

DESCRIPTORS FOR PRELIMS ITALIAN PAPER I

Reading comprehension (25% of the marks)

Mark	Result	Comprehension	Language
85-100	High Distinction	Exceptional performance, with full comprehension of the passage.	Exceptional performance. Flawless language and mastering of the vocabulary in the answers, excellent rephrasing with own words.
70-84	Distinction	Few problems of comprehension which do not impair the overall understanding of the passage.	Generally written in fluent and correct Italian, with appropriate rephrasing using largely own words.
55-69	Pass	Some errors of comprehension but good overall understanding of the passage (over 60% of answers given and reformulated correctly).	Generally adequate and fairly accurate language, with some mistakes, but sufficient rephrasing in the answers.
40-54	Pass	Understands between 40% and 60% of the passage.	Comprehension hampered by basic mistakes, unsuccessful or no attempt to reformulate in own words.
30-39	Fail	Largely misunderstands the passage.	Inadequate language, with frequent basic mistakes, inability to reformulate successfully.
0-29	Low Fail	Totally or almost totally misunderstands the passage.	Totally or almost totally inadequate Italian.

Listening comprehension (25% of the marks)

Mark	Result	Comprehension	Language
85-100	High Distinction	Exceptional performance, with full comprehension of the passage.	Exceptional performance. Flawless language and mastering of the vocabulary in the answers. Ability to rephrase with own words.
70-84	Distinction	Few problems of comprehension which do not impair the overall understanding of the passage.	Answers are generally written in fluent and correct Italian, though there may be few spelling or minor mistakes.
55-69	Pass	Some errors of comprehension but good overall understanding of the passage (over 60%).	Generally adequate and accurate language, with some mistakes, but successfully showing understanding of the passage.
40-54	Pass	Understands between 40% and 60% of the passage.	Answers given in largely incorrect language, with basic mistakes.
30-39	Fail	Largely misunderstands the passage.	Inadequate language, with frequent basic mistakes, inability to reformulate successfully.
0-29	Low Fail	Totally or almost totally misunderstands the passage.	Totally or almost totally inadequate Italian.

Guided Essay (50% of the marks)

Mark	Result	Essay Structure and Grammar	Vocabulary
85-100	High Distinction	Exceptional performance. Well-structured essay, high level of grammatical accuracy employing a wide range of complex structures.	Exceptional lexical range and sense of nuance, very good use of idiomatic language and register.
70-84	Distinction	Well-structured essay. High level of accuracy, though there may be some errors in more complex structures.	Wide-ranging, precise and appropriate in most contexts, use of idiomatic language and suitable register.
55-69	Pass	Few basic errors. In most cases complex structures are used correctly. Well-structured essay.	Good range of vocabulary, some spelling errors.
40-54	Pass	Frequent basic errors, but adequate grammatical knowledge displayed. Adequate essay structure.	Limited range of vocabulary, Invented words and frequent spelling errors.
30-39	Fail	Inadequate knowledge of grammar displayed. Almost all complex structures inaccurately handled and very frequent mistakes in even basic forms.	Inadequate. Basic levels of communication are not achieved.
0-29	Low Fail	Gravely inadequate knowledge of grammar.	Severely inadequate knowledge.

Approved by Ital. SF: 23/10/07