



ITALIAN: BACKGROUND LANGUAGE

ATAR course examination 2023

Marking key

Marking keys are an explicit statement about what the examining panel expect of candidates when they respond to particular examination items. They help ensure a consistent interpretation of the criteria that guide the awarding of marks.

Section One: Response: Listening

30% (25 Marks)

Question 1

(13 marks)

Italy and Italians are famous in the world for numerous reasons. Write an article for the school magazine using the information in the interview to explain how the image of Italy and Italians continues to develop. Include:

- **three** ways in which Samantha Cristoforetti has demonstrated the best of Italy internationally
- **three** positive aspects of Italy and Italians that Samantha Cristoforetti highlighted.

Write approximately 100 words in **English**.

Description	Marks
Response to text	
Writes an informative article which includes:	
three ways in which Samantha Cristoforetti has demonstrated the best of Italy internationally (3 x 1 mark)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • first woman to be part of the European Space Agency crew • first Italian woman to lead the International Space Station • first woman to remain in space for 199 consecutive days • first Italian woman to inspire a Barbie (doll) 	1–3
three positive aspects of Italy and Italians that Samantha Cristoforetti highlighted (3 x 1 mark)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Italy's success in the space sector • quality of Italian space programs • professionalism of the people who work in the space sector • the quality of Italy's culture/music/movies/food • Italian traditional families are changing: cooperation/involvement of both parents 	1–3
Subtotal	6
Response in English	
Shows a range of vocabulary and grammar that is relevant to the context and a purposeful use of sentence structures for effect	3
Shows evidence of using vocabulary and grammar that is relevant to the context and a variety of sentence structures	2
Uses a limited range of vocabulary, grammar and sentence structures	1
Does not meet any of the above performance levels for evidence for this criterion	0
Subtotal	3
Kind of writing, text type and sequencing	
Writes an informative article. Uses all the key conventions of an article in a formal setting accurately including; formal register and informative language. Ideas are organised and sequenced effectively throughout, for example, within and between paragraphs, and with cohesiveness in the writing as a whole	4
Uses most of the key conventions of an informative article accurately. Ideas are well organised within and between paragraphs and follow a logical sequence throughout	3
Uses some of the key conventions of an informative article accurately. Ideas are organised, follow a logical sequence, but may lack direction	2
Uses few of the key conventions suitably. Ideas may be disjointed, with little attempt to organise or sequence them	1
Does not meet any of the above performance levels for evidence for this criterion	0
Subtotal	4
Total	13

Question 2

(12 marks)

After listening to this speech on the subject of 'Getting married or remaining single?', you write an email to your friend in which you present the advantages of both alternatives. You made a choice and you want to show them that you evaluated the two options and that you made the right decision for you. Make sure you include:

- **two** advantages of marriage
- **two** advantages of remaining single.

Write approximately 100 words in **Italian**.

Description	Marks
Response to text	
Writes an email in which includes:	
two of the following advantages of marriage (2 x 1 mark)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • it has a high level of formality and/or it has an official status • through marriage the spouses are bestowed the same rights and duties • companionship, shared responsibility, and the possibility of greater financial security • some say marriage provides the best environment for raising children 	1–2
two of the following advantages of remaining single:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • singles have more free time and can afford more experiences without negotiating with anyone • singles tend to be more sociable to broaden their circle of friends • singles tend to play more sports, maintaining fitness and health • single have to exercise resilience and become financially independent 	1–2
Subtotal	4
Linguistic resources (accuracy and range)	
Uses a broad range of language accurately, including vocabulary, grammar and a variety of sentence structures appropriate to the context and purpose of writing. Manipulates the language independently and accurately	4
Uses a range of language, including vocabulary, grammar and sentence structures, mostly accurately. Manipulates the language independently and mostly accurately	3
Uses language, including vocabulary, grammar and sentence structures, that is suitable and mostly accurate, but errors are evident. Relies on stimulus text	2
Uses a limited range of language, including vocabulary, grammar and sentence structures and the meaning is sometimes impeded. Relies heavily on stimulus text	1
Does not meet any of the above performance levels for evidence for this criterion	0
Subtotal	4
Kind of writing, text type and sequencing	
Writes an evaluative email. Uses all the key conventions of an email in an informal setting accurately, including: salutation, informal register, evaluative language and a final greeting. Ideas are organised and sequenced effectively throughout, for example, within and between paragraphs, and with cohesiveness in the writing as a whole	4
Uses most of the key conventions of an evaluative email accurately. Ideas are well organised within and between paragraphs and follow a logical sequence throughout	3
Uses some of the key conventions of an evaluative email accurately. Ideas are organised, follow a logical sequence, but may lack direction	2
Uses few of the key conventions suitably. Ideas may be disjointed, with little attempt to organise or sequence them	1
Does not meet any of the above performance levels for evidence for this criterion	0
Subtotal	4
Total	12

Section Two: Response: Viewing and reading

30% (39 Marks)

Question 3

(13 marks)

After reading this blog posting, you and a friend are thinking about options for your future. You aim to get a job in one of the two sectors described in the text. Your friend, who is very different from you, is still undecided. Referring to the text, write a conversation in which you explain to your friend why your chosen job is best for you, and to persuade them that a job in the other sector would be best for them. Include:

- **two** reasons why you think your chosen sector, and job within it, are best for you
- why you think working in the other sector would be best for your friend
- your suggestion of a job for your friend in the other sector and **two** reasons why, in your opinion, it would be a good choice for your friend.

Write approximately 120 words in **Italian**.

Description	Marks
Response to text	
Refers to the text to write a conversation to persuade a friend to choose a suggested job. Includes:	
two reasons why own choice of sector and job within it are best for self (2 x 1 mark)	
For digital jobs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • safe future • chance to work from home and anywhere in the world • high salary • high demand (from companies/for these jobs). or For sustainable jobs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • moral gratification • awareness of doing one’s own bit for the environment • creating a better planet for future generations • professional satisfaction • good/high salary. 	1–2
why working in the other sector would suit the friend (1 x 1 mark)	
writes a reason why the friend is suited to the sector	1
two reasons why suggested job for friend would be a good choice for them (2 x 1 mark)	
For digital jobs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • safe future • chance to work from home and anywhere in the world • high salary • high demand (from companies/for these jobs). or For sustainable jobs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • moral gratification • awareness of doing one’s own bit for the environment • creating a better planet for future generations • professional satisfaction • good/high salary. 	1–2
Subtotal	5

Linguistic resources (accuracy and range)	
Uses a broad range of language accurately, including vocabulary, grammar and a variety of sentence structures appropriate to the context and purpose of writing. Manipulates the language independently and accurately	4
Uses a range of language, including vocabulary, grammar and sentence structures, mostly accurately. Manipulates the language independently and mostly accurately	3
Uses language, including vocabulary, grammar and sentence structures, that is suitable and mostly accurate, but errors are evident. Relies on stimulus text	2
Uses a limited range of language, including vocabulary, grammar and sentence structures and the meaning is sometimes impeded. Relies heavily on stimulus text	1
Does not meet any of the above performance levels for evidence for this criterion	0
Subtotal	4
Kind of writing, text type and sequencing	
Writes a persuasive conversation. Uses all the key conventions of a conversation in an informal setting accurately, including: salutation, informal register, persuasive language and a final greeting. Ideas are organised and sequenced effectively throughout, for example, within and between responses, and with cohesiveness in the writing as a whole	4
Uses most of the key conventions of a persuasive conversation accurately. Ideas are well organised within and between responses and follow a logical sequence throughout	3
Uses some of the key conventions of a persuasive conversation accurately. Ideas are organised, follow a logical sequence, but may lack direction	2
Uses few of the key conventions suitably. Ideas may be disjointed, with little attempt to organise or sequence them	1
Does not meet any of the above performance levels for evidence for this criterion	0
Subtotal	4
Total	13

Question 4

(14 marks)

The Italian Cultural Institute of Melbourne is organising a competition to promote Italian culture among students in Australia. To participate, you need to choose an Italian artist and create a digital presentation. To persuade the judging panel, take a cue from the article and write a description of Jacopo Tissi to include in your presentation, where you describe:

- the role of the La Scala Theatre in Jacopo Tissi's success and the role that he will play in the success of the La Scala Theatre
- four** facts that demonstrate the exceptional talent of Jacopo Tissi.

Write approximately 150 words in **Italian**.

Description	Marks
Response to text	
Writes a description of Jacopo Tissi to be included in the presentation which describes: the role of the La Scala Theatre in Tissi's success, and the role that he will play in the success of the La Scala Theatre (2 x 1 mark)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the theatre's academy (school), where Jacopo Tissi trained, is considered among the best in the world 	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> he will bring audiences to the theatre with his Bolshoi/Russian ballet virtuosity/mastery (and <i>italianità</i>/Italianness) 	1
Subtotal	2
four facts that demonstrate the exceptional talent of Tissi (4 x 1 mark)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> graduated from La Scala (Ballet School) in 2014 with honours was immediately offered a job at the State Theatre Ballet in Vienna then went back to Milan to dance at La Scala and was given the most important/principal roles and danced like a 'star' represented Italian talent at the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow/the most prestigious place for (classical) ballet was the first Italian to become a principal dancer at the Bolshoi Theatre 	1–4
Subtotal	4
Linguistic resources (accuracy and range) in target language	
Uses a broad range of language accurately, including vocabulary, grammar and a variety of sentence structures appropriate to the context and purpose of writing. Manipulates the language independently and accurately	4
Uses a range of language, including vocabulary, grammar and sentence structures, mostly accurately. Manipulates the language independently and mostly accurately	3
Uses language, including vocabulary, grammar and sentence structures, that is suitable and mostly accurate, but errors are evident. Relies on stimulus text	2
Uses a limited range of language, including vocabulary, grammar and sentence structures and the meaning is sometimes impeded. Relies heavily on stimulus text	1
Does not meet any of the above performance levels for evidence for this criterion	0
Subtotal	4
Text type, kind of writing and sequencing	
Writes a persuasive description, creating a clear image for the reader. Uses all the key conventions of a description accurately, including: extravagant language or superlatives, reference to sight, sound, smell, touch, taste or feelings. Ideas are organised and effectively sequenced throughout the text within and between paragraphs, and with cohesiveness in the writing as a whole	4
Uses most of the key conventions of a persuasive description accurately, including: extravagant language or superlatives, reference to sight, sound, smell, touch, taste or feelings. Ideas are organised and effectively sequenced throughout the text within and between paragraphs, and with cohesiveness in the writing as a whole	3
Uses some of the key conventions of a persuasive description accurately, including: extravagant language or superlatives, reference to sight, sound, smell, touch, taste or feelings. Ideas are organised and effectively sequenced throughout the text within and between paragraphs, and with cohesiveness in the writing as a whole	2
Uses a few of the key conventions suitably. Ideas may be disjointed, with little attempt to organise or sequence them	1
Does not meet any of the above performance levels for evidence for this criterion	0
Subtotal	4
Total	14

Question 5

(12 marks)

Using this article presented at the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Conference recently held in Sydney, use your own words to write a speech to inform your Information Technology (IT) class. Describe:

- **two** practical applications of AI in our society
- **two** ways in which AI should be regulated.

Write approximately 100 words in **English**.

Description	Marks
Response to text	
Writes a speech where the writer describes:	
two practical applications of AI in our society (2 x 1 mark)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • voice recognition • speech synthesis • language translator • image recognition (underpinning services such as semi-autonomous driving of cars or robots) 	1–2
two examples of how AI should be regulated (2 x 1 mark)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ethical principles/moral standards should be taken into account (when developing AI systems) • controls (algorithms) should be such that AI systems would not function, if ethical principles/moral standards violated/not followed • compulsory insurance should be introduced/liability taken for damage caused by AI systems to humans • if the insurance is insufficient compensation for damage caused to humans, then the developer and manufacturer of the AI should be held (jointly) responsible • simplified accessible language should be used/explained in language understandable to everyone • should be the opportunity for a person to challenge a decision made by AI 	1–2
uses own words (1 x 1 mark)	
paraphrases and/or manipulates the text to provide information	1
Subtotal	5
Response in English	
Shows a range of vocabulary and grammar that is relevant to the context and a purposeful use of sentence structures for effect	3
Shows evidence of using vocabulary and grammar that is relevant to the context and a variety of sentence structures	2
Uses a limited range of vocabulary, grammar and sentence structures	1
Does not meet any of the above performance levels for evidence for this criterion	0
Subtotal	3
Kind of writing, text type and sequencing	
Writes an informative speech. Uses all the key conventions of a speech in a formal setting accurately, including: salutation, formal register and informative language. Ideas are organised and sequenced effectively throughout, for example, within and between paragraphs, and with cohesiveness in the writing as a whole	4
Uses most of the key conventions of an informative speech accurately, including: a salutation, formal register and informative language. Ideas are well organised within and between paragraphs and follow a logical sequence throughout	3
Uses some of the key conventions of an informative speech accurately, including: a salutation, formal register and informative language. Ideas are organised, follow a logical sequence, but may lack direction	2
Uses few of the key conventions suitably. Ideas may be disjointed, with little attempt to organise or sequence them	1
Does not meet any of the above performance levels for evidence for this criterion	0
Subtotal	4
Total	12

Section Three: Written communication

40% (16 Marks)

Question 6

(16 marks)

You are finishing school and have been offered the opportunity to attend the university of your dreams in a country with a different language and culture from your own. After reflecting on the pros and cons of this opportunity, write your thoughts in your diary. Include:

- what excites you and what scares you about this opportunity
- what effect you think this experience will have on you.

Write approximately 300 words in **Italian**.

Description	Marks
Content	
Writes thoughts in a diary entry, after reflecting on the pros and cons of the opportunity, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • what excites and what scares them • the effect this experience will have on them while showing synthesis of ideas, a high degree of relevance and originality, and engagement with content	7–8
Writes a diary entry, considering the pros and cons showing some synthesis of ideas, relevance and originality, and depth of content	5–6
Writes a diary entry, considering the pros and cons showing partial synthesis of ideas, relevance and depth of content	3–4
Writes a diary entry which summarises few ideas, showing relevance and little depth of content	2
The diary entry shows limited originality and awareness of the kind of writing or content required for the task	1
Does not meet any of the above performance levels for evidence for this criterion	0
Subtotal	8
Linguistic resources (accuracy and range)	
Uses a broad range of language, including vocabulary, expressions, grammar and sentence structures, with a very high level of accuracy. Uses a broad range of tenses correctly. Stylistic techniques are successfully used to engage the reader's interest	4
Uses an appropriate range of language, including vocabulary, expressions, grammar, and stylistic techniques, with a high level of accuracy. Uses a range of tenses mostly correctly. Simple stylistic techniques are used to engage the reader's interest	3
Uses language, including vocabulary, expressions, grammar, and stylistic techniques, that is suitable, with some accuracy. Some simple stylistic techniques appropriate to the task may be attempted	2
Uses language, including vocabulary and grammar, with limited accuracy	1
Does not meet any of the above performance levels for evidence for this criterion	0
Subtotal	4

Text type, kind of writing and sequencing	
Writes a reflective diary entry. Uses all the key conventions of a diary entry accurately, including: personal reflections, comments, information or experiences of the writer, informal register and in a subjective language (often in first person). Ideas are organised and sequenced effectively throughout, for example, within and between paragraphs, and with cohesiveness in the writing as a whole	4
Uses most of the key conventions of a reflective diary entry accurately, including: personal reflections, comments, information or experiences of the writer, informal register and in a subjective language (often in first person). Ideas are organised and sequenced effectively throughout, for example, within and between paragraphs, and follow a logical sequence throughout	3
Uses some of the key conventions of a reflective diary entry accurately, including: personal reflections, comments, information or experiences of the writer, informal register and in a subjective language (often in first person). Ideas are organised, follow a logical sequence, but may lack direction	2
Uses few of the key conventions suitably. Ideas may be disjointed, with little attempt to organise or sequence them	1
Does not meet any of the above performance levels for evidence for this criterion	0
Subtotal	4
Total	16

Question 7

(16 marks)

You read *The Betrothed* by Alessandro Manzoni and the following sentence really struck you: '... one should think more about doing good than about feeling good: and in this way one would also end up feeling better.' After reflecting on this statement, write your thoughts in your diary.

Include:

- how you interpret this statement, by explaining it in your own words
- if and how it reflects your ideas and your values.

Write approximately 300 words in **Italian**.

Description	Marks
Content	
Writes a diary entry, reflecting on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how they interpret the statement by explaining it in their own words • if and how it reflects their ideas and values while showing synthesis of ideas, a high degree of relevance and originality, and engagement with content	7–8
Writes a diary entry, showing some synthesis of ideas, relevance and originality, and depth of content	5–6
Writes a diary entry, showing partial synthesis of ideas, relevance and depth of content	3–4
Writes a diary entry, which summarises few ideas, showing relevance and little depth of content	2
The diary entry shows limited originality and awareness of the kind of writing or content required for the task	1
Does not meet any of the above performance levels for evidence for this criterion	0
Subtotal	8
Linguistic resources (accuracy and range)	
Uses a broad range of language, including vocabulary, expressions, grammar and sentence structures, with a very high level of accuracy. Uses a broad range of tenses correctly. Stylistic techniques are successfully used to engage the reader's interest	4
Uses an appropriate range of language, including vocabulary, expressions, grammar, and stylistic techniques, with a high level of accuracy. Uses a range of tenses mostly correctly. Simple stylistic techniques are used to engage the reader's interest	3
Uses language, including vocabulary, expressions, grammar, and stylistic techniques, that is suitable, with some accuracy. Some simple stylistic techniques appropriate to the task may be attempted	2
Uses language, including vocabulary and grammar, with limited accuracy	1
Does not meet any of the above performance levels for evidence for this criterion	0
Subtotal	4

Text type, kind of writing and sequencing	
Writes a reflective diary entry. Uses all the key conventions of a diary entry accurately, including: personal reflections, comments, information or experiences of the writer, informal register and in a subjective language (often in first person). Ideas are organised and sequenced effectively throughout, for example, within and between paragraphs, and with cohesiveness in the writing as a whole	4
Uses most of the key conventions of a reflective diary entry accurately, including: personal reflections, comments, information or experiences of the writer, informal register and in a subjective language (often in first person). Ideas are organised and sequenced effectively throughout, for example, within and between paragraphs, and follow a logical sequence throughout	3
Uses some of the key conventions of a reflective diary entry accurately, including: personal reflections, comments, information or experiences of the writer, informal register and in a subjective language (often in first person). Ideas are organised, follow a logical sequence, but may lack direction	2
Uses few of the key conventions suitably. Ideas may be disjointed, with little attempt to organise or sequence them	1
Does not meet any of the above performance levels for evidence for this criterion	0
Subtotal	4
Total	16

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Question 7

Quote from: Manzoni, A. (1827). *I Promessi Sposi*.

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