

# AP<sup>®</sup> ITALIAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE EXAM

## 2014 SCORING GUIDELINES

Identical to Scoring Guidelines used for French, German,  
and Spanish Language and Culture Exams

### Interpersonal Writing: E-mail Reply

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#### 5: STRONG performance in Interpersonal Writing

- Maintains the exchange with a response that is clearly appropriate within the context of the task
- Provides required information (responses to questions, request for details) with frequent elaboration
- Fully understandable, with ease and clarity of expression; occasional errors do not impede comprehensibility
- Varied and appropriate vocabulary and idiomatic language
- Accuracy and variety in grammar, syntax and usage, with few errors
- Mostly consistent use of register appropriate for the situation; control of cultural conventions appropriate for formal correspondence (e.g., greeting, closing), despite occasional errors
- Variety of simple and compound sentences, and some complex sentences

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#### 4: GOOD performance in Interpersonal Writing

- Maintains the exchange with a response that is generally appropriate within the context of the task
- Provides most required information (responses to questions, request for details) with some elaboration
- Fully understandable, with some errors which do not impede comprehensibility
- Varied and generally appropriate vocabulary and idiomatic language
- General control of grammar, syntax and usage
- Generally consistent use of register appropriate for the situation, except for occasional shifts; basic control of cultural conventions appropriate for formal correspondence (e.g., greeting, closing)
- Simple, compound and a few complex sentences

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#### 3: FAIR performance in Interpersonal Writing

- Maintains the exchange with a response that is somewhat appropriate but basic within the context of the task
- Provides most required information (responses to questions, request for details)
- Generally understandable, with errors that may impede comprehensibility
- Appropriate but basic vocabulary and idiomatic language
- Some control of grammar, syntax and usage
- Use of register may be inappropriate for the situation with several shifts; partial control of conventions for formal correspondence (e.g., greeting, closing) although these may lack cultural appropriateness
- Simple and a few compound sentences

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#### 2: WEAK performance in Interpersonal Writing

- Partially maintains the exchange with a response that is minimally appropriate within the context of the task
- Provides some required information (responses to questions, request for details)
- Partially understandable, with errors that force interpretation and cause confusion for the reader
- Limited vocabulary and idiomatic language
- Limited control of grammar, syntax and usage
- Use of register is generally inappropriate for the situation; includes some conventions for formal correspondence (e.g., greeting, closing) with inaccuracies
- Simple sentences and phrases

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## **1: POOR performance in Interpersonal Writing**

- Unsuccessfully attempts to maintain the exchange by providing a response that is inappropriate within the context of the task
- Provides little required information (responses to questions, request for details)
- Barely understandable, with frequent or significant errors that impede comprehensibility
- Very few vocabulary resources
- Little or no control of grammar, syntax and usage
- Minimal or no attention to register; includes significantly inaccurate or no conventions for formal correspondence (e.g., greeting, closing)
- Very simple sentences or fragments

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## **0: UNACCEPTABLE performance in Interpersonal Writing**

- Mere restatement of language from the stimulus
- Completely irrelevant to the stimulus
- “I don’t know,” “I don’t understand” or equivalent in any language
- Not in the language of the exam

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**- (hyphen): BLANK (no response)**

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Gentile Signora Cortina,

Grazie per la sua risposta. ~~Per~~ Mi interessa molto l'abità per andare a Perugia e studiare la storia della migrazione italiana. Io penso che lavora, e studia in laboratorio e da perfetta per me.

~~La~~ Sicilia è una regione che mi interessa. Sicilia è la regione più sud d'Italia e anche una isola per questo mi interessa d'argomento. Una altra regione è Sardegna un'altra isola che ha l'influenza francese e per quest'argomento sembra ~~per~~ perfetta.

Gli aspetti che voglio esplorare ~~so~~ sono; c'è una legame tra la temperatura e migrazione, e, quali sono i tipi di persone che migra; giovane? vecchio?.

Sono grato per tutto quello <sup>Lei</sup> ha fatto e tutto che <sup>Lei</sup> ~~ha~~ farà per me.

1A

1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1

Egregia Signora Lortina,

Grazie per la sua ringrazia. Le ragioni per il mio interesse per quest'argomento sono:

1. Io studio la migrazione italiana.

2. La mia famiglia è di Italia.

L'aspetti della migrazione italiana intendo esplorare sono:

1. Le ragioni per emigrare Italia.

2. Le paese di emigrazione.

Io ho due domande per Lei:

1. Perché è il Centro di Ricerca sull'Emigrazione Italiana nella Perugia?

2. Ci sono altri locali per ricerca emigrazione Italiana?

Grazie per tutti.

Porgi distinti saluti,

1.B

1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1

egregio Maria ~~Cati~~ Cortina,

grazie per ~~la~~ Sua risposta tratta ~~la~~ la  
attività. La Regione che Sono interessato di ricerca  
è Calabria, principalmente immigrazione a Stati  
Uniti da Calabria. ~~non voglio che esse~~ ~~intende~~  
Posso conoscere ~~la~~ avanti persone migrazione, Specifica  
nella mia nazione. Anche, che ~~prendono~~ hanno prodotto  
a Stati Uniti come cibi, cultura, e vestiti. Sono  
molto allegro che mi ricerca per aiutarmi con mio progetto.

~~Stati Uniti~~

Distinti Saluti,

~~Stati Uniti~~ lo studente.

Do Not Write Beyond This Border

Do Not Write Beyond This Border

1C

# AP<sup>®</sup> ITALIAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

## 2014 SCORING COMMENTARY

### Task 1: E-mail Reply

**Note:** Students' responses are quoted verbatim and may contain grammatical errors.

#### Overview

This task assessed writing in the interpersonal communicative mode by having students write a reply to an e-mail message. Students were allotted 15 minutes to read the message and write the reply. The response received a single holistic score based on how well it accomplished the assigned task. Students needed to be able first to comprehend the e-mail and then to write a reply using a formal form of address. The reply had to address all the questions and requests raised in the message, as well as ask for more details about something mentioned in the message.

The Course Theme for the E-mail Reply was "*Identità privata e pubblica*." The task required students to use the formal register to respond to two questions from an employee of the Centro di Ricerca sull'Emigrazione Italiana about their interest in visiting and researching at the Centro. The two questions asked were the following: "Why are you interested in Italian migration?" and "Which aspects of Italian migration do you plan to research at our Institution?"

#### Sample: 1A

##### Score: 4

This response demonstrates a generally appropriate performance in interpersonal writing. The word *ragioni* ("reasons") appears to be misunderstood, and instead an answer about *regioni* ("regions") is given, but the response still provides the required information by elaborating on choices. It is fully understandable, with some errors that do not impede comprehensibility ("*Mi interessa molto l'abità per andare a Perugia*"; "*Io penso che lavora, e studia in laboratorio e perfetta per me*"; "*c'e una legame*"; "*dei personi*"; "*Sono graziato per tutto*"). The response maintains a consistent use of register ("*Grazie per la sua risposta*"; "*Lei ha fatto*"), and sentences range from simple to complex. Overall, this response earned a score of 4.

#### Sample: 1B

##### Score: 3

This response demonstrates a fair performance in interpersonal writing. This somewhat appropriate but basic response provides most required information in simple sentences that, though generally understandable, contain errors that may impede comprehensibility ("*La ragioni per emigrare Italia*"). Vocabulary is limited; the register is inappropriate, showing partial control of conventions for formal correspondence, with inaccuracies ("*Porgi distinti saluti*"). Overall, this response earned a score of 3.

#### Sample: 1C

##### Score: 1

This response, inappropriate within the context of the task, demonstrates a weak performance in interpersonal writing. It provides little required information and is barely understandable, with errors that impede comprehensibility ("*grazie per sua rispesta tratta la attività*"; "*che hanno prenduto a Stati Uniti*"; "*Posso conoscere avanti persone migrazionà, specifica nella mila novecente*"). The response shows little control of grammar, syntax, and usage, and uses either simple sentences or fragments. Overall, this response earned a score of 1.