
AP[®] Italian Language and Culture

Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentary

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Task 1—Email Reply

- Scoring Guidelines**
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Question 1: Email Reply

5 points

General Scoring Note

When applying the scoring guidelines, the response does not need to meet every single criterion in a column. You should award the score according to the preponderance of evidence.

1 Poor	2 Weak	3 Fair	4 Good	5 Strong
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unsuccessfully attempts to maintain the exchange by providing a response that is inappropriate within the context of the task 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partially maintains the exchange with a response that is minimally appropriate within the context of the task 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintains the exchange with a response that is somewhat appropriate but basic within the context of the task 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintains the exchange with a response that is generally appropriate within the context of the task 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintains the exchange with a response that is clearly appropriate within the context of the task
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides little required information (responses to questions, request for details) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides some required information (responses to questions, request for details) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides most required information (responses to questions, request for details) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides most required information (responses to questions, request for details) with some elaboration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides required information (responses to questions, request for details) with frequent elaboration
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barely understandable, with frequent or significant errors that impede comprehensibility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partially understandable with errors that force interpretation and cause confusion for the reader 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generally understandable, with errors that may impede comprehensibility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fully understandable, with some errors that do not impede comprehensibility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fully understandable, with ease and clarity of expression; occasional errors do not impede comprehensibility
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very few vocabulary resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited vocabulary and idiomatic language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriate but basic vocabulary and idiomatic language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Varied and generally appropriate vocabulary and idiomatic language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Varied and appropriate vocabulary and idiomatic language
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Little or no control of grammar, syntax, and usage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited control of grammar, syntax, and usage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some control of grammar, syntax, and usage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General control of grammar, syntax, and usage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accuracy and variety in grammar, syntax, and usage, with few errors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimal or no attention to register; includes significantly inaccurate or no conventions for formal correspondence (e.g., greeting, closing) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of register is generally inappropriate for the situation; includes some conventions for formal correspondence (e.g., greeting, closing) with inaccuracies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mostly consistent use of register appropriate for the situation; control of cultural conventions appropriate for formal correspondence (e.g., greeting, closing), despite occasional errors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very simple sentences or fragments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Simple sentences and phrases 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Simple and a few compound sentences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Simple, compound, and a few complex sentences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Variety of simple and compound sentences, and some complex sentences

Score of 0: UNACCEPTABLE

- 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

NR (No Response): BLANK (no response)

Important: Completely fill in the circle that corresponds to the task you are responding to on this page.

Task 1:
Email Reply

Task 2:
Argumentative Essay

Begin your response to each task at the top of a new page. Do not skip lines.

Gentile Direttrice Isola,

La ringrazio per la sua risposta. So che la sua programma è molta buona e che ha lavorato con tantissime famiglie, quindi sono molto ~~emozio~~ felice che ~~me ha scelto~~ ho questa opportunità.

Ha detto che ~~avrei~~ ^{avrei} bisogno di lavorare per 20 o 30 ore a settimana - può descrivemi qual tipo di lavoro fanno le au pair della questa programma?

Anche me ha chiesto ^{qualz} la mia esperienza. Ho molto esperienza con lavorare con le famiglie e ~~ama~~ mi piace molto ~~il~~ passare tempo con i bambini. Durante l'estate ho lavorato con i bambini dei miei vicini che lavorano durante l'estate ~~quando~~ ^{quando} i bambini non hanno la scuola. Anche lavoro in una piscina nella mia città, dove ~~sono~~ insegno a i bambini come nuotare.

Per l'ambiente preferisco una sistemazione in ambiente urbano perché voglio apprendere molto sulla cultura italiana e anche penso che ci sono più ^{luoghi interessanti} ~~ambiente~~ nella città come ristoranti e negozi diversi.

Per un colloquio in videoconferenza sono disponibile durante le fine settimane dopo il 11 perché ho il lavoro.

Quanto dura un colloquio tipico?

Grazie per il suo tempo e per questa opportunità.

Cordiali saluti,

AP Student

Important: Completely fill in the circle that corresponds to the task you are responding to on this page.

Task 1:
Email Reply

Task 2:
Argumentative Essay

Begin your response to each task at the top of a new page. Do not skip lines.

Gentile Signora Isola,

La Ringrazio per la Sua rapida risposta.

Io ho molto eccezionale per questa opportunità. Io preferisco una sistemazione in ambiente urbano perché io nato nel un paese che ha un ambiente urbano. Anche ^{perché} c'è più tranquillo. Io ho esperienze professionali con le famiglie e i bambini. Per esempio io ho lavorato a una scuola con i bambini per aiutare le professoressa. Mi potrebbe dire quante persone ci sono aiutare? ^{in totale} E vorrei sapere quanti soldi io riceverò dopo questo lavoro? Non vedo l'ora, grazie! Io penso che ^{possa} ~~mi~~ ^{aiutare} ~~aiutare~~ molte famiglie.

Distinti Saluti,

Use a pen with black or dark blue ink only. Do NOT write your name. Do NOT write outside the box.

Important: Completely fill in the circle that corresponds to the task you are responding to on this page.

Task 1:
Email Reply

Task 2:
Argumentative Essay

Begin your response to each task at the top of a new page. Do not skip lines.

Egracio Signorella

Io preferisco una sistemazione in Urbare. La preferisco di una sistemazione urbano sono perché e cerca a ~~le~~ cose che mi piace e sono molto facile per andare i piedi a negozi. Urbano sono dove' molte cose per la attività con la famiglia e per ~~per~~ ^m mangiare con la miei famiglia che io voglio no. La mia esperienza personali di ha una famiglia con ~~per~~ ^{molto} figli. Io sono il fratello maggiore dei miei famiglia.

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Use a pen with black or dark blue ink only. Do NOT write your name. Do NOT write outside the box.

Question 1

Note: Student samples are quoted verbatim and may contain spelling and grammatical errors.

Overview

This task assessed writing in the interpersonal communicative mode by having the student write a reply to an email message. Students were allotted 15 minutes to read the message and write the reply. Students needed to be able first to comprehend the email and then to write a reply using a formal form of address. The reply needed 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 response received a single holistic score based on how well it accomplished the assigned task.

The course theme for the email reply was Families and Communities (*Famiglia e società*). Content and context were provided by the email from Giorgia Isola, the director of *Soggiorno au pair Italia*, an agency that matches Italian families with international au pairs. The email offered information regarding the opportunities the program makes available to participants, including expected working hours, compensation, and the average number of children in typical families. Students were expected to create with the language by using a variety of grammar structures and vocabulary appropriate to the context. They had to give information about themselves by answering two questions: the first one about their preference for a rural or urban accommodation, which they had to justify; the second one about their background in childcare or previous experiences with children. In addition, they had to demonstrate the ability to ask questions by asking for further information about something mentioned in the message.

Sample: 1A

Score: 5

The response received a score of 5 because it maintains the exchange and is clearly appropriate within the context of the task. It provides required information with frequent elaboration (“*Ho molta esperienza con lavorare con le famiglie*”; “*Durante l’estate ho lavorato con i bambini dei miei vicini che lavorano*”; “*Anche lavoro in una piscina nella mia città, dove insegno a i bambini come nuotare.*”). The response is fully understandable, with ease and clarity of expression (“*Cuanto dura un colloquio tipico?*”); occasional errors do not impede comprehensibility (“*può descrivemi qual tipo di lavoro fanno le au pair della questa programma?*”). There is varied and appropriate vocabulary and idiomatic language (“*Durante l’estate ho lavorato con i bambini*”; “*Cuanto dura un colloquio tipico?*”). The response shows accuracy and variety in grammar, syntax, and usage (“*Ha detto che avrei bisogno di lavorare per 20 o 30 ore.*”). It consistently uses a register that is appropriate for the situation (“*Grazie per il suo tempo e per questa opportunità.*”) and appropriately controls cultural conventions suitable for formal correspondence (“*Gentile Direttrice Isola*”; “*Cordiali saluti*”). The response uses a variety of simple and compound sentences as well as some complex sentences.

Sample: 1B

Score: 3

The response earned a score of 3 because it is somewhat appropriate, though basic, within the context of the task. It provides most required information, for example, responses to questions and requests for details (“*Io preferisco una sistemazione in ambiente urbano*”; “*Per esempio io ho lavorato a*

Question 1 (continued)

una scuola con i bambini”; “*E vorrei sapere quanti soldi io riceverò dopo questo lavoro?*”). The response is generally understandable, with some errors that may impede comprehensibility (“*Io ho molto eccezionale per questa opportunita.*”). The response uses appropriate but basic vocabulary and idiomatic language (“*Non vedo l’ora, grazie!*”). There is some control of grammar, syntax, and usage (“*Per esempio io ho lavorato a una scuola con i bambini*”). The response uses mostly simple sentences and a few compound sentences.

Sample: 1C

Score: 2

The response earned a score of 2 because it partially maintains the exchange and is minimally appropriate within the context of the task. It provides some required information, such as responses to questions (“*Io preferisco una sistemazione in urbano.*”). The response is partially understandable, with some errors that force interpretation and cause confusion for the reader (“*perche e cerca a cose che mi piace e sono molto faciale per andare i piedi a negozi*”). It shows limited command of vocabulary and idiomatic language, with frequent repetition (“*sistemazione in urbano*”; “*sistemazione urbano*”; “*Urbano sono dove*”). The response has limited control of grammar, syntax, and usage (“*e per mangiare con la miei famiglia che io voglio no*”). It includes some conventions of formal correspondence, for example, a proper greeting, but with inaccuracies (“*Egracio Signore/a*”). The response uses mostly simple sentences and phrases (“*Io sono il fratello maggiore dei miei famiglia.*”).