

ECCOCI ITALIA

AN ITALIAN AUDIO LEARNING PROGRAM
FOR STUDENTS OF ALL LEVELS

EXPRESSIONS



LEARN ITALIAN WITH AUDIO

Expressions List - Introduction

This is a comprehensive Expressions List that we have carefully compiled for you as an additional learning tool to compliment your Audio Program. The expressions are taken directly from the script and are those you will find in **bold** text in the written Italian version and bilingual version.

This Expressions List is far more than just a simple translation of certain expressions. We have selected the key phrases from each chapter that we believe will serve you most: They include expressions that are very commonly used in everyday spoken Italian; as well as expressions that you, as an English speaker, may have trouble understanding, even with a relatively high level of Italian.

Our aim is to give you a thorough comprehension of not just what these expressions mean, but also how they are used in **everyday real scenarios**, so you can start using them from day 1.

Here is an example of how the Expressions List is set out.

ITALIAN EXPRESSION	ENGLISH TRANSLATION	NOTES
<i>Si rendono conto</i>	<i>They realize</i>	This is a very common expression, synonymous with the verb ACCORGERSI. They are both reflexive verbs so they always require the reflexive pronoun.
Infinitive: RENDERSI CONTO	<i>To realize</i>	
	Literally: <i>They render account</i>	
		MI SONO RESO CONTO <i>I realized</i> TI RENDI CONTO? <i>Do you realize?</i> CI RENDIAMO CONTO <i>We realize</i>

As you can see, there are three columns:

1. ITALIAN EXPRESSION

Here you will find the exact expression taken from the script. In many cases, the expression is used in a conjugated form and in a different verb tense or mood, so we have also included the Infinitive form of the verb for you.

2. ENGLISH TRANSLATION

Here you will find the English translation for each expression. Many of these Italian expressions can be rendered in different ways in English, so we have also included other possible translations where appropriate. If the Italian Infinitive verb is provided for an expression, then you will also find the English Infinitive translation next to it in this column.

Most expressions come with a literal translation under "Literally". This is not to be confused as a true translation or real meaning of the expression. It has been provided simply as an interesting way, from an English-speaking point of view, to see how the Italian expression is formed and the components that make it up: what is it that Italians are actually saying in this expression. It gives an insight into the Italian way of thinking about the world and it gives you a deeper understanding of how the Italian language works.

3. NOTES

Each of the notes for every expression is almost like a mini lesson in itself. In this column, we provide you a deeper explanation of the expression in a clear and concise manner. We explain the specific context or contexts in which the expression is used; we highlight the more subtle nuances and other meanings that may be conveyed by each expression; we present important grammar points about sentence structure and verb tense; and we provide more examples using the same expression in order to illustrate exactly how it is used in different contexts. What level of Italian are these expressions intended for?

This Expressions List will benefit learners of **all levels**.

If you are a beginner, most of the expressions, if not all, will be new to you. Some are more simple and more commonly used than others, so even as a Beginner **you can start using many of them straight away**. This will also be a great chance for you to familiarize yourself with the more complex and advanced ones, so that further down the track when you have reached a more advanced level and feel confident enough you will already know of them and can then start to use them.

If you are more of an intermediate or advanced learner, you will definitely benefit greatly from this Expressions List. Even advanced learners will encounter many useful expressions that they have never heard or been taught.

As you will have a deeper understanding of verb tense and conjugation, it will be easier for you to use these expressions in any context and environment.

We hope you find this Expressions List as **abundantly useful** as we believe it is. Not only will this Audio Program vastly improve your listening and comprehension skills, but with the aid of this Expressions List, you will also be able to greatly improve your spoken Italian by using the expressions learned within.

Enjoy!

CHAPTER 1

FINALMENTE A CASA - FINALLY HOME!

ITALIAN EXPRESSION	ENGLISH TRANSLATION	NOTES
<i>Aver fatto scalo</i> Infinitive: FARE SCALO	<i>Having made a layover</i> <i>To have a layover</i> <i>To stopover</i>	"Aver fatto scalo" is in the Past Infinitive form: AVERE + PAST PARTICIPLE = <i>having done [something]</i> The "E" is commonly removed from AVERE in this situation. AVER VISTO QUELLO CHE È SUCCESSO... <i>Having seen what happened...</i>
<i>Andato in pensione</i> Infinitive: ANDARE IN	<i>Retired</i> <i>To retire</i>	Although this expression appears to be the equivalent of "to go on the pension", where one retires and then receives government benefits, it is also used for people who simply retire from work, regardless of whether they receive a pension or not.

PENSIONE	Literally: <i>To go in pension</i>	
Cominciano con emozione Infinitive: COMINCIARE CON EMOZIONE	<i>They start with excitement</i> <i>To start with excitement</i> Literally: <i>To start with emotion</i>	"Emozione", while also meaning "emotion", is the most common way to refer to "excitement". In the same way, ESSERE EMOZIONATO means "to be excited" and not "to be emotional" in the sense that we would say that in English.
Si sono (reciprocamente) promessi Infinitive: PROMETTERSI (RECIPROCAMENTE)	<i>They promised each other</i> <i>To promise one another (reciprocally/mutually)</i> Literally: <i>To promise themselves</i>	PROMETTERSI is the Reciprocal form of PROMETTERE "to promise", so it is implied that the action happens to the subject. This phrase is in the Present Perfect form (Passato Prossimo). As with all reflexive verbs, in the Passato Prossimo they use the verb ESSERE as the auxiliary verb. The word RECIPROCAMENTE "reciprocally" reinforces this idea just to underline the fact that both the subjects (Susan and Brian) have made the commitment to speak in Italian between themselves.

Sono in grado Infinitive: ESSERE IN GRADO	<i>They are able to</i> <i>They are capable of</i> <i>To be able to</i> Literally: <i>To be in grade/degree</i>	This is a very common expression to use when talking about what someone is or isn't capable of doing, in terms of their skills. To use this expression in a full sentence, the structure is: ESSERE IN GRADO + DI + [INFINITIVE VERB] <i>To be able to / capable of + [VERB]</i>
Proprietà di linguaggio	<i>Command of the language</i>	PROPRIETÀ is indeed a cognate of the English word "property", but here it means "command" in the sense of having a strong command of something and being proficient in something.
Si mettono alla ricerca Infinitive: METTERSI ALLA RICERCA	<i>They start to look for</i> <i>To start to look for</i> <i>To begin the search for</i> Literally: <i>To put oneself to the search</i>	The verb METTERE on its own means "to put". Yet as a Reflexive verb METTERSI actually means "to start something". It expresses the idea of starting something that needs to be done or should be done, rather than focusing on the action of starting itself, where you would use INIZIARE or COMINCIARE. It is commonly used combined with other verbs: MI METTO A CUCINARE <i>I'll start cooking</i> METTITI A PULIRE! <i>Get cleaning!</i>
Ci sta	<i>There is</i>	The correct Italian way to say "there is" is "c'è".

Infinitive: STARCI	<i>To be (to exist)</i> Literally: <i>To stay/be there</i>	STARE is often used instead of ESSERE, especially in Southern Italy. "Ci sta" is also an expression on its own meaning that something is suitable or fitting, or is OK. MARCO E RITA HANNO DIVORZIATO QUINDI ADESSO LUI NON PARLA PIÙ CON LA SUOCERA <i>Marco and Rita got divorced so now he doesn't speak with his mother-in-law</i> BE', CI STA! <i>Yeah, that makes sense!</i>
Fate in fretta Infinitive: FARE IN FRETTA	<i>Hurry!</i> <i>To hurry (up)</i> Literally: <i>To do in haste</i>	Here, the verb FARE is conjugated in the Imperative Mood - the Mood we use to give a command. Other common expressions using FRETTA are: ESSERE DI FRETTA <i>to be in a hurry</i> NON C'È FRETTA <i>no hurry / there's no rush</i>
La ringrazio Infinitive: RINGRAZIARE [QUALCUNO]	<i>Thank you</i> <i>To thank [someone]</i>	RINGRAZIARE is the actual verb "to thank". This is a much more polite and eloquent way to say "grazie". The word "La" is the formal Direct Object Pronoun "you". A more informal way to say the same thing would be:

		TI RINGRAZIO <i>thank you</i> (more casual)
Non ha senso Infinitive: NON AVERE SENSO	<i>It doesn't make sense</i> <i>To not make sense</i> Literally: <i>To not have sense</i>	This expression is similar to the English expression but the verb is different. In Italian, something "<i>has sense</i>", whereas in English, it "<i>makes sense</i>". Conversely, the positive form of this expression is: HA SENSO <i>it makes sense</i>
Secondo piano	<i>Third floor</i>	In Italy, the floor at street level is called PIANO TERRA or PIAN TERRENO, literally "<i>ground floor</i>", whereas in American English it is more commonly referred to as "<i>first floor</i>". In Italy, PRIMO PIANO is the floor directly above PIANO TERRA, and so on. For this reason, SECONDO PIANO, despite literally meaning "<i>second floor</i>", actually refers to the "<i>third floor</i>" (two floors above street level). PIANO TERRA / PIAN TERRENO <i>first floor</i> PRIMO PIANO <i>second floor</i> SECONDO PIANO <i>third floor</i>