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Living Language Italian, Complete Edition: Beginner Through Advanced Course, Including 3 Coursebooks, 9 Audio CDs, And Free Online Learning



Synopsis

Complete Italian is a unique multimedia program that takes you beginner to advanced level in one convenient package. At the core of Complete Italian is the Living Language Method, based on linguistic science, proven techniques, and over 65 years of experience. Our method teaches you the whole language, so you can express yourself, not just recite memorized words or scripts. Millions have learned with Living Language. Now it's your turn.

3 Books: 46 lessons, additional review exercises, culture notes, an extensive glossary, and a grammar summary plus a bonus notebook

9 Audio CDs: Vocabulary, dialogues, audio exercises, and more listen while using the books or use for review on the go

Free Online Learning: Flashcards, games, and interactive quizzes for each lesson at www.livinglanguage.com/languagelab

To learn more visit livinglanguage.com

The Living Language Method

- Build a Foundation Start speaking Italian immediately using essential words and phrases.
- Progress with Confidence Build on each lesson as you advance to full sentences, then actual conversations.
- Retain what You've Learned Special recall exercises move your new language from short-term to long-term memory.
- Achieve Your Goals Don't just mimic or memorize. Develop practical language skills to speak in any situation.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

English is my second language, and I am not a big fan of leaving feedback, since my English writing

is poor. However, I decided to leave this feedback since Living Language really has to be appreciated for their great method of teaching, their great service and their great price that is very affordable. It has been a while that I am trying to learn Italian language, I tried Rosseta Stones, Pimsleur, and also I experienced having a private Italian teacher. I am so pleased with the Living Language methods of teaching, and I highly recommended. The CD's guide you step by step through all the exercises in the book, and it explains you all the grammar's exceptional that there are in Italian language. Good luck.

This is a really good and thorough course in the language that presents in conversational form all the major concepts: verb tenses (present, past, & future) & moods (indicative, subjunctive, conditional, & imperative), idiomatic phrases, and other grammatical structures. It looks about equal to two college semesters of Italian (maybe three, depending on how different schools structure their language programs; it's essentially first-year Italian). I've been using this course for two weeks now and am halfway through it. I wouldn't recommend this pace, but I mention it so you can interpret what complaints I have in light of it. This course consists of 3 books: Essential, Intermediate, and Advanced, and includes a blank notebook and 9 audio CD's that correspond to the lessons in the books. There is also an online language lab for quizzing knowledge. The whole course comes in a cardboard slipcase. The lesson books are about the ideal size: lightweight paperbacks, between the size of a trade paperback and an average college textbook; they're big enough to spread out and work with, but small and light enough to use nearly anywhere. The English type is in black, and the Italian in blue, which aids learning. The course is 46 lessons in all, and seems built around language immersion, emphasizing conversational phrases and language that you might use when travelling to/studying in Italy. From this use, of course, you could go anywhere with the language. This course's grammatical explanations are clear and comprehensive, though I might want many more examples to really understand the concepts from a variety of angles and in a variety of situations. (My learning style is more analytical than intuitive, and I don't mind poring over grammar & verb charts to drink in concepts.) This course does a good job of introducing new vocabulary and grammatical concepts "on the fly," by which I mean it throws these things in without formally explaining them beforehand. The reason I find this a good thing is because that's how one would encounter the language in Italy or with a fluent speaker, and this course trains you to be always attentive to new words, phrases, and grammar. I might like a vocab. list at the end of each lesson for new words introduced in that lesson, rather than the glossary for the entire course at the end of each book. But that LL omits vocab. lists does encourage active learning. The notebook that LL

provides seems to be for the purpose of writing down new vocab. as one encounters it, and new idiomatic phrases and verb conjugations, etc. The "Unit Essentials" sections in the Intermed. and Adv. books are useful for summarizing key grammatical concepts; likewise the general language summary at the end of each book. I also might like a comprehensive table of contents to help me review what sections of the course I might need to as I use the language once completing the course. The unit outlines along the top of each page are detailed enough for this, but require more flipping through from unit to unit than would a table of contents. Quizzes come about every 4 lessons to reinforce material. They seem a little short for really testing full knowledge, but that they are short and a little easy does keep you moving through the course, rather than getting bogged down on concepts that you will pick up anyway as you keep using the language. LL points out further resources for using the language, such as Italian newspapers and message boards, and one could even find on Youtube Italian news broadcasts and other audio-video resources. I find the online language lab to be moderately useful: I'm glad it's there, but it doesn't clinch my grasp of new concepts. (The book and CD dialogues do that for me.) Some of the games in the language lab seem distracting, like the word search and "pop the bubbles," but they do lighten the mood a bit. The online flashcards and sentence completions are useful exercises beyond the exercises in the books. Overall, this is a solid course that will teach you Italian. I think the best learning will result from using all the course's materials, as LL suggests, including practicing with the CD recordings, filling up the notebook with vocab., idiomatic expressions, and verb conjugations, and reviewing these regularly. The whole course (Complete Italian) is a good value for the price, though the Essential might not seem so for being so basic. Once I master Italian, I plan to use other Living Language Complete packages to learn other languages.

I love it!!! I am learning Italian very fast! Had just try the CD's for now while driving but it's been just 3 weeks and my advances had been over my expectations, can't wait to check the rest of the material. What I love is that it teaches a lot of vocabulary and later it is put together so you can use it on complete sentences and until now for daily life, I need it for my job and I was able to understand a short conversation between native speakers

This is an excellent program for me as a beginner. I had previously worked with 2 other texts. I prefer Living Language because it has the best approach and content for me. Also, each of the 3 volumes is small enough to carry wherever I go. So, I can study more often and make good use of my time.

Even though I've finished only the first section (Essentials), I'm quite comfortable in my ability to engage in basic communication next month in Italy. The combination of listening, speaking, reading, reviewing and testing all reinforce the most important aspects of learning a new language. I'm excited to use my newly developed skills, and to continue my study for subsequent trips.

Great course for getting you to learn the important vocabulary you'll need when travelling! More focused on useful words, as opposed to another language learning system I tried through my local library. This is very easy to use, while still making you think to answer properly. I'll be in good shape if I just complete the first (Essential) level before my trip, I believe...

Great tool for my husband to learn Italian and to also help me keep my skills up! I speak Italian and learned from my mom growing up, but I've found that over the years I've lost a little and have never really learned large enough amounts of the language anyway to really have a meaningful conversation with my cousins in Italy. This set really helps me to reinforce the skills I already have and solidify them. It is also very helpful to my husband who I have provided a foundation to, he can build upon what he already knows and things really start to make sense to him when he listens to the CDs and recognizes some of the concepts. Just as an FYI, my current level is I can definitely get by in Italy, no problem, but I'd probably have a hard time with professionally translating if that were my line of work. :)

First of all this is very good value to include the books and nine CD's. I have found the content to be extremely valuable as a teaching source and the conversations are beneficial to the students. It is a very good language resource. Top marks.

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