

## Foreword

Even though the previous edition of *Progetto italiano 1* has had growing acclaim everywhere, it was nevertheless considered necessary to make a New Edition in order to present a book that is more up to date and complete. This New Edition is the fruit of considered and accurate revision, made possible thanks to precious feedback provided over the years, through questionnaires, e-mails and direct contact with many colleagues who have used the book. This New Edition takes into account the new requirements borne from the latest theories and the reality that the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages has brought (this without discarding previous approaches and methods, as often happens, which have contributed to language teaching).

Modern language, communicative situations enriched with spontaneity and naturalness, systematic work on the four skills, presentation of Italian real life through brief passages on the culture and civilization of our *Bel Paese*, the modern and appealing layout make *Nuovo Progetto italiano 1* a well proportioned learning tool, which is efficient and easy to use and has the ambition to make whoever is studying the language, fall in love with Italy, as well as aiming to supply all the notions that make it possible to communicate in Italian without problems.

You will note that the entire book constantly alternates communicative and grammar elements, with the goal of continually renewing the class's interest and the lesson's rhythm through brief and motivating activities. At the same time an attempt has been made to simplify and "demystify" grammar, letting the student simply discover it, and then put it into practice through various communicative activities. Activities that put the student at the centre of the lesson, the main character of a "film" in which we teachers are the directors. Staying behind the camera (or the scenes, if you prefer), we must only be a guide for our actors, giving the proper guidelines whenever necessary. Here, the *Nuovo Progetto italiano 1* could be seen as the script on which your "film" is based...

### The New Edition

*Nuovo Progetto italiano 1*, despite maintaining the "strong points" of the previous edition, already well loved by teachers, is even more modern from a methodological standpoint, more communicative and inductive: it constantly invites the student, with the teacher's help, to discover new elements, grammatical and otherwise. Each unit has been subdivided into sections for easy lesson planning. The introductory unit was redesigned and the first units have been lightened up and made easier wherever we believed there may have been excessive content load. Other changes involved grammar content: some irregular forms have been moved to the Appendix and possessive forms are introduced briefly as early as the third unit. Another important novelty is given in the extra pages which enrich the Student's book, an initial page of preliminary activities and a final page with brief self-evaluation exercises. Furthermore, there are more audio recordings and comprehension activities while dialogues recorded by professional actors are more natural, spontaneous and shorter. There is more coherence between the vocabulary of the Student's book and that of the Workbook, which despite maintaining its originality and richness, presents shorter activities that are more varied as well as new unit exams. The illustrations have been renewed with new photographs that are more natural and with fun drawings; at the same time more modern and clear graphics make for easier consultation.

### Unit structure (for more suggestions see the Guide)

- The introductory page of every unit (*Per cominciare...*) aims to give students the indispensable initial motivation through various techniques of reflection and emotional involvement, of pre-listening and listening, introducing the topic for the first section and often even the entire unit.
- Later, in the first section of the unit, the student reads and listens to recordings and checks his/her ideas given in previous activities. This attempt to understand the context, leads to a global unconscious understanding of new elements.
- Afterwards, the student re-reads the passage paying attention to correct pronunciation and intonation with a view to highlighting new grammar forms in the passage: in this way the students start to get an idea of the use of these new elements. Then, they answer comprehension questions and are asked to insert the words given (verbs, pronouns, prepositions, etc) in a similar dialogue, although not identical, to the introductory one. They therefore work on the meaning (a necessary condition to achieve true acquisition, according to Krashen) and unconsciously discover the structures. A brief summary, preferably done at home, represents the final phase of this reflection on the passage.
- At this point, the students alone or in pairs, start to reflect on the new grammar phenomena seeking to answer simple questions and complete the summary table with the missing forms, after which students attempt to

apply the rules just encountered through simple oral activities. In this way the teacher can verify the comprehension or not of new phenomena and the students “learn to learn”. A small reference indicates the exercises to be done in writing in the Workbook, at a later phase and preferably at home.

- The communicative functions are presented through brief dialogues and are then fully presented in easily consultable tables. The *role-play* activities which follow can be done both in pairs in front of the class or in various pairs at the same time. In both cases the objective is the use of new elements and a spontaneous expression which leads to the desired language autonomy. Each intervention by the teacher, therefore, must aim to act out the dialogue and not for linguistic accuracy. Regarding the latter there could be an intervention in a second phase and in an impersonal and indirect way.
- The texts of *Conosciamo l'Italia* can also be used as brief written comprehension tests, to introduce new vocabulary and, naturally, to present various aspects of the modern Italian reality. They can also be assigned as work to be done at home.
- The unit closes with the *Autovalutazione (Self-evaluation)* page which includes 4 brief activities of mostly communicative and vocabulary elements of the unit itself, just like the previous one. The students have answer keys at their disposal, but not on the same page, and they must be encouraged to do this activity not as the usual test, but as autonomous revision.

### ***The Italian Project 1a***

This edition also includes, in the same volume, the Workbook, Grammar Notes in English (in addition to the in depth information of the Grammar Appendix) as well as the Glossary (with the translation of the book's vocabulary passages). We believe that the latter is a particularly useful tool, in that it gathers all the words and expressions subdivided by unit.

### **The CD-ROM**

*Nuovo Progetto italiano 1* is probably the only manual of Italian that includes an interactive CD-ROM without additional cost. This innovative multimedia support completes and enriches the paper material, offering many hours of additional practice. Furthermore, thanks to the high degree of interactivity, the student becomes more active, motivated and autonomous. The interactive CD-ROM offers the possibility of choosing either independent or guided study; the *Unità intere* are similar but not identical to those in the book in order to avoid discouragement. The student may also follow the content of the manual for the audio recordings (all the book's recordings), grammatical phenomena and communicative elements, of civilization or video films. The proposed *Esercizi Extra* are completely new with regard to the Workbook. For each activity done the student receives an educational evaluation, positive and encouraging feedback and has the possibility to see the solutions. At any moment, the student can select the programme communication language (Italian or English), print a report card, consult the glossary and listen to the correct pronunciation of every word or expression.

### **Extra material**

*Nuovo Progetto italiano 1* is completed by a series of extra material: *Video*; *Dieci Racconti*; *Teacher's Guide*, with practical ideas extra photocopiable material, games, etc; *Online activities* and *Test di progresso* available on Edilingua's website.

Keep up the good work!

The authors

## **Symbol key**



Activities for pairs



Communicative situations



Free oral production



Written production



Listen to recording nr. 12  
of the audio CD or the CD- ROM



Do exercise 10  
in the Workbook



Attività online

Go to [www.edilingua.it/progetto](http://www.edilingua.it/progetto)  
and do the online activities