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AP® Italian Language and Culture

Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentary

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Task 1—Email Reply

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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
• Unsuccessfully attempts to maintain the exchange by providing a response that is inappropriate within the context of the task	• Partially maintains the exchange with a response that is minimally appropriate within the context of the task	• Maintains the exchange with a response that is somewhat appropriate but basic within the context of the task	• Maintains the exchange with a response that is generally appropriate within the context of the task	• Maintains the exchange with a response that is clearly appropriate within the context of the task
• Provides little required information (responses to questions, request for details)	• Provides some required information (responses to questions, request for details)	• Provides most required information (responses to questions, request for details)	• Provides most required information (responses to questions, request for details) with some elaboration	• Provides required information (responses to questions, request for details) with frequent elaboration
• Barely understandable, with frequent or significant errors that impede comprehensibility	• Partially understandable with errors that force interpretation and cause confusion for the reader	• Generally understandable, with errors that may impede comprehensibility	• Fully understandable, with some errors that do not impede comprehensibility	• Fully understandable, with ease and clarity of expression; occasional errors do not impede comprehensibility
• Very few vocabulary resources	• Limited vocabulary and idiomatic language	• Appropriate but basic vocabulary and idiomatic language	• Varied and generally appropriate vocabulary and idiomatic language	• Varied and appropriate vocabulary and idiomatic language
• Little or no control of grammar, syntax, and usage	• Limited control of grammar, syntax, and usage	• Some control of grammar, syntax, and usage	• General control of grammar, syntax, and usage	• Accuracy and variety in grammar, syntax, and usage, with few errors
• Minimal or no attention to register; includes significantly inaccurate or no conventions for formal correspondence (e.g., greeting, closing)	• Use of register is generally inappropriate for the situation; includes some conventions for formal correspondence (e.g., greeting, closing) with inaccuracies	• 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	• 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)	• Mostly consistent use of register appropriate for the situation; control of cultural conventions appropriate for formal correspondence (e.g., greeting, closing), despite occasional errors
• Very simple sentences or fragments	• Simple sentences and phrases	• Simple and a few compound sentences	• Simple, compound, and a few complex sentences	• 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)

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

Gentile Direttore Rossi,

La ringrazia per la Sua email che ho ricevuto il 14 maggio.
La mia famiglia ~~e~~ è ~~e~~ molta emozionata per questo viaggio
in Italia. Non sono mai stata lì e vorrei visitare tutto che
nord Italia può offrire. È molto importante che facciamo
le attività culturali ma anche ricreative. Per la mia settimana
in Italia, ho bisogno dei trasporti all'albergo e alle attività
perchè ~~~~ i miei nonni che vengono con me sono vecchi
e non possono camminare molto. Il mio gruppo vuole
andare al mare per un giorno e forse facciamo un giorno, un escursion
nella natura. In più, noi siamo molti religiosi, ~~~~~~
quindi è molto importante che noi visitiamo il Vaticano e
voremmo ~~~~ una visita guidata lì, se possibile. C'è molto
per vedere. ma non ho troppo tempo!
    Se possibile, Lei vorrei chiedere alcune domande:
① Quanto costa i Suoi servizi?
② Quali attività o escursioni sono più belli o importan
        a vedere?

Cordiali Saluti.

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

Gentile Direttore,
Grazie per la Sua email che riguarda il mio bisogno per ~~ricevere~~
ricevere informazioni della Sua agenzia per mi viaggio in Italia.
É buono che la Sua agenzia possono aiutarmi per il mio ~~viag~~
viaggio. La programma che ho in mente e la trasporti
all'allogio. Io non ho ~~trasporti~~ quando arrivarò in Italia, ed
é neccesario per me. Secondo, il servizi che mio gruppo hanno
bisogno, é il ~~a~~ servizi di ~~vedo~~ un guidate. Si no e
inconvieniente, ~~puo~~ Tu puoi rispondermi a questi due domande
per favore: Quanto costa ~~il~~ le Sue servici per una settimana
in Italia? E, per quanto tempo nel giorno si possono usare
~~quei~~ questi servici? La ringrazia ~~per~~ ancora una volta
per rispondere ~~al~~ a mio email di interesse. per favore,
rispondimi quando Tu ~~puo~~ puoi. ~~Grazie~~ Molto Grazie!
Molto Cordialmente,
Jane Doe

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

Gentile Mauro Rossi,

Ciao! In Italia, e molta programma per aiuta e viaggo. Esempi per transporti includi l'automobile, e l'autobus. Esempi aiuta perche e molte persone abito i costi non camminare. Il tipo di servizi per il Suo gruppo e guidate di tour perche il guidate e molto intelligente, Italia. Il guidate usare il intelligente per il Suo gruppo perche guadare attrazione e Italia.

Cliente

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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. 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 email and then to write a reply using a formal form of address. The reply must address all the questions and requests raised in the message, as well as ask for more details about something mentioned in the message.

The question assessed students' performance in Interpersonal Writing by engaging them in a series of exchanges on a familiar topic within the course theme *Vita contemporanea*. Content and context were provided by an email from Mauro Rossi, the director of *Agenzia Sotto il Sole*, a travel agency that organizes trips to Italy. The email offered information regarding itineraries and services that the agency provides to travelers—such as transportation, accommodations, guided tours, and reservations for cultural events or activities. Students were expected to answer using a variety of grammatical structures and vocabulary appropriate to the context. They had to provide some details about their trip by answering two questions: the first about how they wanted to spend their week in Italy; the second about the type of services the students and their group needed. In addition, students had to demonstrate their ability to ask questions by asking for further information about something mentioned in the email message.

Sample: 1A
Score: 5

This response earned a score of 5 because it demonstrates a strong performance in Interpersonal Writing. It is clearly appropriate within the context of the task and provides all required information with frequent elaboration ("*È molto importante che facciamo le attività culturali ma anche ricreative*"; "*ho bisogno dei trasporti all'albergo*"). The response requests further details ("*Quali attività o escursioni sono più belli o importanti a vedere?*") and is fully understandable, with ease and clarity of expression ("*In più, noi siamo molti religiosi, quindi*"). Occasional errors do not impede comprehensibility ("*Quanto costa i Suoi servizi?*"). The response shows varied and appropriate vocabulary ("*forse un giorno, facciamo un escursione nella natura*"). It demonstrates accuracy and variety in grammar and syntax with few errors ("*Lei vorrei chiedere alcune domande*"). There is consistent use of the formal register, despite occasional errors ("*La ringrazia*"), as well as control of cultural conventions appropriate for formal correspondence ("*Gentile Direttore Rossi*"; "*Cordiali Saluti*"). There is a variety of simple and compound sentences combined with some complex sentences ("*Per la mia settimana in Italia, ho bisogno dei trasporti all'albergo e alle attività perchè i miei nonni che vengono con me sono vecchi e non possono camminare molto*").

Sample: 1B
Score: 3

This response earned a score of 3 because it demonstrates a fair performance in Interpersonal Writing. It is somewhat appropriate but basic within the context of the task ("*Grazie per la Sua email*"; "*La ringrazia*"; "*Per favore, rispondimi*"). It provides most required information ("*La programma che ho in mente e la trasporti all'alloggio*"; "*il servizi che mio gruppo hanno bisogno, è il servizi di un guidate*"). The response is generally understandable, with some errors that may impede comprehensibility ("*La ringrazia ancora una volta per rispondere a mio email di interesse*"). The response shows appropriate but basic vocabulary and some control of grammar ("*E, per quanto tempo nel giorno si possono usare questi servizi?*"). The use of register may be inappropriate for the situation, with several shifts ("*Tu puoi rispondermi*"; "*Quando Tu puoi*"). There are mostly simple with a few compound sentences ("*Quanto costa le Sue servizi per una settimana in Italia?*").

Question 1 (continued)

Sample: 1C
Score: 1

This response earned a score of 1 because it demonstrates a poor performance in Interpersonal Writing. It is inappropriate within the context of the task (“*Esempi per transporti include l'automobile e l'autobus*”). It provides little required information (“*In Italia, e molta programma per aiuta e viaggo*”). The response is barely understandable, with frequent or significant errors that impede comprehensibility (“*Il tipo di servizi per il Suo gruppo e guidate di tour perche il guidate é molto intelligente Italia*”). It includes few vocabulary resources (“Il guidate”). There is little or no control of grammar (“*e molte persone abito i costi*”; “*Il guidate usare il intelligente*”) and minimal or no attention to register (“*Ciao!*”).