IT

ITALIAN LESSON

Basic Conversation 1 · Chapter 3 · Numbers & Details

🔢 Numbers, Age & Contact Details — Numeri, età e recapiti

*This is a long chapter in three parts: **Part 1** counts from 0 to 100, **Part 2** gives your age with avere, and **Part 3** swaps phone numbers and email addresses. Take it a part at a time. All the people, numbers and addresses are invented.*

Part 1 · Counting — Contare

① How Many? — Quanti?

A:

Quanti biglietti?

KWAHN-tee bee-LYEHT-tee?

How many tickets?

B:

Due, per favore.

DOO-eh, pehr fah-VOH-reh.

Two, please.

A:

Sono sedici euro.

SOH-noh SEH-dee-chee EH-oo-roh.

That's sixteen euros.

B:

Ecco venti euro.

EHK-koh VEHN-tee EH-oo-roh.

Here's twenty euros.

② Which Room? — Che numero?

A:

Che numero di camera ha?

keh NOO-meh-roh dee KAH-meh-rah AH?

What room number do you have?

B:

La ventotto.

lah vehn-TOHT-toh.

Number twenty-eight.

A:

Ventotto o trentotto?

vehn-TOHT-toh oh trehn-TOHT-toh?

Twenty-eight or thirty-eight?

B:

Ventotto: due, otto.

vehn-TOHT-toh: DOO-eh, OHT-toh.

Twenty-eight: two, eight.

0–10	SAY IT	11–20	SAY IT
0 **zero**	*DZEH-roh*	11 **undici**	*OON-dee-chee*
1 **uno**	*OO-noh*	12 **dodici**	*DOH-dee-chee*
2 **due**	*DOO-eh*	13 **tredici**	*TREH-dee-chee*
3 **tre**	*TREH*	14 **quattordici**	*kwaht-TOR-dee-chee*
4 **quattro**	*KWAHT-troh*	15 **quindici**	*KWEEN-dee-chee*
5 **cinque**	*CHEEN-kweh*	16 **sedici**	*SEH-dee-chee*
6 **sei**	*SAY*	17 **diciassette**	*dee-chahs-SEHT-teh*
7 **sette**	*SEHT-teh*	18 **diciotto**	*dee-CHOHT-toh*
8 **otto**	*OHT-toh*	19 **diciannove**	*dee-chahn-NOH-veh*
9 **nove**	*NOH-veh*	20 **venti**	*VEHN-tee*
10 **dieci**	*DYEH-chee*		

TENS	SAY IT	EXAMPLES
30 **trenta**	*TREHN-tah*	31 **trentuno**
40 **quaranta**	*kwah-RAHN-tah*	42 **quarantadue**
50 **cinquanta**	*cheen-KWAHN-tah*	53 **cinquantatré**
60 **sessanta**	*sehs-SAHN-tah*	64 **sessantaquattro**
70 **settanta**	*seht-TAHN-tah*	75 **settantacinque**
80 **ottanta**	*oht-TAHN-tah*	88 **ottantotto**
90 **novanta**	*noh-VAHN-tah*	99 **novantanove**
100 **cento**	*CHEHN-toh*	

BUILDING 21 TO 99

Join the ten and the unit into **one word**, with no "and": *venti* + *due* = *ventidue*. Before **uno** and **otto**, the ten drops its last vowel: *ventuno, ventotto, trentuno, trentotto*. A final *tre* takes an accent: *ventitré, trentatré*.

Part 2 · Age — L'età

③ How Old Are You? — Quanti anni hai?

A:

Quanti anni hai, Luca?

KWAHN-tee AHN-nee AI, LOO-kah?

How old are you, Luca?

B:

Ho otto anni. E tu?

oh OHT-toh AHN-nee. eh TOO?

I'm eight. And you?

A:

Io? Ho trentacinque anni.

EE-oh? oh trehn-tah-CHEEN-kweh AHN-nee.

Me? I'm thirty-five.

B:

Mamma mia, che vecchio!

MAHM-mah MEE-ah, keh VEHK-kyoh!

Wow, how old!

④ A Family Photo — Una foto

A:

Questa è mia nonna.

KWEH-stah eh MEE-ah NOHN-nah.

This is my grandmother.

B:

Quanti anni ha?

KWAHN-tee AHN-nee AH?

How old is she?

A:

Ha novantun anni.

ah noh-vahn-TOON AHN-nee.

She's ninety-one.

B:

Complimenti, è in gamba!

kohm-plee-MEHN-tee, eh een GAHM-bah!

Well done to her, she looks sprightly!

You "Have" Your Years

Italian says *Ho vent'anni* ("I have twenty years"), never *sono venti*. Before *anni*, numbers ending in *uno* are usually shortened (*ventun anni*), and *venti* often becomes *vent'*. Asking an adult's age can be as delicate in Italy as at home.

Part 3 · Contact Details — I recapiti

⑤ Swapping Numbers — Il tuo numero

A:

Mi dai il tuo numero?

mee DAI eel TOO-oh NOO-meh-roh?

Will you give me your number?

B:

Certo. Tre tre tre, zero zero zero, dodici, trentaquattro.

CHEHR-toh. treh treh treh, DZEH-roh DZEH-roh DZEH-roh, DOH-dee-chee, trehn-tah-KWAHT-troh.

Sure. 333 000 12 34.

A:

Ti chiamo, così hai il mio.

tee KYAH-moh, koh-ZEE AI eel MEE-oh.

I'll call you, then you've got mine.

B:

Sì, lo sento. Perfetto!

SEE, loh SEHN-toh. pehr-FEHT-toh!

Yes, I can hear it. Perfect!

⑥ An Email Address — La Sua email

A:

Qual è la Sua email?

kwahl EH lah SOO-ah EE-mayl?

What is your email address?

B:

Laura punto conti chiocciola example punto com.

LOW-rah POON-toh KOHN-tee KYOHT-choh-lah eg-ZAHM-pol POON-toh KOHM.

laura.conti@example.com

A:

Può ripetere, per favore?

PWOH ree-PEH-teh-reh, pehr fah-VOH-reh?

Could you repeat that, please?

B:

Certo, più lentamente.

CHEHR-toh, PYOO lehn-tah-MEHN-teh.

Of course, more slowly.

SYMBOL	ITALIAN	SAY IT
@	**chiocciola** ("snail")	*KYOHT-choh-lah*
.	**punto**	*POON-toh*
-	**trattino**	*traht-TEE-noh*
_	**trattino basso**	*traht-TEE-noh BAHS-soh*
all one word	**tutto attaccato**	*TOOT-toh aht-tahk-KAH-toh*

SYMBOL	ITALIAN	SAY IT
all lower case	**tutto minuscolo**	*TOOT-toh mee-NOO-skoh-loh*

🔑 Key Phrases — Frasi chiave

SITUATION	FORMAL (LEI)	INFORMAL (TU)
How old are you?	**Quanti anni ha?** *KWAHN-tee AHN-nee AH*	**Quanti anni hai?** *KWAHN-tee AHN-nee AI*
What's your number?	**Qual è il Suo numero?** *kwahl EH eel SOO-oh NOO-meh-roh*	**Qual è il tuo numero?** *kwahl EH eel TOO-oh NOO-meh-roh*
What's your email?	**Qual è la Sua email?** *kwahl EH lah SOO-ah EE-mayl*	**Qual è la tua email?** *kwahl EH lah TOO-ah EE-mayl*
Can you repeat?	**Può ripetere?** *PWOH ree-PEH-teh-reh*	**Puoi ripetere?** *PWOY ree-PEH-teh-reh*
More slowly	**Più lentamente, per favore.** *PYOO lehn-tah-MEHN-teh*	**Più piano!** *PYOO PYAH-noh*

🔤 Three Verbs — Verbi

__Avere__ ("to have") is irregular and very common. __Chiamare__ ("to call") is regular -are; notice it is Chapter 2's chiamarsi without the small word. __Sentire__ ("to hear") shows the third regular family, __-ire__. (Some -ire verbs add an extra -isc-; those can wait.)

	AVERE (TO HAVE)	CHIAMARE (TO CALL)	SENTIRE (TO HEAR)
io (I)	**ho** *OH*	**chiamo** *KYAH-moh*	**sento** *SEHN-toh*

	AVERE (TO HAVE)	CHIAMARE (TO CALL)	SENTIRE (TO HEAR)
tu (you)	hai *AI*	chiami *KYAH-mee*	senti *SEHN-tee*
lui, lei, Lei (he, she; you, formal)	ha *AH*	chiama *KYAH-mah*	sente *SEHN-teh*
noi (we)	abbiamo *ahb-BYAH-moh*	chiamiamo *kyah-MYAH-moh*	sentiamo *sehn-TYAH-moh*
voi (you, plural)	avete *ah-VEH-teh*	chiamate *kyah-MAH-teh*	sentite *sehn-TEE-teh*
loro (they)	hanno *AHN-noh*	chiamano *KYAH-mah-noh*	sentono *SEHN-toh-noh*

The Silent H

Ho, hai, ha, hanno start with a silent *h*. It matters in writing: *ha* ("has") is not *a* ("to, at"), and *anno* ("year") is not *hanno* ("they have"). Hold the double *n* in *anni*.

📖 Vocabulary — Vocabolario

20 key words. Read the Italian first, then check the respelling (CAPITALS = the stressed syllable).

#	ITALIAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
1	avere	*ah-VEH-reh*	to have	verb
2	chiamare	*kyah-MAH-reh*	to call	verb
3	sentire	*sehn-TEE-reh*	to hear	verb
4	ripetere	*ree-PEH-teh-reh*	to repeat	verb
5	il numero	*eel NOO-meh-roh*	number	noun

#	ITALIAN	SAY IT	ENGLISH	TYPE
6	**l'anno**	*LAHN-noh*	year	noun
7	**l'età**	*leh-TAH*	age	noun
8	**il telefono**	*eel teh-LEH-foh-noh*	telephone	noun
9	**il cellulare**	*eel chehl-loo-LAH-reh*	mobile phone	noun
10	**l'email**	*LEE-mayl*	email	noun
11	**l'indirizzo**	*leen-dee-REET-tsoh*	address	noun
12	**il biglietto**	*eel bee-LYEHT-toh*	ticket	noun
13	**la camera**	*lah KAH-meh-rah*	room (to sleep in)	noun
14	**la nonna**	*lah NOHN-nah*	grandmother	noun
15	**quanti / quante**	*KWAHN-tee / KWAHN-teh*	how many	phrase
16	**qual è**	*kwahl EH*	what is, which is	phrase
17	**ecco**	*EHK-koh*	here is, here you are	phrase
18	**certo**	*CHEHR-toh*	sure, of course	adv
19	**piano**	*PYAH-noh*	slowly; quietly	adv
20	**vecchio / vecchia**	*VEHK-kyoh / VEHK-kyah*	old	adj

✍️ Try It Yourself — Prova tu

Say each answer aloud, then click to check.

1. Say these in Italian: 13, 16, 17.

▼ Show answer

tredici, sedici, diciassette

2. Say these in Italian: 21, 48, 73.

▼ Show answer

ventuno, quarantotto, settantatré

3. Say that you are thirty.

▼ Show answer

Ho trent'anni.

4. Fill in with *avere*: *Noi ___ due biglietti. Loro ___ una camera.*

▼ Show answer

Noi abbiamo due biglietti. Loro hanno una camera.

5. Politely ask someone to repeat their email address.

▼ Show answer

Può ripetere la Sua email, per favore?

6. Read aloud as an email address: *marco_rossi@example.com*

▼ Show answer

marco trattino basso rossi chiocciola example punto com

Not Yet Verified

Checked (one web search on 2026-11-26, search summary only, pages not read): joining numbers 21 to 99 into one word, dropping the vowel before *uno* and *otto*, and the accent in *ventitré*.

Not checked (general knowledge): the number list itself, ages with *avere* and the shortened forms, phone numbers, email symbols, the dialogs, verb tables, vocabulary and all respellings. No native speaker has reviewed the Italian.

Please review: the way the phone number is grouped in dialog 5 (people vary), and *novantun anni* in dialog 4.

Sources: Busuu (numbers) · Dummies (counting) · Lingoda (numbers)

Coming Up in Chapter 4

Next: **where you're from**: countries, nationalities and their endings, languages, and when to use *di*, *a* and *in*.