

Italian II-III

Why studying Italian?

Roberta Pennasilico,
Naples American Middle High School
In collaborazione con
Sant'Anna Institute, Sorrento



Why learn Italian?

It is a musical language

It is the language of a rich literary and cultural tradition

Italy is a leading country in culinary, fashion, design, art, etc. (*made in Italy* is a synonym for quality)

It is relatively easy to read and write ("best phonetic fit")

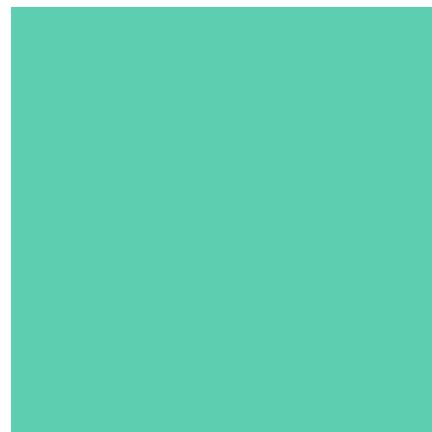
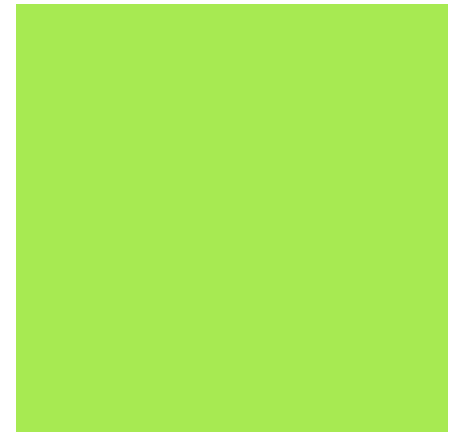
It can help you find a very interesting job

It helps in a global economy

It is one of the most studied languages in the world

It is the closest language to Latin

It helps you learn your language and culture better





Why should you consider Italian as a «friendly language»?

You will probably be surprised to find out that you know and use more Italian words than you think... In fact, a lot of words that you use on a regular basis derive from Latin, so they are very close to Italian!

For example: look at the picture on the side, taken from the web; how many words do you recognize on the signs?



Nome = *name*
Studente = *student*
Class = *classe*
Television = *televisione*
Station = *stazione*
Professor = *professore*
Poet = *poeta*
Rose = *rosa*

Train = *treno*
Aspirin = *aspirina*
Music = *musica*
School = *scuola*
Animal = *animale*
Study = *studiare*



Cognates



Cognates are words that travel from one language to another; they change slightly in the spelling and in the pronunciation but the correspondence is obvious.

These words are very important because they:

1. help students build a **vocabulary** quite easy and fast.
2. lower the level of **anxiety** during the learning process.
3. reveal some interesting **historical** anecdotes.

salary

candidate

ballot

Examples of cognates



special - speciale

artist - artista

doctor - dottore

melon - melone

music - musica

dentist - dentista

generous - generoso

precious - prezioso

city - città

station - stazione

ambitious - ambizioso

nation - nazione

violin - violino

hospital - ospedale

horrible - orribile

correct - corretto

agency - agenzia

protest - protesta

helicopter - elicottero

symphony - sinfonia

palace - palazzo

service - servizio

pharmacy - farmacia

licence - licenza

journal - giornale

bank - banca

market - mercato

gentle - gentile



There are also some few **false** cognates, that are fun to study. They also help deepen the knowledge of both the target language and your own.

	is not: 	but: 
accident	accidente	incidente
actually	attualmente	in effetti
parents	parenti	genitori
factory	fattoria	fabbrica
annoying	noioso	fastidioso
comprehensive	comprensivo	inclusivo
argument	argomento	discussione
library	libreria	biblioteca
rumor	rumore	diceria





Where's the false friend in the sentences below?

Ieri mi sono divertita molto: la festa era terrifica!

terrific / **bellissima**

Poverino, ha un'addizione per le sigarette!

addiction / **dipendenza**

Ora non si parlano, ma prima avevano un affare.

affair / **relazione**

Gli ho detto la verità bara.

bare / **nuda**

I vincitori hanno fatto 200 cattivi.

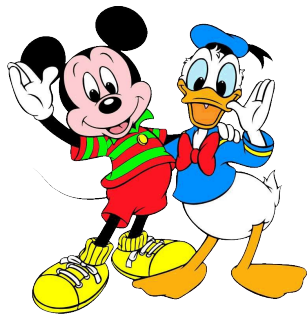
captives / **prigionieri**

Sono stata appuntata presidente!

appointed / **nominata**

Faccio la collezione di comici di Spiderman.

comics / **fumetti**



Borrowings

Borrowings are those words that travel from one language to another but they are left (almost) unaltered in the spelling and in the pronunciation:

Inglese → Italiano

Italiano → Inglese

hot-dog, rock'n'roll, jazz, junior, goal, poster, pic-nic, sport (hockey, surf, snowboard), shock, robot, jazz, stereo, boy scout, computer, yacht, software, hardware, social network, drink, cocktail, good-by, hamburger, mouse, jet, compact disc, business, marketing, master, leader, manager, backstage, sexy, internet, funky, reggae, laser, sandwich, beauty farm, replay, weekend, show, mobbing.....

broccoli, allegro, cappuccino, espresso, pasta, pizza, provolone, spaghetti, pesto, trio, opera, orchestra, piano, soprano, viola, maestro, fiasco, influenza, propaganda, bravo, prima donna, aria, lava, cameo, studio, replica, terracotta, video, studio, manifesto, scenario, incognito, motto, gusto, piazza, villa.....



False borrowings = some English words have been absorbed by the Italian language but are used in a different way or not used at all in the original language.

	
footing	jogging
autostop	hitch-hiking
box	garage
camping	camp site
flipper	pin ball
golf	sweater
peeling	facial scrub
playback	lip singing
pullman	bus

	
slip	panties
smoking	tuxedo
spider	sports car
spot	TV or radio ad
telefilm	TV show
tip tap	tap dance
top model	super model
luna park	amusement park
block notes	note pad

One more help for English speaking students: learning Italian will help you acquire a more **sophisticated** vocabulary in your own language.

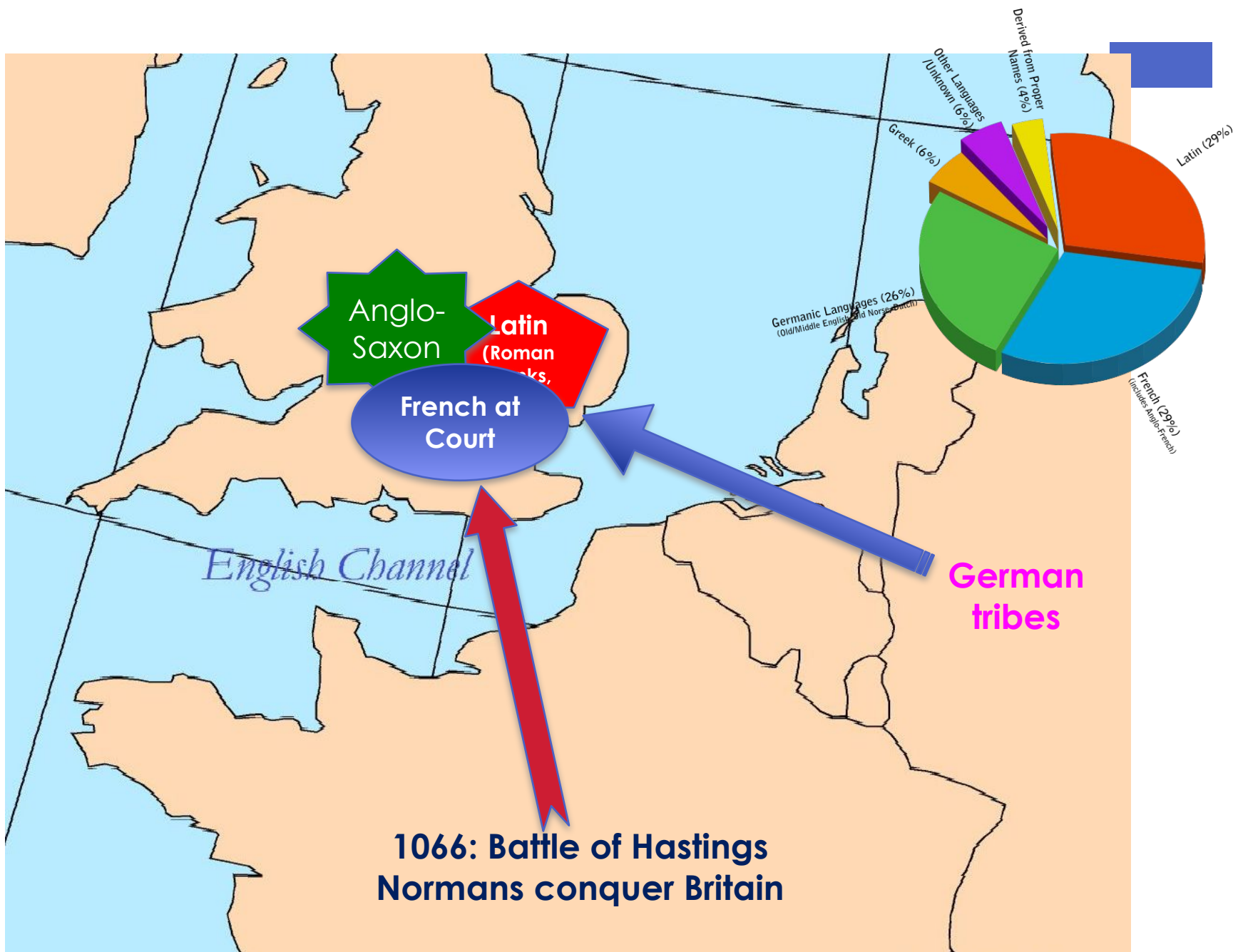


Examples:

English 1	English 2	Italian
freedom	liberty	libertà
luck	fortune	fortuna
childish	immature	immaturo
deep	profound	profondo
feeling	sentiment	sentimento
to give in	to capitulate	capitolare
moody	lunatic	lunatico
loving	amorous	amoroso
to put off	procrastinate	procrastinare
brave	corageous	coraggioso
unhappiness	infelicity	infelicità



Inglese 1	Inglese 2	Italiano
shallow	superficial	superficiale
to fix	to repair	riparare
to bargain	to negotiate	negoziare
anger	animosity	animosità
to worsen	to deteriorate	deteriorare
lower	inferior	inferiore
to grow	to cultivate	coltivare
painful	dolorous	doloroso
flabby	flaccid	flaccido
revenge	vendetta	vendetta



Historical reasons why English has a dual vocabulary

+ The point is...



Italian and English are closer than you think!



Don't feel intimidated to try speak Italian.



Learning Italian will enrich your own language.





MANTIENI
LA CALMA
E
PARLA IN
ITALIANO



io
parlo
italiano



Roberta Pennasilico