
ILLINOIS CERTIFICATION TESTING SYSTEM

FIELD 130 FOREIGN LANGUAGE: ITALIAN TEST FRAMEWORK

November 2003

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Listening Comprehension
Reading and Vocabulary
Language Structures and Acquisition
Cultural Knowledge
Written Expression
Oral Expression

SUBAREA I—LISTENING COMPREHENSION

0001 Demonstrate an understanding of oral communication in Italian.

For example:

- Demonstrate comprehension of oral and audio presentations unsupported by visual aids.
- Demonstrate an understanding of questions or comments likely to be encountered in a social situation.
- Demonstrate an understanding of requests for information.

0002 Derive essential information from oral messages in real-life situations.

For example:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the main idea and details in a spoken passage.
- Demonstrate an understanding of a telephone message or public-address announcement.
- Demonstrate an understanding of a sequence of steps described in a set of oral directions.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the stated cause and effect of a situation described in an oral message.

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0003 Infer meaning from oral communications.

For example:

- Assess the tone, mood, or point of view of one or more speakers.
- Analyze the social context of a spoken exchange or the relationship between speakers.
- Analyze a relationship (e.g., cause-and-effect) implied but not stated in an oral communication.

SUBAREA II—READING AND VOCABULARY

0004 Demonstrate an understanding of written passages, including electronic texts, in Italian.

For example:

- Demonstrate comprehension of key vocabulary as well as the main message of complex materials without the help of visual representations.
- Demonstrate an understanding of written material as presented in various media in Italian (e.g., Internet sites, CD-ROMs, periodicals).

0005 Demonstrate an understanding of the literal content of a variety of authentic materials.

For example:

- Analyze a passage to determine the stated main idea or an accurate summary.
- Analyze a passage to determine details regarding character, setting, or events.
- Analyze a passage to determine the sequence of events.

0006 Apply skills of inference and interpretation to a variety of authentic materials.

For example:

- Infer setting or character attributes from information provided in a passage.
- Determine implied cause-and-effect relationships in a passage.
- Infer an author's assumptions, purpose, or point of view in a passage.

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SUBAREA III—LANGUAGE STRUCTURES AND ACQUISITION

0007 Analyze sentences to determine grammatically correct words or phrases to complete them.

For example:

- Recognize the correct noun, pronoun form, or pronominal particle for a given context.
- Recognize verb forms or phrases as appropriate for a given context.
- Recognize the appropriate modifying word or phrase to complete a sentence.
- Recognize the appropriate subordinate clause to complete a sentence.

0008 Transform sentences or passages in context according to given instructions.

For example:

- Transform a positive statement, question, or command to a negative one or vice versa.
- Transform the mood or tense of a sentence or passage.
- Combine two or more sentences into one sentence that preserves the meaning of the original sentences.
- Transform a sentence or passage from direct to indirect discourse or vice versa.

0009 Demonstrate the ability to organize, analyze, and explain to students the structure of the Italian language.

For example:

- Demonstrate an ability to explain and correct inappropriate use of verb tenses, grammatical forms, and word order.
- Organize parts of speech into grammatically and syntactically correct sentences.
- Demonstrate the ability to analyze linguistic structures of the Italian language and present them in a way that is understandable to students.

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0010 Understand processes involved in second-language acquisition.

For example:

- Demonstrate knowledge of language development and the role of language learning as it pertains to second-language acquisition.
- Demonstrate knowledge of instructional strategies for developing students' communicative skills in a second language (i.e., listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills) and ways to adjust instruction to facilitate optimal learning for all students.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of various classroom activities for developing students' communicative skills in a second language.
- Demonstrate knowledge of major theories of second-language acquisition and the approaches, methodologies, and strategies that promote second-language acquisition.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the ways students' native language, prior knowledge, and educational background influence second-language acquisition.

SUBAREA IV—CULTURAL KNOWLEDGE

0011 Demonstrate an understanding of manners, customs, and ranges of cultural expression of Italy.

For example:

- Identify culturally appropriate behaviors in a variety of contexts.
- Demonstrate a familiarity with cultural practices in Italy (e.g., festivals, sports, music, fashion, design).
- Identify food and meal customs in Italy.
- Compare topics, types, and styles of media communication (e.g., television, radio, CD-ROM, software, films, online resources, Web sites, periodicals) in Italy.

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0012 Demonstrate an understanding of the arts (e.g., music, dance, folk art, visual art, drama, architecture) and literature of Italy.

For example:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the cultural and historical significance of characteristic art forms of Italy.
- Identify characteristics, origins, and representatives of various artistic styles and movements using Italian vocabulary.
- Compare and analyze Italian literary themes, styles, and perspectives across authors and genres.
- Explain the influence of a historical period on form, style, and point of view in a variety of Italian literary works.
- Identify characteristics, origins, and authors of major literary forms using Italian vocabulary.

0013 Demonstrate an understanding of the history and geography of Italy.

For example:

- Identify key historical events and diverse historical figures (e.g., scientists, mathematicians, inventors, business leaders) associated with Italy and explain their influence.
- Compare and contrast the influences of historical events and diverse historical figures and their impact on the development of Italy.
- Analyze different perspectives on historical events using a variety of media and technology (e.g., maps, charts, digital images, graphs).
- Demonstrate knowledge of the physical and cultural geography of Italy (e.g., population distribution, resources, and major economic activities).
- Analyze how migration and settlement patterns have affected the culture, economy, and environment of Italy throughout history.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the currency, products, and economic and political systems of contemporary Italy.

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SUBAREA V—WRITTEN EXPRESSION

0014 Use Italian to present in writing information, concepts, and ideas for a variety of purposes and audiences.

For example:

- Write an expository piece that describes and analyzes a given situation.
- Write an account that describes the reasoning behind a significant personal decision.
- Write a letter that is appropriate in style and diction for a given audience, purpose, and occasion.

SUBAREA VI—ORAL EXPRESSION

0015 In response to a prompt, construct connected oral discourse in Italian that communicates a message effectively and that demonstrates command of a range of vocabulary, idiomatic expressions, and simple and complex language structures.

For example:

- Describe events or actions in tenses appropriate to the task.
- Discuss advantages and disadvantages of a given topic.
- Respond to a hypothetical situation (e.g., purchasing airline tickets) by explaining events, describing events, or requesting assistance.