

Italian B1 Complete Pack

The subjunctive and the conditional – taught, drilled, and sat under the clock

for English speakers

WHAT IS INSIDE

- 10 chapters, in teaching order
- A full answer key
- Mistakes English speakers make
- Graded exercises
- Italian audio throughout
- Print and mobile editions



How to use this book

What you will learn

Each chapter opens with what you will be able to do and closes with a recap. In between: the rule, real Italian examples, the mistake speakers of your language actually make, and where the language is used.

Nothing is used before it is taught. If a form appears, you have already met it — so read the chapters in order, even the ones that look easy.

Tip

A workable rhythm: one chapter every two days. Day one, read and say the examples out loud. Day two, do that chapter in the workbook before reading anything new. Twenty minutes beats two hours on Sunday.



Free lessons, audio and a word every day on the website.

<https://www.imparitaliano.com/en>

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The subjunctive: what you do not assert

What you will learn

- Build the regular subjunctive from all three verb families
- See that something always calls it, and learn what does
- Tell what you assert from what you merely think

The subjunctive is not a tense but a stance. “So che è vero” asserts; “penso che sia vero” offers. Italian marks that difference in the verb itself, which is why the subjunctive is not decoration — leaving it out changes what you are claiming.

1.1 -ARE Verbs: PARLARE

The subjunctive expresses uncertainty, wishes, and opinions. For -ARE verbs, replace indicative endings with subjunctive ones.

Pronoun	Ending	Example
io	-i	Penso che io parli bene.
tu	-i	Credo che tu parli italiano.
lui/lei	-i	Penso che lei parli piano.
noi	-iamo	Speriamo che noi parliamo insieme.
voi	-iate	Voglio che voi parliate chiaro.
loro	-ino	Credo che loro parlino sempre.

1.2 -ERE Verbs: SCRIVERE

Pronoun	Ending	Example
io	-a	Penso che io scriva bene.
tu	-a	Credo che tu scriva spesso.
lui/lei	-a	Spero che lei scriva presto.
noi	-iamo	Voglio che noi scriviamo insieme.
voi	-iate	È importante che voi scriviate chiaro.
loro	-ano	Credo che loro scrivano sempre.

1.3 -IRE Verbs: DORMIRE

Pronoun	Ending	Example
io	-a	Spero che io dorma bene.
tu	-a	Voglio che tu dorma abbastanza.
lui/lei	-a	Penso che lei dorma troppo.
noi	-iamo	È necessario che noi dormiamo di più.
voi	-iate	Vorrei che voi dormiate meglio.
loro	-ano	Credo che loro dormano poco.

1.4 Quick Reference

Verb Type	io/tu/lei	noi	voi	loro
-ARE	-i	-iamo	-iate	-ino
-ERE	-a	-iamo	-iate	-ano
-IRE	-a	-iamo	-iate	-ano

1.5 Subjunctive with Opinions

- ▶ **Penso che sia una buona idea.** — I think it's a good idea. [b1-119]
- ▶ **Credo che tu abbia ragione.** — I believe you're right. [b1-120]
- ▶ **Non penso che sia così difficile.** — I don't think it's that difficult. [b1-121]
- ▶ **Credo che lui sappia la verità.** — I believe he knows the truth. [b1-122]
- ▶ **Penso che dovremmo aspettare.** — I think we should wait. [b1-123]
- ▶ **Non credo che sia necessario.** — I don't believe it's necessary. [b1-124]

Common mistake

✗ I think that he speaks well ➤ Penso che lui parla bene.

✓ **Penso che lui parli bene.**

English lost almost all of its subjunctive, so nothing in your language marks this and nothing warns you. Learn it as a pairing rather than a rule: certain openers — penso che, credo che, spero che — simply take a different verb form after them.

In real life

You will hear plenty of Italians say “penso che è” in fast speech, and that is a fact about the language. In careful writing the subjunctive is expected, and its absence reads as an error rather than as a style.



This chapter on the website: more examples and the audio.

<https://www.imparitaliano.com/en/learn/b1/grammar#b1-subjunctive-present-regular>

Recap

- -are gives -i; -ere and -ire give -a
- The first three persons are identical, so the pronoun is needed
- Something calls it: a verb, a conjunction, or a polite command (Scusi, Venga)

Next step: The regular verbs are the easy half. The trouble is that the verbs you need most are not regular.

The irregular subjunctive

What you will learn

- Know *sia*, *abbia*, *vada*, *faccia* by heart
- See that most irregulars are built from the “io” present
- Use them in whole sentences, not in tables

The good news: most irregulars are built from the “io” form of the present. *Vengo* gives *venga*, *esco* gives *esca*, *dico* gives *dica*. Only a small handful have to be memorised outright: *sia*, *abbia*, *sappia*, *dia*, *stia*.

2.1 ESSERE (to be)

Pronoun	Form	Example
io	<i>sia</i>	Penso che io <i>sia</i> bravo.
tu	<i>sia</i>	Credo che tu <i>sia</i> intelligente.
lui/lei	<i>sia</i>	Spero che lei <i>sia</i> felice.
noi	<i>siamo</i>	Voglio che noi <i>siamo</i> insieme.
voi	<i>siate</i>	È importante che voi <i>siate</i> pronti.
loro	<i>siano</i>	Credo che loro <i>siano</i> amici.