



VIDEO TRANSCRIPT

Puzzled by verb conjugations? Can't wait to make your own sentences but can't figure out how the system works? Finally, what are actually verb conjugations? Today we'll take the bull by the horns and nail the basics down! Forza, prendiamo il toro per le corna!

Verb Conjugation Explained

To conjugate verbs means to change a verb ending according to person, number, tense and mood.

It's easier than you think. For example:

canto
cantiamo

The endings O and IAMO provide essential information about the subject: cantO means I sing, and cantIAMO means we sing, the action happens in the present tense, indicative mood.

The indicative mood is used to express or indicate facts. **The present indicative is the tense most commonly used in everyday conversation.**

canterò
canteremo

Here, the ending ERÒ tells us that the subject is I and the tense is future simple indicative. The ending EREMO corresponds to subject WE, future simple indicative. Easy!

I'm sure that the sentence 'prendiamo il toro per le corna' makes a bit more sense now, since we can recognise the ending IAMO as the mark for the 3rd person plural, we take.

Italian verbs are divided into three main conjugations, according to their ending in the infinitive form:

The first conjugation ends in -are	PARLARE - to speak
The second conjugation ends in -ere	CORRERE - to run
The third conjugation ends in -ire	DORMIRE - to sleep

Today we'll learn the **first conjugation**, present indicative.

To conjugate verbs, drop the infinitive ending to get the stem and add the appropriate ending

-O

-I

-A

-IAMO

-ATE

-ANO

Parlare → parl-

Io parlo	Noi parliamo
Tu parli	Voi parlate
Lui parla	Loro parlano

Let's see more examples:

Cantare → cant-

Io canto	Noi cantiamo
Tu canti	Voi cantate
Lui canta	Loro cantano

Volare → vol-

Io volo	Noi voliamo
Tu voli	Voi volate
Lui vola	Loro volano

Mandare → mand-

Io mando	Noi mandiamo
Tu mandi	Voi mandate
Lui manda	Loro mandano

If a verb ends in -care or -gare, the hard sound is preserved by inserting an h before the endings -i and -iamo:

Cercare → cerc-

Io cerco Noi cerchiamo

Tu cerchi Voi cercate

Lei cerca Loro cercano

Legare → leg-

Io lego Noi leghiamo

Tu leghi Voi legate

Lei lega Loro legano