

# 2017 VCE Italian written examination report

## General comments

In 2017, most students demonstrated an understanding of the requirements of each section of the examination. It is recommended that students complete the examination in pen and practise writing legibly under timed conditions. Many students made good use of the note-taking sections of the examination and paid careful attention to the marks allocated for each question, which assisted them with responding to the questions in the required detail.

In order to score highly students are required to have mastered their language skills as stipulated in the *VCE Italian Study Design*. However, all students undertaking this examination are expected to demonstrate competence in the use of tenses such as present, present perfect, imperfect, pluperfect, future, future anterior, and in the use of the conditional moods. Furthermore, it is imperative that all students are able to formulate responses with accurate agreement and with correct articles and prepositions, and that they have knowledge of connectives. Lastly, it is essential that students know how to make effective use of their bilingual dictionary in order to elicit accurate responses.

## Specific information

**Note: Student responses reproduced in this report have not been corrected for grammar, spelling or factual information.**

This report provides sample answers or an indication of what answers may have included. Unless otherwise stated, these are not intended to be exemplary or complete responses.

## Section 1 – Listening and responding

Students generally completed this section well; however, careless responses in English resulted in some students missing out on marks due to inaccurate or ambiguous responses. For example, in Question 1a., when asked about the location of the performance, some responses were: *'in a stadium in Milan'*, *'in a studio in Milan'*, or simply *'Milan'*. In Question 1d., when answering the question how Anna responds to the invitation, some students wrote: *'She does not know whether she will go'*, *'She does not know whether she wants to go'*, *'She will think about it'*. In Question 2c., some careless answers included: *'Matteo suggests that Anna takes her car because his brother's car doesn't have enough room'*, *'because his car is at the mechanic'*.

## Part A – Answer in English

Many students gave inaccurate or incomplete responses to some questions, highlighting that they need to carefully edit their work for accuracy.

**Text 1**

**Question 1a.**

Milan Stadium

**Question 1b.**

- He does not want to go on his own.
- He is scared of getting lost.

**Question 1c.**

- The concert is next Thursday.
- It commences at 10 pm.

**Question 1d.**

- Anna is uncertain whether she can go/whether she is free.
- She will let him know by next Tuesday.

**Text 2**

**Question 2a.**

Alessandro and Francesca

**Question 2b.**

- His brother lost his job.
- Matteo gifted his brother a ticket.

**Question 2c.**

His car can only take four/only has four seats/it would be a bit tight.

**Question 2d.**

Anna asks to borrow her mother's car.

**Question 2e.**

Speaker	Preferred exhibition	Type of artwork exhibited
Matteo	winter exhibition	photographs
Anna	Renaissance exhibition	pictures/paintings
Matteo's brother	contemporary exhibition	modern/contemporary art and architecture or architectural designs

**Part B – Answer in Italian**

In this section, many students understood the texts; however, their performance was often hindered by incomplete answers, or by poorly structured responses that resulted in inaccurate answers.

### Text 3

#### Question 3a.

*I social media danno l'impressione di avere molti più amici di quanti in effetti ne abbiamo. (Social media makes us believe that we have many more friends than we have in reality.)*

The following is an example of a high-scoring response.

*In base ai social media molte persone pensano di avere tanti amici, ma è difficile sapere se sono autentici.*

#### Question 3b.

*Sofia, per far riflettere sul tema dell'amicizia pone delle domande e fa ascoltare/mette in onda una canzone. (In order to reflect on the topic of friendship, Sofia asks some questions and plays a song.)*

The following is an example of a high-scoring response.

*Sofia trasmette una canzone, 'Amico Mio' che parla del tema di amicizia, e lei introduce le domande su cui i radioascoltatori possono riflettere: cos'è un amico, dove lo possiamo trovare e perché è importante avere amici.*

### Text 4

#### Question 4a.

*Il dottor Poli è contento perchè dopo l'intervista andrà a fare colazione al suo bar preferito. (Dr Poli is happy because after the interview he will be having breakfast at his favourite bar/café.)*

The following is an example of a high-scoring response.

*Il Dottor Poli è contento riguardo la sua intervista perchè dopo può fare colazione nel suo bar preferito che si trova vicino.*

#### Question 4b.

*Scegliamo come amici persone della stessa città con gli stessi costume e tradizioni locali. (We chose friends who live in the same city and share the same customs and traditions.)*

#### Question 4c.

*I suggerimenti sono di non perdere tempo cercando persone della propria città. Invece si devono cercare persone con passioni e esperienze simili alle nostre. (The suggestions are to not waste time searching for people from your own city, instead to look for people who share similar our passions and experiences.)*

#### Question 4d.

*Siccome siamo animali sociali, più amici abbiamo, più siamo contenti. (As we are social beings, the more friends we have, the happier we are.)*

The following is an example of a high-scoring response.

*Secondo lui, la relazione tra amicizia e percezione è forte perchè gli umani sono animali sociali e allora le amicizie hanno un impatto diretto sulla percezione di sé stessi.*

## Section 2 – Reading and responding

In this section of the examination, some students were inaccurate in their responses with regard to dates and ordinal numbers. For example, in Question 5a., some responses were: 'in the 1800s', '800 years ago', '18th century'. In Question 5e., one response was: 'They had a private sea'. Furthermore, some responses were carelessly structured. For example, in Question 5g., some responses included: 'The service was a shame', 'hysterical building', 'The bar ran out of drinks'.

**Text 5**

**Question 5a.**

beginning of/early 19th century

**Question 5b.**

- looking for peace/tranquility
- wanting good food

**Question 5c.**

- for its cocktails
- the set of the famous romantic film *L'Incontro* (*The Meeting*)

**Question 5d.**

Amenity	Floor/level
Restaurant <i>Madreperla</i> ('Mother of Pearl')	first floor
Bar Otto	first floor
gym	second floor
Panorama Terrace	sixth floor

**Question 5e.**

An exclusive feature is the private beach.

**Question 5f.**

- Peace: The hotel advertises peace/tranquillity but he says it was a noisy hotel (the room facing the market square was very noisy).
- Service: The hotel advertises good service but their room was changed only after repeated requests or they were only helped after repeated requests.

**Question 5g.**

Clients	Expectations met	Expectations not met
Elio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• view of sea from terrace</li> <li>• good/professional service</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• bar always full/crowded</li> </ul>
Anna	historic building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• bad/shameful service</li> <li>• bar was expensive</li> </ul>

**Question 5h.**

- The tone is negative: she is disappointed/sarcastic/angry/unsatisfied/unhappy.
- One of:
  - set from horror movie
  - negative experience
  - not recommended.

## Part B – Answer in Italian

### Text 6

#### Question 6a.

*Perché per le donne deve essere una scelta tra famiglia e fare carriera? Perché non possono avere entrambi? (Why is it necessary for women to choose between family and career? Why can't they have both?)*

The following is an example of a high-scoring response.

*L'autore del discorso chiede perché le donne devono scegliere tra una carriera o una famiglia. La domanda si riferisce alla possibilità che le donne possono avere entrambi (una famiglia e una carriera).*

#### Question 6b.

*Si dovrebbe sapere usare efficientemente la tecnologia, per esempio robot per i processi ripetitivi produttivi, i droni possono spostare oggetti e i cellulari per le videoconferenze da casa. Queste strategie migliorerebbero lo stile di vita dei lavoratori. (You must know how to make efficient use of technology, for example robots for repetitive production processes, drones to move objects and mobile phones for videoconferences from home. These strategies would improve the lifestyle of workers.)*

## Section 3 – Writing in Italian

Students generally wrote on topic; however, in many cases there was a lack of depth and breadth of ideas, which affected the overall marks achieved for this section. High-scoring responses adhered to the relevant text type required and covered the topic effectively. These texts featured original ideas that were well sequenced, coherent and that incorporated the student's mastery of the language. The most popular question was Question 11, writing a letter to a friend trying to persuade them to join you on a gap year adventure instead of taking up a university place in Australia.

The following are extracts from high-scoring passages.

#### Example 1

*Caro diario,*

*22/11/17*

*Non scrivo una pagina di diario da tanto tempo, sembra molto strano. Mi sento che ci siano troppo cose da annotare, ma allo stesso tempo non so cosa scrivere! Ho appena letto il diario da quando avevo 12 anni – uffa! Che vergogna! Mentre leggevo qualche pagina, pensavo 'meno male che non sono la stessa persona!' Mi piaceva One Direction da morire, ed ero troppo sicura di me stessa. Però, questo diario mi ha fatto pensare alla mia vita adesso, ...*

#### Example 2

*... comunque, adesso ho 18 anni, sono molto più matura di 5 anni fa (almeno lo spero!), e devo preoccuparmi per il mondo oltre la scuola. Ancora non sono molto sicura di cosa voglio studiare, però penso medicina perchè mi piace aiutare la gente, è una cosa molto soddisfacente. Infatti, visto la situazione del mondo adesso, essere un dottore darebbe una carriera adatta per me! ...*

#### Example 3

*... Cavolo! Non sapevo che scrivessi per 2 ore! Devo andare a letto, domani ho un'intervista ...*