

ACORN[®]SOFT HOME STUDY

LINKWORD

ITALIAN

for the BBC Microcomputer Model B



ACORN**SOFT**

LINKWORD

ITALIAN

A Gruneberg LINKWORD language course
for the BBC Microcomputer Model B



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About the author

Dr Michael M Gruneberg, designer and writer of the Gruneberg LINKWORD language courses, is Senior Lecturer in Psychology at University College, Swansea, Wales. He has published a number of well-known books on memory as well as a number of research papers concerned with practical and theoretical aspects of memory. For the past few years he has worked with a number of linguists in designing the Gruneberg LINKWORD Language System. As well as using imagery, the system uses a number of other established principles of memory to make learning much faster and easier than conventional methods.

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What is the Gruneberg LINKWORD Language System?

It is a system for teaching foreign languages which is much faster, easier and more enjoyable than any conventional methods of language teaching.

In ten hours you will learn a vocabulary of about 400 words with some basic grammar. This will help you to understand and to be understood if you travel to an Italian speaking country, or talk to a native Italian speaker. Of course there will be gaps in your vocabulary and your knowledge of grammar, but you will be surprised at how quickly and easily you learn the basics of Italian.

How does it work?

One of the ways in which the Gruneberg system works is by using visual images. An English word is linked by means of a visual image to another English word which sounds like the Italian word. For example when teaching the Italian word for cat the program tells you:

The Italian for cat is gatto
Imagine a cat eating a large gâteau

You think of this image in your mind's eye as vividly as you can. Later you are given the word 'gatto' and asked what it means in English. Immediately you think of a cat eating a gâteau, which gives you the translation.

Many of the images in the program will strike you as peculiar, even ridiculous. You may be surprised to know that research has shown such images to be very powerful in promoting the learning of languages.

How does the computer help?

The BBC Microcomputer provides an ideal context for language learning. The program organises your learning, presenting you with each word and image at the right moment; asking you to translate words and sentences into and out of Italian in a controlled sequence; summarising what you have done and reinforcing your progress in much the same way as an expert human teacher could do.

The great advantage of computer-aided instruction is that the ideal learning sequence can be set up in the program, and reproduced faultlessly every time.

An added benefit is that the computer is never tired, bored, temperamental or forgetful, and it is always available whenever you want to start learning. It is also entirely private and confidential.

Why an audio tape?

One thing the computer cannot do is teach you how to pronounce the Italian words. Hints are given on the screen, but the true sound can only be achieved by careful listening.

At intervals during the program you are therefore invited to leave the computer and play yourself part of the sound cassette, which is provided as part of the course. *Do not play the audio tape until instructed to do so by the computer.*

Who can use the Gruneberg LINKWORD Language System?

The short answer is *anyone* and *everyone!* You certainly don't need a gift for languages to learn Italian with this system.

The courses have been designed for holiday makers, for business executives who want to learn the basics of a language in a hurry, for children who find learning languages at school difficult or boring – in fact for anyone who wants to learn a language and would prefer to do so in a lively and amusing way.

The courses often appeal to those who find learning a language by normal methods boring or difficult, but even people who are good at languages often find the courses much more interesting and enjoyable than normal methods of learning.

How to load and run the programs

The Gruneberg LINKWORD language programs for Italian are issued on cassette. The files provided are:

ITAL1	ITAL2	ITAL3	ITAL4	ITAL5	ITAL5A
ITAL6	ITAL7	ITAL8	ITAL9	ITAL10	

To load and run the programs you must have a cassette recorder connected to your microcomputer as described in the *BBC Microcomputer User Guide*. To start the first program proceed as follows.

Wind back the cassette fully and place it in the cassette recorder. Type

```
CHAIN "ITAL1"
```

and press RETURN. When you see the message 'Searching', press the PLAY button on the cassette recorder. Press the STOP button on the cassette recorder when the program is loaded.

To load and run the other programs use the CHAIN command in the same way.

How to use the programs

1. After a few introductory screens you are presented with a sequence of words. In each case you are told what the word means, and given an image to help you remember it. For example:

The Italian for cat is gatto
Imagine a cat eating a large gâteau

2. After you have read this you should think about the image in your mind's eye for about ten seconds before pressing RETURN to move on to the next word. If you do not spend enough time thinking about the image it will not stick in your memory as well as it should.

If you want to be sure of having ten seconds to think about it, press the Space Bar immediately after reading the image. Ten seconds later a new word will be presented.

3. After you have been presented with a number of words you will be given an Italian word and asked for the English.

At this point you should type in the English on the line below. When you have done so, press RETURN for the correct translation.

To go on to the next word press RETURN.

4. After you have translated from Italian to English you will be asked to translate from English to Italian.

You can if you wish use accented letters in those Italian words that need them. Type the letter to be accented, followed by a '\ ' or ' '.

5. Sometimes the Italian word and its English translation are the same or very similar. For example, the Italian for 'taxi' is 'taxi'. When this happens you will be asked to associate the word in some way with spaghetti. For example:

Imagine a taxi with the back seat covered in spaghetti.

Whenever the spaghetti image comes to mind, therefore, you will know the word is the same in both English and Italian.

6. It is very important to realise that some groups of words and some grammar are more difficult to learn than others. If you feel you are having such difficulty, do not worry; just go on to the next set of words. The important thing to appreciate is how much you *do* learn very quickly. Even if you feel you would prefer to go back and check what you have already done, you are strongly advised to carry on to the end of the section first.

7. The examples given in the course may well strike you as silly and bizarre. The fact is they are meant to be. They have deliberately been designed in this way to enable you to concentrate on the words and the grammar, and to get away from the idea that you should remember useful phrases 'parrot fashion'.

For parents and teachers

If your child finds difficulty in reading you can still use the course to teach Italian. You can use the text as a manual and read from the screen to your child. One way of holding a young child's interest is to get him or her to sketch the images you present.

Glossary

a/an	un/una/un'	cabbage	il cavolo
accident	l'incidente (m)	cake	la torta
always	sempre	car	la macchina
am	sono	carpet	il tappeto
ambulance	l'ambulanza (f)	carrot	la carota
and	e	cash desk	la cassa
apple	la mela	castle	il castello
are (they)	sono	cat	il gatto
at	a	caterpillar	il bruco
back	il dorso	chair	la sedia
bad	cattivo	cheque	l'assegno (m)
bandage	la fascia	chicken	il pollo
bank	la banca	church	la chiesa
bathroom	il bagno	clean	pulito
battery	la batteria	cloakroom	la guardaroba
bay	la baia	coffee	il caffè
bear	l'orso (m)	cold	freddo
bed	il letto	countryside	la campagna
bedroom	la camera	cow	la mucca
bee	l'ape (f)	cup	la tazza
bill	il conto	cupboard	l'armadio (m)
bird	l'uccello (m)	curtain	la tenda
black	nero	cushion	il cuscino
blood	il sangue	customs	la dogana
blouse	la blusa	danger	il pericolo
blue	blu	daughter	la figlia
boat	il battello	day	il giorno
bonnet	il cofano	dead	morto
book	il libro	deep	profondo
boss	il padrone	dentist	il dentista
boy	il ragazzo	dirty	sporco
brake	il freno	doctor	il dottore
bread	il pane	dog	il cane
breakdown	il guasto	donkey	l'asino (m)
bridge	il ponte	door	la porta
brother	il fratello	drawer	il cassetto
brown	marrone	dress	il vestito
bucket	la secchia	drink (l)	bevo
bull	il toro	drink (they)	bevono
but	ma	drinks (he/she)	beve
butter	il burro	driver	l'autista (m)
butterfly	la farfalla	duck	l'anitra (f)
button	il bottone	earth	la terra

eat (I)	mangio	hard	duro
eat (they)	mangiano	has (he/she)	ha
eats (he/she)	mangia	hat	il cappello
eggs	le uova	have (I)	ho
elastic	l'elastico (m)	have (they)	hanno
empty	vuoto	head	la testa
entrance	l'entrata (f)	heart	il cuore
envelope	la busta	heavy	pesante
every	ogni	help	l'aiuto (m)
excursion	la gita	here	qui
exit	l'uscita (f)	high	alto
expensive	caro	holidays	le vacanze
factory	la fabbrica	horse	il cavallo
father	il padre	hospital	l'ospedale (m)
fire	il fuoco	hot	caldo
firm	la ditta	hour	l'ora (f)
first	primo	how do you do	piacere
fish	il pesce	how much	quanto
floor	il pavimento	husband	il marito
flower	il fiore	in	in
fly	la mosca	insect	l'insetto (m)
foot	il piede	is	è
fork	la forchetta	it's a pleasure	prego
fresh	fresco	jack	il cricco
frog	la rana	jacket	la giacca
from	da	jam	la marmellata
fruit	la frutta	jellyfish	la medusa
full	pieno	kitchen	la cucina
game	il giuoco	knife	il coltello
garage	il garage	lake	il lago
garden	il giardino	lamb	l'agnello (m)
garlic	l'aglio (m)	last	ultimo
girl	la ragazza	lawyer	l'avvocato (m)
glass	il bicchiere	left	sinistro
goat	la capra	leg	la gamba
golden	d'oro	lemonade	la limonata
good night	buona notte	less	meno
goods	la merce	letter	la lettera
goose	l'oca (f)	lion	il leone
grass	l'erba (f)	lost	perso
green	verde	low	basso
grey	grigio	manager	il direttore
half	mezzo	map	la mappa
hallo	ciao	market	il mercato
hand	la mano	meat	la carne

melon	il melone	please	per favore
menu	il menù	policeman	il poliziotto
midday	il mezzogiorno	pond	lo stagno
midnight	la mezzanotte	potato	la patata
milk	il latte	price	il prezzo
minute	il minuto	product	il prodotto
mirror	lo specchio	put (I)	metto
mistake	l'errore (m)	put (they)	mettono
money	il danaro	puts (he/she)	mette
money exchange	il cambio	quarter	quarto
month	il mese	quick	rapido
more	più	quiet	tranquillo
morning	la mattina	rat	il topo
mosquito	la zanzara	red	rosso
mother	la madre	restaurant	il ristorante
mountain	la montagna	right	destro
museum	il museo	river	il fiume
mushroom	il fungo	roof	il tetto
narrow	stretto	room	la stanza
newspaper	il giornale	salary	il salario
night	la notte	salt	il sale
no	no	sand	la sabbia
not	non	sea	il mare
now	adesso	second (adj)	secondo
of	di	second (noun)	il secondo
office	l'ufficio (m)	secretary	la segretaria
oil	l'olio (m)	see (I)	vedo
omelette	la frittata	see (they)	vedono
on	su	seed	il seme
onion	la cipolla	sees (he/she)	vede
only	solo	sell (I)	vendo
or	o	sell (they)	vendono
owner	il proprietario	sells (he/she)	vende
oyster	l'ostrica (f)	sheep	la pecora
pain	il dolore	shirt	la camicia
passport	il passaporto	shoe	la scarpa
path	il sentiero	shop	il negozio
pear	la pera	shop assistant	la commessa
pepper	il pepe	sick	malato
petrol	la benzina	silver	argenteo
piano	il pianoforte	sister	la sorella
picnic	il picnic	skin	la pelle
pig	il porco	skirt	la gonna
plant	la pianta	slow	lento
plate	il piatto	small	piccolo

snake	il serpente
son	il figlio
soon	presto
sorry	mi scusi
soup	la minestra
sparkling plug	la candela
speak (I)	parlo
speak (they)	parlano
speaks (he/she)	parla
spoon	il cucchiaino
staircase	la scala
stamp	il francobollo
station	la stazione
steak	la bistecca
steering wheel	il volante
stomach	lo stomaco
street	la strada
sun	il sole
table	la tavola
tea	il tè
telephone	il telefono
thank you	grazie
the	il/lo/l'/la/i/gli/le
there	lì
thief	il ladro
thigh	la coscia
ticket	il biglietto
time	il tempo
tired	stanco
to	a
toilet	il gabinetto
tomato	il pomodoro
tomorrow	domani
town centre	il centro
traffic lights	il semaforo
train	il treno
tree	l'albero (m)
trousers	i pantaloni
trout	la trota
tyre	la gomma
ugly	brutto
veal	il vitello
very	molto
waiter	il cameriere
want (I)	voglio

want (they)	vogliono
wants (he/she)	vuole
wasp	la vespa
water	l'acqua (f)
week	la settimana
what	che
wheel	la ruota
where	dove
which	quale
white	bianco
who	chi
why	perchè
wide	largo
wife	la moglie
window	la finestra
wine	il vino
work	il lavoro
worker	l'operaio (m)
worm	il verme
year	l'anno (m)
yellow	giallo
yes	sì

Numbers

zero	zero
one	uno
two	due
three	tre
four	quattro
five	cinque
six	sei
seven	sette
eight	otto
nine	nove
ten	dieci
eleven	undici
twenty	venti
twenty-five	venticinque

Days of the week

Sunday	domenica
Monday	lunedì
Tuesday	martedì
Wednesday	mercoledì

Thursday	giovedì
Friday	venerdì
Saturday	sabato

Months of the year

January	gennaio
February	febbraio
March	marzo
April	aprile
May	maggio
June	giugno
July	luglio
August	agosto
September	settembre
October	ottobre
November	novembre
December	dicembre

LINKWORD ITALIAN

