



UNIVERSITÀ DI PISA



CENTRO LINGUISTICO
Language Centre

Italian Language Test at the University of Pisa

for non-European citizens residing abroad

GUIDE

(September 2019)



The University of Pisa is an old and prestigious university. Many of its graduates are famous throughout the world. This explains why many foreigners every year apply to be admitted to follow courses here.

The city of Pisa is located in a geographic position which makes for very easy travelling to other Italian, European or non-European destinations. Furthermore (and this is not of little importance) Pisa lies in one of the most beautiful regions in Italy, characterised by resorts in the mountains, hills and at the sea - very pleasant places to stay.

If you want to enrol at the University of Pisa, make sure as soon as possible if you are required to do the Italian language test¹. If this is the case, this guide will help you in giving you useful information so you may pass the exam as best you can. Please contact the Language Centre of the University for any further information you need.

This guide provides you with:

- relevant dates and locations of the exams
- points concerning the course program preparing you to pass the exam
- a brief description of the exam.

1. WHEN AND WHERE

The date of the Italian Language Test is established annually by the Italian Minister of Education, University and Research.

The test for the academic year 2019-20 will take place on **2nd September 2019, at 9.30 a.m.** at the Pisa University Language Centre, in via Santa Maria 89, laboratory 8, ground floor.

¹ In order to verify if you do have to do the Italian language test contact the “Unità Promozione Internazionale dell’Università di Pisa” (international@unipi.it).

2. COURSE PROGRAM FOR THE B2 LEVEL

General Objectives

The objective of the B2 level is for candidates to be capable of understanding complex texts on both concrete and abstract topics, including technical discussions in his/her field of specialisation. At the B2 level the student should be able to understand written and oral texts on current topics or topics of general interest, describe, recount, express opinions, provide reasoning and explanation of opinions, projects and actions by using various linguistic functions. He/she should be able to interact with native speakers without effort for either party and to have discussions related to his/her study discipline; furthermore, he/she should be able to follow a university lecture without effort, being also able to take notes.

Skills and competence

A student possessing level B2 has the following skills and competence:

Oral production: Can give clear, systematically developed descriptions and presentations, with appropriate highlighting of significant points, and relevant supporting detail.

Writing: Can effectively write clear, detailed texts on a variety of subjects, synthesising and evaluating information and topics from a number of sources.

Oral comprehension: Can understand standard spoken language, live or broadcast, on both familiar and unfamiliar topics normally encountered in social, academic or vocational life and can understand technical discussions in his/her field of specialisation.

Writing Comprehension: Can read with a large degree of independence, adapting style and speed of reading to different texts and purposes, and using appropriate reference sources selectively.

Has a broad active reading vocabulary, but may experience some difficulty with low frequency idioms. Can use a variety of strategies to achieve comprehension, including listening for main points and using contextual clues.

Interaction: Can use the language fluently, accurately and effectively on a wide range of general, academic, vocational or leisure topics, marking clearly the relationships between ideas.

Can communicate spontaneously with good grammatical control without much sign of having to restrict what he/she wants to say, adopting a level of formality appropriate to the circumstances.

Can interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular interaction, and sustained relationships with native speakers quite possible without imposing effort on either party.

Socio-pragmatic competence: awareness of the relation between standard, neostandard e sub standard languages of Italian; linguistic register and diaphasic variability among the various contexts of use; diatopic differences in pronunciation and lexis (see: problem of geosynonyms).

During the test grammatical, lexical and textual competence will be assessed as far as historical, expository and narrative texts are concerned based on topics to do with Italian history, culture and society. There will be different types of exercises in the test (e.g. multiple choice, cloze test etc.)

3. COURSE MATERIAL AND REFERENCES: MANUALS, GRAMMAR PAGES, EXERCICES

For self-study the following is suggested:

- AA.VV, *Italiano in cinque minuti*, volumi 1 e 2, Alma edizioni, 2009
- Elettra Ercolino, T. Anna Pellegrino, *L'utile e il dilettevole. Esercizi e regole per comunicare*, volume 1 (liv. A1-B1) e volume 2 (liv. B2-C2), Loescher Editore, 2012
- S. Bailini, S. Consonno, *I verbi italiani. Grammatica, esercizi e giochi*, Alma edizioni, 2004
- S. Nocchi, *Grammatica pratica della lingua italiana*, Alma edizioni, 2006
- S. Nocchi, *Grammatica pratica della lingua italiana per cinesi*, Alma edizioni, 2008
- R. Tartaglione, *Le prime 3000 parole italiane con esercizi*, Alma edizioni, 2017

In depth study suggestions:

- L. Serianni, *Grammatica italiana*, UTET Università, 2006
- G. Salvi, L. Vanelli, *Nuova grammatica italiana*, Il Mulino, 2004

Websites:

- <http://italianoperstranieri.loescher.it/>
- <https://www.almaedizioni.it/it/>
- <http://parliamoitaliano.altervista.org/>

4. DESCRIPTION OF THE TEST

In the August session of 2018 the **Italian test** will measure the linguistic competence of candidates on their comprehension of a written and oral text and oral production.

The written test, which lasts no more than 120 minutes, is carried out on a computer*. It consists of exercises of a typology much widespread in language study (e.g. multiple choice, cloze test, etc.). After the written test candidates will be asked to take an oral test, which will be part of the final score.

The test results will be given a few days after the test on the CLI website.

** Those who need assistance during the test are requested to report to the “Unità Promozione Internazionale” during the registration period for the test.*

5. CONTACTS

CLI (Centro Linguistico): cli@cli.unipi.it

Unità Promozione Internazionale: international@unipi.it

For information about course times and dates and CLI activities please consult:

<http://www.cli.unipi.it>

CLI – Centro Linguistico dell’Università di Pisa

Organizzazione con Sistema di gestione qualità certificato UNI EN ISO 9001:2015