



Beginner Italian Course Vocabulary - Lesson 5

VIDEO TRANSCRIPT

We're here today in Cairo, Egypt, to report on the dramatic development of climate change...oh, no, I can see you're not buying this one!

All right, today we are at the railway station, Verona Porta Nuova, which is the main railway station of Verona, just a short walk from the city centre.

We're here to learn everything about train travel in Italy! Is it fast? Is it convenient? Is it cheap? Is it reliable? And finally, you'll learn lots of useful phrases! Vediamo insieme!

I'll tell you a secret: the best way to get around Italy is... by train! For many reasons: first of all, trains here are quite cheap if compared to other European countries, and it's normally cheaper than renting a car. It also spares you the headaches of driving in Italy, which can be challenging at times!

Another good reason to travel by train is that it's usually the fastest solution: for example, driving from Rome to Florence takes around 3 hours, depending on traffic, while it takes only an hour and a half by train. Not to mention that it's 100% faster than traveling by air, because Italian railway stations are usually located in the city centre or very close to it, and you don't need to go through security! All you need to do is pop up at the station let's say 20 minutes before departure.

There is a wide range of trains to choose from:

Regionale/interregionale - Slow and cheaper, stopping at most stations.

InterCity (IC) - Faster trains connecting major cities.

Alta Velocità (AV) - High-velocity trains, such as Frecciarossa, Frecciargento, Frecciabianca and Italo trains, travelling at a speed up to 300km/h and connecting major cities.

You can buy your tickets directly at the station or online: Trenitalia, our national train system, has of course an English website, and if you book in advance you could get interesting offers.

Next, don't forget that traveling by train is incredibly beautiful, you really get a chance to enjoy the countryside and our beautiful landscapes!

Of course, all that glitters is not gold, and trains make no exception: there could be strikes, which are rare events, and there could be delays, as there could be traffic jams, these things sometimes happen.

Unless you have reserved seats or an electronic ticket, train tickets must be validated in the green machines just before boarding. Failure to do so will result in a fine.

Words & Phrases

il biglietto	ticket
il posto	seat
il corridoio	aisle
il finestrino	window
prima classe	first class
seconda classe	standard class
convalidare (il biglietto)	to validate (the ticket)
il controllore	conductor
il binario	platform
il vagone/la carrozza	car

Quanto costa?	How much is it?
Devo cambiare treno?	Do I have to change trains?
Quanto tempo ci mette?	How long does it take?
Quando parte?	When does it leave?
Quando arriva?	When does it arrive?
Ci sono ritardi?	Are there any delays?

At the station - Dialogue:

Buongiorno. Vorrei un biglietto per Venezia, per favore.

Good morning. I'd like a ticket to Venice, please.

Per oggi? Sola andata o ritorno? Prima o seconda classe?

For today? Single or return? First or standard class?

Solo andata in seconda classe, per domani verso le 15.00. Quanto dura il viaggio?

Standard single. For tomorrow around 3pm. How long does it take?

Il Frecciarossa impiega un'ora e 10, il regionale due ore e un quarto.

On Frecciarossa (high-speed train) it takes 1 hour and 10 minutes, with the Regionale (slow-speed train) it takes 2 hours and 15 minutes.

E quanto costa il Frecciarossa?

And how much is a ticket on Frecciarossa?

In prima classe: novanta euro. In seconda: sessanta euro

First class €90. Standard class €60.

Bene, un biglietto in prima classe, grazie. posso pagare con la carta?

Good, first class, thank you. Can I pay with credit card?

Certo!

Sure!

I'd like to stay with you a little longer, but my train is leaving in 10 minutes! Ciao! Devo scappare!