

# Parla Italiano

(Italian A1–A2)



## DISPENSA – NAZIONALITÀ E CITTADINANZA

### HANDOUT – NATIONALITY AND CITIZENSHIP

#### 1. HOW TO SAY NATIONALITY IN ITALIAN

In Italian, to say nationality or citizenship, we use:

👉 **SONO + nationality adjective**

(*I am + nationality adjective*)

We do **not** say *sono di + country*.

##### ◆ Example

**Sentence:**

Carlo was born in London and lives in London, like his ancestors.

✓ **Carlo è inglese.**

(*Carlo is English.*)

✗ Inglese

✗ Della Inghilterra

👉 **Explanation**

*Inglese* is the correct nationality adjective.

We do not say *Inglese*.

We do not say *della Inghilterra*.

👉 *Inglese* is the same for men and women.

##### ◆ Example

**Sentence:**

Maria is from Paris and has French citizenship.

✓ **Maria è francese.**

(*Maria is French.*)

✗ Francofona

✗ Francesa

👉 **Explanation**

*Francese* is the nationality adjective.

It is correct for **both men and women**.

## 2. MASCULINE AND FEMININE FOR NATIONALITY

Some nationality adjectives **change**, others **do not change**.

### ◆ Example

#### Sentence:

A woman with Italian citizenship is:

✓ Italiana

✗ Italiase

✗ Italiano

#### 👉 Explanation

- Man → italiano
- Woman → italiana

The adjective changes for feminine.

### ◆ Example

#### Sentence:

Which nationality adjective is correct for a man?

✓ Etiope

(*Ethiopian*)

✗ Etiopo

✗ Etiopa

#### 👉 Explanation

*Etiopo* **does not change**.

It is the same for men and women.

### ◆ Example

Which adjective is correct?

✓ Egiziano

(*Egyptian*)

✗ Turchese

✗ Grece

#### 👉 Explanation

*Egiziano* is correct.

*Grece* does not exist in Italian.

### 3. ADJECTIVES THAT CHANGE / DO NOT CHANGE

#### ◆ Example

The nationality adjective *spagnolo / spagnola* is correct:

✓ For men and women

#### 👉 Explanation

- Man → *spagnolo*
- Woman → *spagnola*

The ending changes.

### 4. “SONO” OR “VENGO”?

In Italian we say:

#### 👉 SONO + nationality

#### ◆ Example

Which sentence is correct?

✓ **Sono tunisina.**  
(*I am Tunisian.*)

- ✗ **Vengo da Tunisia**
- ✗ **Sono di Tunesia**

#### 👉 Explanation

- *Sono tunisina* → correct
- *Vengo di / da + country* → incorrect

### 5. NATIONALITY IS NOT THE COUNTRY NAME

#### ◆ Example

A man from Bangladesh is:

✓ **Bengalese**  
(*Bangladeshi*)

- ✗ **Bandadesce**
- ✗ **Bengadesca**

#### 👉 Explanation

The correct adjective is *bengalese*.  
We do not invent nationality adjectives.

## 6. JOBS AND PROFESSIONS

- ◆ **Example 9** A man who cooks bread for work is:

✓ **Un fornaio**

(A *baker*)

✗ Un agricoltore

✗ Una cuoca

👉 **Explanation**

- *Fornaio* → bakes bread
- *Agricoltore* → works in the fields
- *Cuoca* → feminine form

✦ **REMEMBER**

- Use **SONO + nationality**
- Pay attention to **masculine / feminine**
- Some adjectives **do not change** (inglese, francese, etiope)

## 7. JOBS: SAME WORD OR DIFFERENT WORD?

- ◆ **Example**

**Question:**

A man who works in a pharmacy is:

✓ **Un farmacista**

(A *pharmacist*)

✗ Un farmacisca

✗ Un farmacisco

👉 **Explanation**

*Farmacista* is correct for **men and women**.

The article changes, not the job word.

- Un farmacista (man)
- Una farmacista (woman)

## 8. “INSEGNANTE” FOR MEN AND WOMEN

### ◆ Example

Is it correct to say *insegnante* for both a man and a woman?

✓ Sì (Yes)

✗ No

✗ It depends on age

### 👉 Explanation

*Insegnante* is the same word for men and women.

Only the article changes.

## 9. “INFERMIERE” AND “INFERMIERA”

### ◆ Example

Is it correct to say *infermiere* for both a man and a woman?

✓ No

✗ Yes

✗ Only in public hospitals

### 👉 Explanation

- Man → infermiere
- Woman → infermiera

The word **changes** for gender.

## 10. A WOMAN WHO COOKS IN A RESTAURANT

### ◆ Example

A woman who cooks in a restaurant is:

✓ La cuoca

(*The female cook*)

✗ La cucina

✗ Il cuoco

### 👉 Explanation

- *Cuoca* = feminine form
- *Cuoco* = masculine form
- *Cucina* = the kitchen (not a person)

## 11. A WOMAN TAXI DRIVER

### ◆ Example

A woman who drives a taxi is:

✓ **Una autista**  
(A female driver)

✗ Un autista

✗ Un operaio

### 👉 Explanation

*Autista* is the same word for men and women.  
The article changes.

## 12. “FARE IL FALEGNAME”

### ◆ Example

If Roberto is a *falegname*, what does he work with?

✓ **Il legno**  
(Wood)

✗ Il ferro

✗ La frutta

### 👉 Explanation

- *Falegname* = carpenter
- A carpenter works with wood.

## 13. WORKING IN THE FIELDS

### ◆ Example

Giovanni works in the fields. He is:

✓ **Un agricoltore**  
(A farmer)

✗ Un agricolo

✗ Una cameriera agricoltrice

### 👉 Explanation

*Agricoltore* is the correct word for a farmer.

## 14. “SONO” OR “VENGO” (REVIEW)

### ◆ Example

Which sentence is correct?

✓ **Sono etiope**  
(*I am Ethiopian*)

✗ Sono di Etiopia

✗ Vengo di Etiopia

### 👉 Explanation

To say nationality, use:

👉 **SONO + nationality adjective**

## 15. TALKING ABOUT ITALY

### ◆ Example

Which sentence is correct?

✓ **Sono italiana**  
(*I am Italian*)

✗ Sono da Italia

✗ Sono Italia

### 👉 Explanation

- Use *sono + nationality*
- Do not use *da* or the country name alone

### 📌 REMEMBER

- Some jobs use **one word** (insegnante, farmacista, autista)
- Some jobs **change** (infermiere / infermiera)
- Use **SONO + nationality adjective**

## HANDOUT – PLACES, CITIZENSHIP & PRESENTATION

### 16. “VIVO A” / “ABITO A”

#### ◆ Example

Can we say “Vivo a Roma”?

✓ Sì (Yes)

✗ No

✗ Only if I have lived there for many years

#### 👉 Explanation

*Vivo a Roma* is always correct.

It means *I live in Rome*.

#### ◆ Example

Can we say “La mia città è Roma”?

✓ Sì (Yes)

✗ No

✗ Only if I have lived there for many years

#### 👉 Explanation

*La mia città è Roma* is correct.

It means *Rome is my city*.

### 17. CITY ≠ CITIZENSHIP

#### ◆ Example

Mario is Italian and lives in Milan. His citizenship is:

✓ Italiana

(Italian)

✗ Romana

✗ Di Italia

#### 👉 Explanation

Living in a city does **not** change citizenship.

Citizenship depends on the country, not the city.

#### ◆ Example

Giorgio is German. His homeland is:

✓ **Germania**

(Germany)

✗ Francia

✗ Spagna

👉 **Explanation**

*Patria* means homeland or country.

◆ **Example**

If I live in Rome, can I say I have Roman citizenship?

✓ **No**

✗ Yes

✗ Yes, because Rome is the capital

👉 **Explanation**

There is **no Roman citizenship**.

There is **Italian citizenship**.

## 18. “VIVO” AND “ABITO”

◆ **Example**

Do “*abito a Roma*” and “*vivo a Roma*” have the same meaning?

✓ **Sì (Yes)**

✗ No

✗ Only if I was born there

👉 **Explanation**

*Vivo* and *abito* mean the same thing.

## 19. TALKING ABOUT YOUR JOB

◆ **Example**

Do “*faccio l’operaio*” and “*sono un operaio*” mean the same thing?

✓ **Sì (Yes)**

✗ No

✗ Only for men

👉 **Explanation**

Both forms are correct to talk about your job.

◆ **Example**

Do “*di professione sono infermiere*” and “*faccio l’infermiere*” mean the same thing?

✓ **Sì** (Yes)

✗ No

✗ It depends on age

👉 **Explanation**

Both sentences are correct and have the same meaning.

## 20. INTRODUCING YOURSELF

◆ **Example**

Are these sentences both correct?

- *Il mio nome è...*
- *Mi chiamo...*

✓ **Sì** (Yes)

✗ No

✗ Only in spoken language

👉 **Explanation**

Both forms are correct in Italian.

## 21. “SONO DI / DA / A”

◆ **Example 28**

Which sentence is correct?

✓ **Sono di Roma**

(*I am from Rome*)

✗ Sono di Italia

✗ Sono da Italia

👉 **Explanation**

- *Sono di + city* → correct
- *Sono di / da + country* → incorrect

## 22. BIRTH: CITY AND COUNTRY

◆ **Example**

Which sentence is correct?

✓ **Sono nato a Roma**

*(I was born in Rome)*

✗ Sono nato a Italia

✗ Sono nato da Italia

👉 **Explanation**

- City → **a**
- Country → **in**

◆ **Example**

Which sentence is correct?

✓ **Sono nata in Etiopia**

*(I was born in Ethiopia)*

✗ Sono nata ad Etiopia

◆ **Example**

Which sentence is correct?

✓ **Sono nata in Addis Abeba**

*(I was born in Addis Ababa)*

✗ Sono nata a Addis Abeba

✗ Sono nata da Addis Abeba

👉 **Explanation**

Use **in** with cities that have two words (Addis Abeba).

## 23. STUDENT AND NATIONALITY

◆ **Example**

Which sentence is correct?

✓ **Sara è una studentessa etiope**

*(Sara is an Ethiopian student)*

✗ uno studente

✗ una studente

👉 **Explanation**

- *Studente* → male
- *Studentessa* → female

◆ **Example**

Which sentence is correct?

✓ **Catalina è ecuadoregna**  
(*Catalina is Ecuadorian*)

- ✗ infermiera ecuadoriana
- ✗ infermiera ecuadoregna

👉 **Explanation**

You can say only the nationality adjective.

◆ **Example**

Which sentence is correct?

✓ **Sono dell'Ecuador**  
(*I am from Ecuador*)

- ✗ Sono di Ecuador

◆ **Example**

Which sentence is correct?

✓ **La mia città è Quito**  
(*My city is Quito*)

- ✗ La mia città è Ecuador
- ✗ La mia città è da Ecuador

◆ **FINAL REMEMBER**

- **Vivo / Abito + city**
- **Sono + nationality**
- **City ≠ citizenship**
- **In = country / A = city**