congress  $\frac{1}{2}$  recognised  $\frac{1}{2}$  Antonio Meucci as inventor  $\frac{1}{2}$  of telephone  $\frac{1}{2}$
- h. Engineer /1
- i. Listening  $\frac{1}{2}$  watching  $\frac{1}{2}$  downloading  $\frac{1}{2}$  music  $\frac{1}{2}$  and video  $\frac{1}{2}$  from internet  $\frac{1}{2}$  (any 4 of these to get the full 2 marks)
- j. Touch /1 sit in /1
- k. Remind people not to  $\frac{1}{2}$  get discouraged  $\frac{1}{2}$  by small  $\frac{1}{2}$  inconveniences  $\frac{1}{2}$  **or** that Italians are responsible for a lot of recent and past achievements (or something similar)

**Question 3**

- a. Daughter /1 son-in-law /1 grandson/1
- b. This question was omitted as candidates were not able to find rolling pin (mattarello) in dictionary
- c. She didn't want to be left behind /1
- d. Summer /1 **or** August

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- e. Institution / a home /1
  - f. Coast  $\frac{1}{2}$  of Abbruzzi  $\frac{1}{2}$
  - g. No one /1
  - h. Pretended to be ill /1
  - i. Several  $\frac{1}{2}$  weeks  $\frac{1}{2}$
  - j. Under  $\frac{1}{2}$  the mattress  $\frac{1}{2}$
  - k. Around  $\frac{1}{2}$  16  $\frac{1}{2}$
  - l. Doctors /1
  - m. 1 mark for 'move on' forget the past' 'leave your grievances behind you' or anything like that.

### Writing in Italian

The examiners were pleased to see that the majority of the essays were of a good standard. The candidates tended to choose structures and phrases that they were familiar with rather than try to translate literally from English. Most candidates wrote in the style of the topic that they chose and avoided writing whole passages that had been pre-prepared. A good range of topics was chosen.

### Listening and Responding

As with the reading comprehension, most candidates demonstrated their understanding of the spoken texts very well.

Candidates should be reminded that in the Listening section basic vocabulary such as months, dates, numbers and letters will be included in some of the passages. It is a pity for candidates to lose marks because they had not revised or mastered these. NB Question 13 (a) was awarded 4 marks, rather than 2.

The marking scheme for the listening is as follows:

### Question 9

- a. The park /1 near  $\frac{1}{2}$  home  $\frac{1}{2}$
- b. Soccer games /1 volleyball games /1 picnics /1 listening to music /1 chat /1 laugh /1 (any 4 of these)
- c. His bedroom /1
- d. All the things  $\frac{1}{2}$  he loves  $\frac{1}{2}$
- e. Every now and then / sometimes  $\frac{1}{2}$  his mother  $\frac{1}{2}$  knocks  $\frac{1}{2}$  on his door  $\frac{1}{2}$
- f. All day long / from morning to night /1

- g. Shop  $\frac{1}{2}$  eat  $\frac{1}{2}$  window shop  $\frac{1}{2}$  read magazines  $\frac{1}{2}$  go from one shop to another  $\frac{1}{2}$ (any 4)
- h. In the mountains /1
- i. Trips / excursions /1
- j. The seaside /1
- k. Winter /1
- l. Dog /1 incredible races/runs  $\frac{1}{2}$  along beach  $\frac{1}{2}$

**Question 10**

- a. Apologise /1
- b. Lake /1
- c. At Maria's /1
- d. Call / telephone /1
- e. 1 hour /1
- f. Paolo's bike  $\frac{1}{2}$  broke  $\frac{1}{2}$  ( or tyre blew)
- g. Went back /1 Maria had spare bike /1
- h. Weather turning **or** clouds coming /1
- i. Eating /1
- j. Friday 1/2 night  $\frac{1}{2}$  at the gym /1

**Question 11**

- a. Almost  $\frac{1}{2}$  a year  $\frac{1}{2}$
- b. Beginning /1 May /1 2003 /1
- c. France /1
- d. About  $\frac{1}{2}$  100  $\frac{1}{2}$  km  $\frac{1}{2}$  from Paris  $\frac{1}{2}$
- e. Scientific /1 activities /1 for children /1
- f. Recreate  $\frac{1}{2}$  website  $\frac{1}{2}$
- g. Russia /1 Germany /1 Spain /1
- h. International encounters /1
- i. Matured a little **or** became more sure of self /1

**Question 12**

- a. Sunday 1/2 am  $\frac{1}{2}$
- b. To Guido's place /1
- c. On his patio /1 reading the paper /1
- d. Smile /1 get up /1

- e. Cousin /1
- f. Blue /1 like the water of the lake /1
- g. Church bells /1
- h. Photo /1 letter /1
- i. On small  $\frac{1}{2}$  table  $\frac{1}{2}$  in front  $\frac{1}{2}$  of him  $\frac{1}{2}$
- j. Remained silent /1
- k. Hands  $\frac{1}{2}$  shaking  $\frac{1}{2}$
- l. In the centre  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the group  $\frac{1}{2}$

### Question 13

- a. Modern  $\frac{1}{2}$  wardrobes  $\frac{1}{2}$  kitchen  $\frac{1}{2}$  tables  $\frac{1}{2}$  beds /1 couches /1 arm chairs /1 (any four)
- b. Healthy /1
- c. Light/1 tasty /1
- d. All parts/regions  $\frac{1}{2}$  of Italy  $\frac{1}{2}$  particularly  $\frac{1}{2}$  the South  $\frac{1}{2}$
- e. 06 22 41 24 30 (the whole number needed to be correct to be awarded the full mark.  $\frac{1}{2}$  mark taken off per mistake)
- f. Fatigue /1 stress /1 poor nutrition, diet, eating habits /1
- g. Those who get tired /1 those who are studying /1 those who don't eat well /1 the elderly /1 (any 3 of these)
- h. 8  $\frac{1}{2}$  vitamins  $\frac{1}{2}$
- i. Pharmacies /1
- j. Each  $\frac{1}{2}$  week  $\frac{1}{2}$
- k. More than  $\frac{1}{2}$  3000  $\frac{1}{2}$
- l. Photos /1 prices /1

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