

FOR THE TEACHER

Italian Menu | Menù italiano

Type of task: Ordering from the menu while on holiday in a foreign country

Educational level: Primary/secondary education - ISCED 1/2¹

Proficiency level: A2-B1

Brief description and aim of the activity:

Students will perform a number of mediation activities as they go through the process of reading the menu, choosing, and ordering food and drinks for each member of their family while on holiday in a foreign country. The tasks aim at developing learners' skills in selecting information from a source text and relaying it into a target text in another language.

Background information:

You are on holiday in Italy with your family. Nobody in your family speaks Italian, but you have been studying it at school for three years. You go into a family restaurant in Rome, and this is the perfect opportunity for you to act as language mediator. Get the menu, help the members of your family decide on what to choose, and place the order!

CEFR mediation scale and descriptor (to which the activity refers):

PROCESSING TEXT IN WRITING

- *Can summarise orally and in writing the main points made in straightforward informational written texts on subjects that are of personal or current interest.*

CEFR mediation strategies involved:

STRATEGIES TO SIMPLIFY A TEXT:

- Streamlining a text
Can identify and mark the essential information in a straightforward, informational text in order to pass this information on to someone else.

STRATEGIES TO EXPLAIN A NEW CONCEPT:

- Adapting language:
Can paraphrase more simply the main points made in short, straightforward spoken or written texts on familiar subjects to make the contents accessible for others.

Languages involved:

Language A: Italian

Language B: English (or any home language)

¹ [International Standard Classification of Education \(ISCED\) - Statistics Explained \(europa.eu\)](https://ecml.eu/en/International-Standard-Classification-of-Education-(ISCED)-Statistics-Explained-(europa.eu))

Linguistic objectives. Students will be able to:

- find the main ideas within a text
- explain the main ideas in a text orally and in writing
- relay information both in an informal and in a neutral/ semi-formal register
- use information from a text in Language A to produce another text of a different genre in Language B

Other competences involved:

- Interpersonal skills (communication and collaboration)

Time/lessons needed for the activity: 1.5 hours

Resources required:

Menu Mucca Pazza (pg 1 and pg 2)

Activity Worksheet (hard or electronic copy for each student)

Procedure:

	Procedure	Class organisation	Ideas for differentiation
Step 1	Activity Worksheet Task 1: Students are asked to discuss with their classmates whether they ever went on holiday with their family in a country where a different language is spoken. <i>Could any member of your family speak the language in the host country and act as language mediator? Could you act as language mediator if you had to go on holiday with your family in Italy?</i>	Plenary	
Step 2	Activity Worksheet Task 2: Students are given a copy of the Mucca Pazza restaurant Menu (pages 1-2). They are to work out exercises a), b) and c).	In pairs	Students can either be provided with a printed copy of the menu or the menu can be shown on a screen.
Step 3	Activity Worksheet Task 3: Students are asked to orally explain to their family what the <i>Menu Gioco Sorpresa</i> consists of. They are to relay information from a text in the Kids Menu Section in Italian (Language A) to produce another text of a different genre in Language B (English).	Individual /In pairs	Students may discuss in pairs what information is important to include before orally acting out the role play in turns.

Step 4	Activity Worksheet Task 4: Peer Feedback/Students reflect on how successful mediation was.	In pairs/groups /plenary	It is also possible to include written interaction by asking the students to exchange messages and respond in the role of the family member.
Step 5	Students are now to pick their favourite pizza from the menu, make a list of all the toppings and draw it.	Individual	
Step 6	<p>Students are to role-play ordering food and drinks from the menu for each member of the family by speaking to the waiter in Italian.</p> <p>Students discuss in pairs/groups what information would be important to relay to their family while making the order.</p>	In pairs/groups	The teacher may wish to provide students with a clearer idea of what needs to be selected from the source text and relayed to the waiter by asking them to keep in mind the preferences of each member of the family. This would make the task easier for the students to carry out and also make it easier to assess.
Step 7	Peer Feedback/ Students reflect on how successful mediation was.	In pairs/groups/ class discussion	As a peer feedback/reflection task, students may wish to respond in the role of the family members or the waiter.

Further tips and guidance:

Prior to conducting the role play (Step 6), the teacher might decide to conduct a brainstorming session with all the class or with the individual groups in order to help the students identify possibilities and ideas to exploit for the role play.

FOR THE STUDENT: ACTIVITY WORKSHEET

Menù italiano

Step 1: Discussion

Have you ever been abroad in a country where they speak a different language? Now that you have been studying Italian for some time, do you think you could help the members of your family by acting as language mediator while on holiday in Italy? Can you help in doing everyday things such as choosing from a menu and ordering at the restaurant?

Step 2: Reading

a) Have a good look at the menu and then read the following statements. Indicate whether the statements are *True* or *False*:

- i. Mucca Pazza is a well-known family restaurant in Italy True/False
- ii. Everyday (except on Saturday) for lunch you can eat as much pizza as you want for just €10. True/False
- iii. Every Monday night children up to the age of 12 can choose a dish for free from the Kids Menu. Drinks are not included. True/False
- iv. The Monday night offer applies for one child per every accompanying adult. True/False
- v. Every Tuesday night you can eat as much meat and roast potatoes as you like for just €13.90! True/False

b) Put the following in order by writing the number 1, 2, and 3 as you would eat them:

☐ Primi
 ☐ Dolci
 ☐ Tipasti

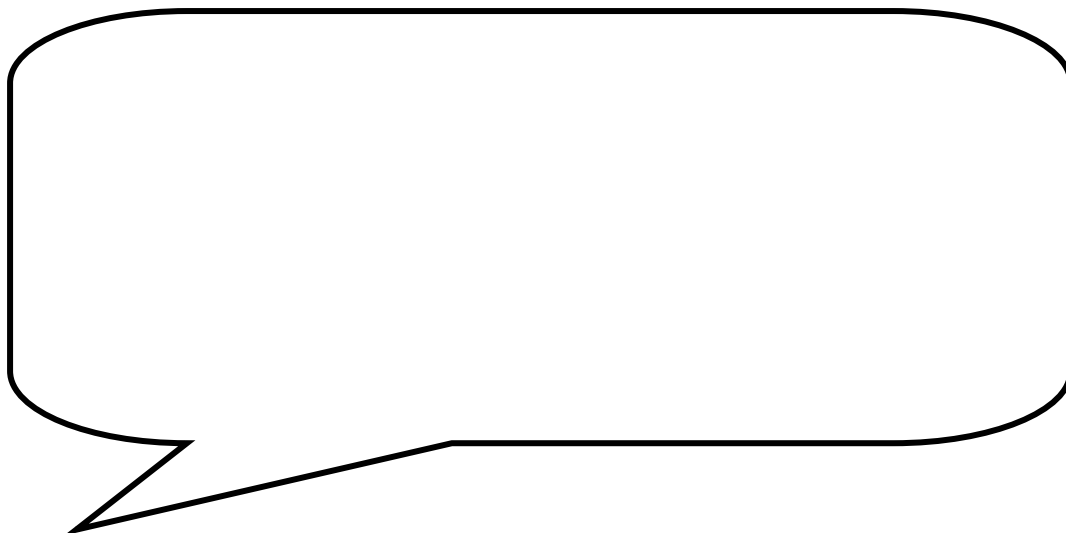
c i) Your dad is a meat lover. Suggest a dish that he would like from the *Griglieria* and *Hamburgeria* sections of the menu. Keep in mind that he does not like chicken!

c ii) Your mum is vegetarian. Suggest a dish that she would like from the *Insalate* and *Contorni* sections of the menu. Keep in mind that she does not eat olives!

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Step3: Speaking

In the Kids Menu section, you see that there is a special menu which is perfect for your little brother. Orally explain to your brother and parents (in English) what the *Menu Gioco Sorpresa* consists of.

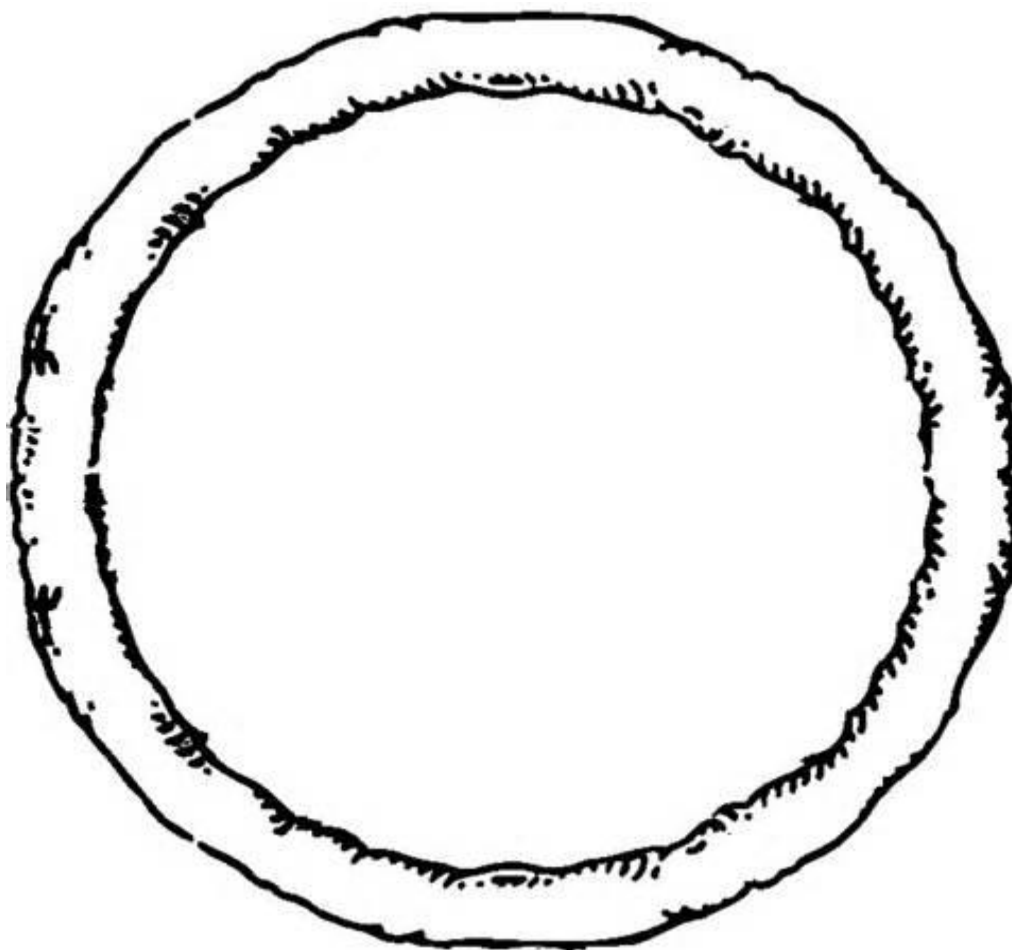
**Step 4: Peer evaluation.**

Did you give all the necessary information to your family?

Did they clearly understand what the *Menu Gioco Sorpresa* consists of?

Step 5: Writing

You decide to go for a pizza. Pick the pizza that you want from the pizza section and draw it below. Remember to include all the toppings in your drawing! Write down the name of the chosen pizza and a list of all the toppings in Italian next to the pizza drawing.



PIZZA

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This is an output of the project “Mediation in teaching, learning and assessment” (2020-2022) of the European Centre for Modern Languages (ECML). The ECML is a Council of Europe institution promoting excellence in language education in its member states.

www.ecml.at/mediation

Step 6. Role play

It is now time to order, and you want to impress everyone with your Italian speaking skills. You are to order food and drinks from the menu for each member of your family by speaking to the waiter in Italian. Relay any important information to your family to make sure that the order is to everyone's satisfaction.

Waiter

Greet the client and ask what s/he would like to order

You

Order food and drinks for each member of your family in Italian.

Waiter

Ask the client if s/he wants the beverages cold or room temperature.

You

Ask your family members how they prefer their drinks. Use your home language.

Family members

Indicate your preferences in your home language.

You

Reply to the waiter in Italian.

Waiter

Thank the client.