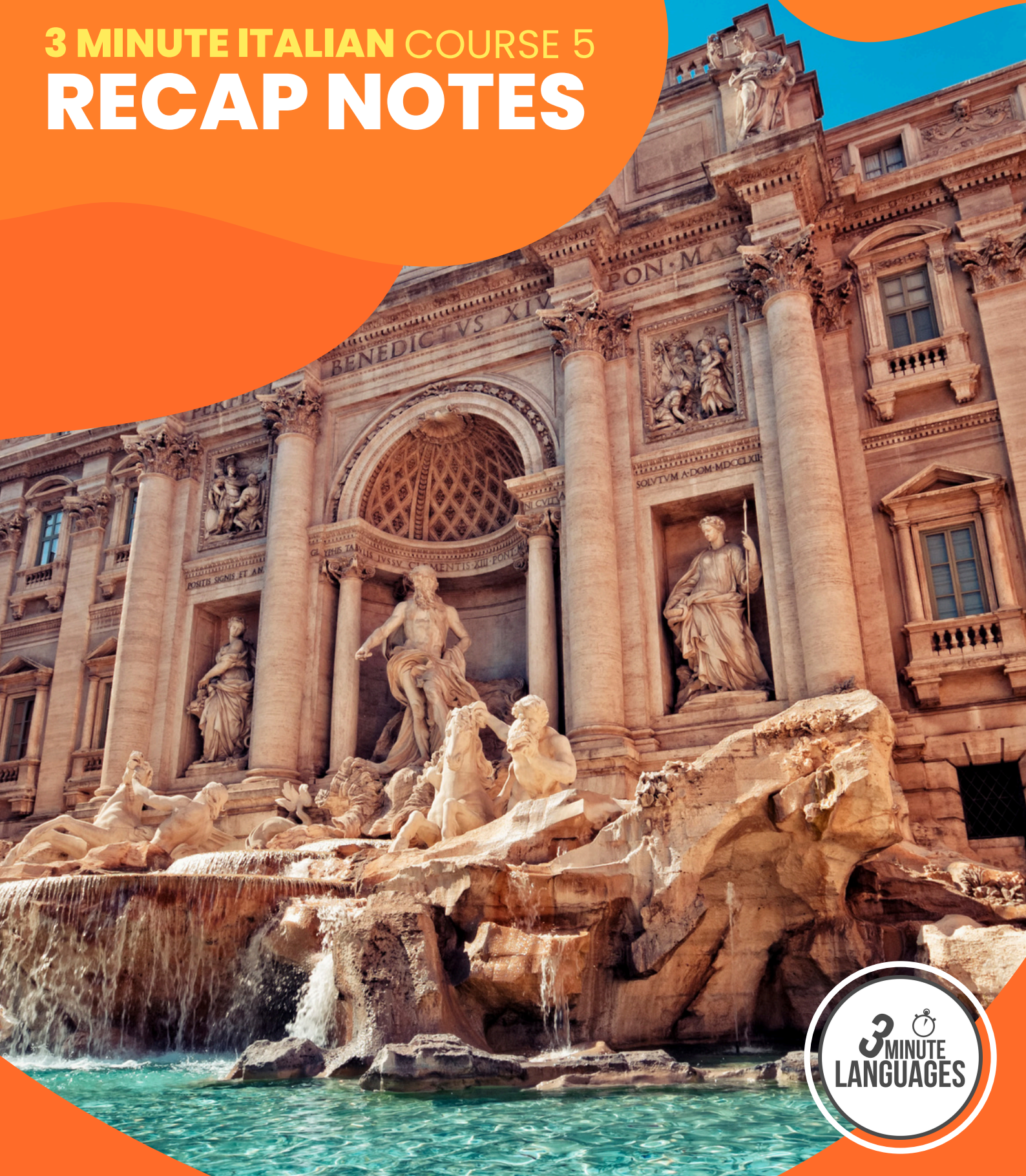


# 3 MINUTE ITALIAN COURSE 5 RECAP NOTES



# Table of **CONTENTS**

- 01** More adjectives  
Qualcosa di  
è vs. è...?  
Possibile di...
- 02** Time  
tempo vs. ora  
To change  
c'è vs. ci sono
- 03** troppo & molto  
Senza (di)  
Non ho...  
Too many people
- 04** Non c'è + noun  
My family  
Grosso  
Un problema
- 05** The past tense  
Auxiliary verb  
Past participle
- 06** Irregular past participles  
Hai, ha & avete  
Two meanings

## MORE ADJECTIVES

We learnt quite a lot of new adjectives in course 5. As usual, we'll have a look at the masculine, feminine, singular and plural versions of each of them.

<b>EXPENSIVE</b>	caro	cari	cara	care
<b>DIFFERENT</b>	diverso	diversi	diversa	diverse
<b>ITALIAN</b>	italiano	italiani	italiana	italiane
<b>INTERESTING</b>	interessante	interessanti	interessante	interessanti
<b>POSSIBLE</b>	possibile	possibili	possibile	possibili

## QUALCOSA DI...

In English, you can put any adjective after the word "something", and say things like, "something good" or "something interesting". However, in Italian, you have to say, "qualcosa di" before you say the adjective:

**qualcosa di buono**  
*something good*

**qualcosa di italiano**  
*something Italian*

**qualcosa di interessante**  
*something interesting*

**qualcosa di cattivo**  
*something bad*

**qualcosa di bello**  
*something beautiful*

Just note that the word "qualcosa" can mean "something" or "anything".

## È VS. È...?

You can form questions from any sentence in Italian simply by putting a question mark at the end. In speaking, you should also raise your voice at the end, to make it sound like a question. So, "è" means "it is", and "è?" means "is it?"

**è buono** - it's good

**è buono?** - is it good?

**è possibile per me** - it's possible for me

**è possibile per me?** - is it possible for me?

**è qui** - it is here

**è qui?** - is it here?

## POSSIBILE DI...

You can put any verb after "possibile", but you have to use the word "di" first.

**è possibile di fare quello domani**  
*it's possible to do that tomorrow*

**è possibile di noleggiare una macchina?**  
*is it possible to hire a car?*

Similarly, you can put verbs after the phrases "il tempo di" and "cose da" to mean "the time to" and "things to"

**no ho il tempo di fare quello**  
*I don't have the time to do that*

**ci sono molte cose da mangiare**  
*there are lots of things to eat*

**ho troppe cose da fare**  
*I have too many things to do*

## TIME

If you want to ask somebody what time it is, you can use this question:

**Che ore sono?**

*What time is it?*

However, you can use an alternative question, which is a little more informal, but still valid:

**Ha l'ora?**

*Do you have the time?*

## TEMPO VS. ORA

There are two ways to say “time” in Italian: **tempo** and **ora**. They both mean “time”, but they are used in different situations.

**L'ORA** - this means “the time” as in the time on a clock. We've seen it in questions like, “Che ore sono?”

**IL TEMPO** - this means “the time” as in the time to do something.

**non ho molto tempo**

*I don't have a lot of time*

**ho il tempo di aiutare**

*I have the time to help*

**ha il tempo?**

*do you have the time? (to do something)*

**ha l'ora?**

*do you have the time? (on a clock)*

## TO CHANGE

The verb “**cambiare**” means “to change”, but there's an interesting thing to note about how we use it in Italian.

In English, if we want to change something in the sense of switching it, we tend to use the plural of the noun:

*I would like to change cars*

*I'm going to change tables*

However, in Italian, you use the singular instead:

**vorrei cambiare macchina**

*I would like to change cars*

**posso cambiare tavolo?**

*can I change tables?*

**vorrei cambiare camera**

*I would like to change rooms*

## C'È VS. CI SONO

The phrase “**c'è**” means “there is”, and the phrase “**ci sono**” means “there are”. You use “**c'è**” with singular nouns, and “**ci sono**” with plural nouns.

**c'è una persona**

*there is one person*

**ci sono due persone**

*there are two people*

**ci sono molte cose qui**

*there are lots of things here*

## TROPPO & MOLTO

The words “**tropo**” and “**molto**” mean “**too much**” and “**a lot**”, respectively. You can put nouns after them, but you need to change them so they agree with the noun.

**tropo** - too much (*masculine singular*)

**tropi** - too many (*masculine plural*)

**troppa** - too much (*feminine singular*)

**troppe** - too many (*feminine plural*)

**molto** - a lot (*masculine singular*)

**molti** - a lot / many (*masculine plural*)

**molta** - a lot (*feminine singular*)

**molte** - a lot / many (*feminine plural*)

Here are a few examples of both words in use:

**tropo cibo** - *too much food*

**troppa pizza** - *too much pizza*

**tropo vino** - *too much wine*

**troppe macchine** - *too many cars*

**molto cibo** - *a lot of food*

**molte persone** - *a lot of people*

**molti ristoranti** - *a lot of restaurants*

## SENZA (DI)

You can add any noun to the end of the word “**senza**”, which means “**without**”.

**un tè senza zucchero** - *a tea without sugar*

However, if you put a personal pronoun after “**senza**”, you have to say “**senza di**”

**senza di me** - *without me*

**senza di Lei** - *without you*

**senza di noi** - *without us*

## NON HO...

If you want to say “**I don’t have any**” in Italian, you simply say “**non ho**” plus a noun. You don’t need a word for “**any**”.

**non ho soldi** - *I don’t have any money*

**non ho tempo** - *I don’t have any time*

The phrase “**non ho**” can also be used in front of past participles to mean “**I haven’t**” or “**I didn’t**”

**non ho ordinato**

*I haven’t ordered / I didn’t order*

**non ho finito**

*I haven’t finished / I didn’t finish*

## TOO MANY PEOPLE

There are two ways to say, “**too many people**” in Italian:

**troppe persone** - *too many people*

**troppa gente** - *too many people*

They both mean the same thing. The first uses the word “**persone**”, which is feminine plural, hence “**troppe**”. The second uses the word “**gente**”, which is feminine singular. Both words mean the same thing, but you can only put numbers in front of “**persone**”.

**due persone** - *two people*

**otto persone** - *eight people*

You can’t put numbers in front of “**gente**”

## NON C'È + NOUN

You can use “**non c'è**” plus a noun to mean “**there isn't any**” or “**there is none**” of that noun.

**non c'è problema**  
*no problem*

**non c'è cibo**  
*there is no food*

**non c'è soldi**  
*there's no money*

## MY FAMILY

When you're talking about singular family members, there is a different word for “**my**”. Normally, the two singular words for “**my**” are “**il mio**” and “**la mia**”. However, with family members, you drop the “**il**” and “**la**”.

**mia madre** - *my mum*  
**mio padre** - *my dad*

This is only with singular family members, though; with plural family members, you simply use “**i miei**” or “**le mie**”, as normal.

**i miei cugini** - *my cousins*  
**le mie zie** - *my aunties*



## GROSSO

The word “**grande**” means “**big**”, but if you want to say, “**a big problem**”, you have to use the word “**grosso**”, instead.

**un grosso problema** - *a big problem*

Both “**grande**” and “**grosso**” mean “**big**”, but “**grosso**” can also have the further meaning of being “**arduous**” or “**significant**”. Try not to think too much about it; just learn “**un grosso problema**” as meaning “**a big problem**”.

## UN PROBLEMA

I just thought I would point out the fact that “**un problema**”, meaning “**a problem**”, in Italian, is a masculine noun yet it ends in the letter “**a**”.

The general rule is that if a noun ends in an “**o**”, it's masculine, and if a noun ends in an “**a**”, it's feminine, but, as you can see, there are exceptions to this rule:

**Masculine nouns** ending in **a**  
**un fantasma** - *a ghost*  
**un guardaroba** - *a wardrobe*  
**il clima** - *the climate*

**Feminine nouns** ending in **o**  
**una mano** - *a hand*  
**una radio** - *a radio*  
**una foto** - *a photo*

# THE PAST TENSE

AKA THE PRESENT PERFECT TENSE

In this course, we learnt all about how to form the **present perfect tense**, which is a tense you can use to talk about the past. It's made up of two parts:

**AUXILIARY VERB** + **PAST PARTICIPLE**

## AUXILIARY VERB

You start off by picking any auxiliary verb:

**(io) ho** I have  
**(tu) hai** you have  
**(lui) ha** he has  
**(lei) ha** she has  
**(Lei) ha** you have  
**(noi) abbiamo** we have  
**(voi) avete** you have  
**(loro) hanno** they have

Or you can use an auxiliary verb in the **negative**:

**(io) ho** I haven't  
**(tu) hai** you haven't  
**(lui) ha** he hasn't  
**(lei) ha** she hasn't  
**(Lei) ha** you haven't  
**(noi) abbiamo** we haven't  
**(voi) avete** you haven't  
**(loro) hanno** they haven't

Once you have an auxiliary verb, you simply put a past participle on the end.

## PAST PARTICIPLE

To form the past participle, all you have to do is take a verb and change the ending. You remove the last three letters, and then add either an **ato**, **ito** or **uto**, depending on what sort of verb it was:

**are** → **ato**

**ire** → **ito**

**ere** → **uto**

**mangiare** - *to eat*

**mangiato** - *eaten*

**finire** - *to finish*

**finito** - *finished*

**vendere** - *to sell*

**venduto** - *sold*

**AUXILIARY VERB** + **PAST PARTICIPLE**

Let's have a look at some example past tenses phrases:

**ho mangiato** - *I have eaten*

**non ho mangiato** - *I haven't eaten*

**(noi) abbiamo finito** - *we have finished*

**non abbiamo finito** - *we haven't finished*

**(lei) ha venduto** - *she has sold*

**(lei) non ha venduto** - *she hasn't sold*

## IRREGULAR PAST PARTICIPLES

Most verbs in Italian follow the normal rules of forming the past participle:

**are** → **ato**

**ire** → **ito**

**ere** → **uto**

However, there are some verbs that do their own thing, and we call them irregular verbs. Here are eleven of the more common irregular past participles

<b>boire</b> <i>(to drink)</i>	<b>bevuto</b> <i>(drunk)</i>
<b>fare</b> <i>(to do / to make)</i>	<b>fatto</b> <i>(done / made)</i>
<b>vedere</b> <i>(to see)</i>	<b>visto</b> <i>(seen)</i>
<b>prendere</b> <i>(to take)</i>	<b>preso</b> <i>(taken)</i>
<b>scegliere</b> <i>(to choose)</i>	<b>scelto</b> <i>(chosen)</i>
<b>chiedere</b> <i>(to ask)</i>	<b>chiesto</b> <i>(asked)</i>
<b>aprire</b> <i>(to open)</i>	<b>aperto</b> <i>(opened)</i>
<b>chiudere</b> <i>(to close)</i>	<b>chiuso</b> <i>(closed)</i>
<b>dire</b> <i>(to say / to tell)</i>	<b>detto</b> <i>(said / told)</i>
<b>leggere</b> <i>(to read)</i>	<b>letto</b> <i>(read)</i>
<b>perdere</b> <i>(to lose)</i>	<b>perduto / perso</b> <i>(lost)</i>

## HAI, HA & AVETE

There are three ways to say “you have” in Italian: **hai**, **ha** and **avete**.

**(tu) hai**

*singular informal*

**(Lei) ha**

*singular formal*

**(voi) avete**

*singular formal*

## TWO MEANINGS

There are two ways to translate the past tense into English. One way has the word “**have**”, and the other doesn’t.

**(io) ho mangiato**

*I have eaten / I ate*

**(noi) abbiamo bevuto**

*we have drunk / we drank*

**(loro) hanno parlato**

*they have spoken / they spoke*

There are also two ways to translate the negative past tense into English. One way has “**haven’t**” and the other way has “**didn’t**”.

**(io) non ho mangiato**

*I haven’t eaten / I didn’t eat*

**nous n’avons pas bu**

*we haven’t drunk / we didn’t drink*

**ils n’ont pas parlé**

*they haven’t spoken / they didn’t speak*