



# ITL 211

## Intermediate Italian II

S2 External 2019

*Dept of International Studies*

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#### **Disclaimer**

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## General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

Gianluca Alimeni

[gianluca.alimeni@mq.edu.au](mailto:gianluca.alimeni@mq.edu.au)

Contact via [gianluca.alimeni@mq.edu.au](mailto:gianluca.alimeni@mq.edu.au)

Australian Hearing Hub, Level 2, North WIng.

Credit points

3

Prerequisites

ITL210

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit is a continuation in the second half-year of ITL210. The unit aims to further develop students' competence in understanding and speaking, reading and writing standard Italian.

## Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

## Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

To hear, speak, read and write modern Italian language in a variety of registers.

To read, listen to, comprehend and discuss a variety of Italian texts.

To attain a good level of spoken and written Italian through practice in class and completion of exercises and assignments.

To revise grammatical structures previously studied and learn new structures essential to oral and written fluency and accuracy.

To understand and gain proficiency in the mechanics of writing Italian.

To gain an appreciation of the Italian culture through textual (including literature) and

aural material introduced in the class resources and discussed in class as well as online.

## General Assessment Information

Indicative examples of assessment tasks will be available on iLearn.

### Late Assessment Penalty

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, (a) a penalty for lateness will apply – two (2) marks out of 100 will be deducted per day for assignments submitted after the due date – and (b) no assignment will be accepted more than seven (7) days (incl. weekends) after the original submission deadline. No late submissions will be accepted for timed assessments – e.g. quizzes, online tests.

### Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
<a href="#"><u>Participation</u></a>	10%	No	Ongoing
<a href="#"><u>Listening comprehension</u></a>	10%	No	week 13
<a href="#"><u>Oral test - video presentation</u></a>	10%	No	week 13
<a href="#"><u>On-Line Quizzes</u></a>	20%	No	week 3, 6 & 10
<a href="#"><u>Exam</u></a>	30%	No	Exams period
<a href="#"><u>Written assignments</u></a>	20%	No	week 4, 7 (in-class), 8 & 11

### Participation

Due: **Ongoing**

Weighting: **10%**

Class and iLearn participation (including completion of homework tasks and in-class activities, initiating discussion, asking questions, speaking in Italian) + completion of Voice Boards elements

On successful completion you will be able to:

- To hear, speak, read and write modern Italian language in a variety of registers.
- To read, listen to, comprehend and discuss a variety of Italian texts.
- To attain a good level of spoken and written Italian through practice in class and completion of exercises and assignments.
- To revise grammatical structures previously studied and learn new structures essential to oral and written fluency and accuracy.
- To understand and gain proficiency in the mechanics of writing Italian.

- To gain an appreciation of the Italian culture through textual (including literature) and aural material introduced in the class resources and discussed in class as well as online.

## Listening comprehension

Due: **week 13**

Weighting: **10%**

A series of comprehension questions based on an audio files.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- To hear, speak, read and write modern Italian language in a variety of registers.
- To read, listen to, comprehend and discuss a variety of Italian texts.
- To attain a good level of spoken and written Italian through practice in class and completion of exercises and assignments.

## Oral test - video presentation

Due: **week 13**

Weighting: **10%**

Create a 5 minutes video recording as a "cut out scene" from the movie. It cannot be the final scene of the movie.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- To hear, speak, read and write modern Italian language in a variety of registers.
- To read, listen to, comprehend and discuss a variety of Italian texts.
- To attain a good level of spoken and written Italian through practice in class and completion of exercises and assignments.
- To gain an appreciation of the Italian culture through textual (including literature) and aural material introduced in the class resources and discussed in class as well as online.

## On-Line Quizzes

Due: **week 3, 6 & 10**

Weighting: **20%**

3 online quizzes; mix of grammar and comprehension questions.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- To hear, speak, read and write modern Italian language in a variety of registers.
- To read, listen to, comprehend and discuss a variety of Italian texts.
- To attain a good level of spoken and written Italian through practice in class and

completion of exercises and assignments.

- To revise grammatical structures previously studied and learn new structures essential to oral and written fluency and accuracy.
- To understand and gain proficiency in the mechanics of writing Italian.
- To gain an appreciation of the Italian culture through textual (including literature) and aural material introduced in the class resources and discussed in class as well as online.

## Exam

Due: **Exams period**

Weighting: **30%**

End of semester final written exam

On successful completion you will be able to:

- To hear, speak, read and write modern Italian language in a variety of registers.
- To read, listen to, comprehend and discuss a variety of Italian texts.
- To revise grammatical structures previously studied and learn new structures essential to oral and written fluency and accuracy.
- To understand and gain proficiency in the mechanics of writing Italian.

## Written assignments

Due: **week 4, 7 (in-class), 8 & 11**

Weighting: **20%**

3 take home written assignments and 1 in-class assignment. Mix of grammar, comprehension and composition exercises.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- To revise grammatical structures previously studied and learn new structures essential to oral and written fluency and accuracy.
- To understand and gain proficiency in the mechanics of writing Italian.
- To gain an appreciation of the Italian culture through textual (including literature) and aural material introduced in the class resources and discussed in class as well as online.

## Delivery and Resources

### Required Texts

The prescribed texts are available from the Macquarie University Co-op bookshop.

- Balì, M. & G. Rizzo (2004) *Espresso 2. Corso di italiano. Libro dello studente ed esercizi*. Florence: Alma
- Germano, Joseph E. & Schmitt, Conrad J. (2014), *Schaum's Outline of Italian Grammar*, McGraw-Hill Education

**Note:** external students must also order the Espresso listening cd

DVD: Paolo Genovese, *Perfetti sconosciuti*, 2016, Medusa Video

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## Recommended references and supplementary texts

- **Monolingual dictionary:** *Zingarelli*, Vocabolario della lingua italiana (copies in the library and Italian/French/Greek workroom)
- **Bilingual dictionary:** *Collins* English-Italian, **Italian-English** dictionary (copies in the library and Italian/French/Greek workroom)
- Denise De Rome (2010) *Soluzioni. A practical Grammar of Contemporary Italian. 2nd ed.* London: Hodder Education.

The *Espresso* answer key is in the back of the book, and you will be given answer keys to *Nuova grammatica comunicativa*.

Note: The tasks set from *Nuova grammatica comunicativa* may not always correspond exactly to the grammar learned in *Espresso*. The tasks from *Nuova grammatica comunicativa* are intended to extend your understanding and usage of grammar.

## TECHNOLOGY USED AND REQUIRED

### Online Unit

Login is via: <https://ilearn.mq.edu.au/>

Is my unit in iLearn?: <http://help.ilearn.mq.edu.au/unitsonline/> to check when your online unit will become available.

### Technology

Students are required to have regular access to a computer and the internet. Mobile devices alone are not sufficient.

For students attending classes on campus we strongly encourage that you bring along your own laptop computer, ready to work with activities in your online unit. The preferred operating system is Windows 10.

Students are required to access the online unit in iLearn by the end of Week 1 and follow any relevant instructions and links for downloads that may be required. If applicable, students are required to download the relevant language package prior to Week 2.

Please contact your course convenor **before** the end of **Week 1** if you do not have a suitable laptop (or tablet) for in-class use.

- For central technical support go to: [http://www.mq.edu.au/about\\_us/offices\\_and\\_units/information\\_technology/help/](http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/)
- For student quick guides on the use of iLearn go to: <https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/tools-and-resources/ilearn/ilearn-quick-guides-for-students>

## Unit Schedule

	Libro di testo: <i>Espresso 2</i>	Libro di testo: <i>Schaum's</i>	Homework	Assessment	Film <i>perfetti sconosciuti</i>
<b>Wk 1</b>	Ripasso generale  <b>Grammatica Espresso</b>	<b>Ripasso generale</b>	Note: Spend this week revising Chapters 1-5 of <i>Espresso</i>  Focus on vocabulary and grammatical rules.		Visione del film (prima parte)
<b>Wk 2</b>	<b>6. A tavola</b> pp 84-88 p 93 l'imperativo informale + pronomi	Pp 175-178	<i>Espresso</i> pp 196-198		Visione del film (seconda parte)
<b>Wk 3</b>	<b>6. A tavola</b> pp 89-96 p 93 <i>servire, quello che</i>	pp. 263-264v	<i>Espresso</i> pp 199-201	<b>Online quiz 1</b>	Lavoro sul film
<b>Wk 4</b>	<b>7. Come va?</b> pp 97 – 103 p 107 l'imperativo formale + pronomi	pp. 173-174	<i>Espresso</i> pp 202-205 (es. 7)	<b>Written assignment 1</b>	Lavoro sul film
<b>Wk 5</b>	<b>7. Come va?</b> pp 104-109 comparativo e superlativo di <i>buono e bene</i>	pp. 59-67	<i>Espresso</i> pp 205-207		Lavoro sul film
<b>Wk 6</b>	<b>8. Egregio Dottor...</b> pp 114-119 p 125 Il futuro semplice, verbi con l'oggetto diretto e indiretto	pp. 130-135	<i>Espresso</i> pp 210-213	<b>Online quiz 2</b>	Lavoro sul film

<b>Wk 7</b>	<b>8. Egregio Dottor...</b> pp 120-128  p 125 La particella <i>ne, bisogna</i> , il periodo ipotetico della realtà (se + presente o futuro)	pp. 216-222  pp. 135 + 172-173	<i>Espresso</i> pp 214-215	<b>In-class Assignment</b>	Lavoro sul film
<b>BREAK</b>	<b>BREAK</b>	<b>BREAK</b>	<b>BREAK</b>	<b>BREAK</b>	<b>BREAK</b>
<b>BREAK</b>	<b>BREAK</b>	<b>BREAK</b>	<b>BREAK</b>	<b>BREAK</b>	<b>BREAK</b>
<b>Wk 8</b>	<b>9. Colpo di fulmine.</b> pp 130 – 135  p 139 <i>Stare</i> + infinito; <i>mentre/durante</i> ; passato prossimo dei verbi modali	pp. 103-104  + 144-146	<i>Espresso</i> pp 216-219	<b>Written assignment 2</b>	Lavoro sul film
<b>Wk 9</b>	<b>9. Colpo di fulmine.</b> pp 135 – 142  p 119 <i>Stare</i> + infinito; <i>mentre/durante</i> ; passato prossimo dei verbi modali	pp. 103-104  + 144-146	<i>Espresso</i> pp 220-222		Lavoro sul film
<b>Wk 10</b>	<b>10. casa dolce casa</b> pp 144-149  p 153 <i>Il congiuntivo presente - bello - il comparativo</i>	pp. 153-166	<i>Espresso</i> pp 223-226	<b>Online quiz 3</b>	Lavoro sul film
<b>Wk 11</b>	<b>10. casa dolce casa</b> pp 150-155  p 153 <i>Il congiuntivo presente - bello - il comparativo</i>	pp. 153-166	<i>Espresso</i> pp 227-229	<b>Written assignment 3</b>	Lavoro sul film
<b>Wk 12</b>	Il congiuntivo imperfetto e trapassato	pp. 165-173			Lavoro sul film
<b>Wk 13</b>	Il congiuntivo imperfetto e trapassato	pp. 165-173		<b>Listening test</b>	
Exams	for	the	next	3	weeks

The rubric used for marking of assignments and relevant examples can be found on iLearn.

## Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central\)](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)



- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Grade Appeal Policy](#)
- [Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#) (**Note:** *The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4 December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.*)

Undergraduate students seeking more policy resources can visit the [Student Policy Gateway](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway) (<https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway>). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit [Policy Central](http://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central) (<http://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central>).

## Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/getting-started/student-conduct>

## Results

Results published on platform other than [eStudent](#), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit [ask.mq.edu.au](http://ask.mq.edu.au) or if you are a Global MBA student contact [globalmba.support@mq.edu.au](mailto:globalmba.support@mq.edu.au)

## Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

## Learning Skills

Learning Skills ([mq.edu.au/learningskills](http://mq.edu.au/learningskills)) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module for Students](#)
- [Ask a Learning Adviser](#)

## Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide

appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

## Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at [ask.mq.edu.au](https://ask.mq.edu.au)

If you are a Global MBA student contact [globalmba.support@mq.edu.au](mailto:globalmba.support@mq.edu.au)

## IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit [http://www.mq.edu.au/about\\_us/offices\\_and\\_units/information\\_technology/help/](http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/).

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

## Graduate Capabilities

### Capable of Professional and Personal Judgement and Initiative

We want our graduates to have emotional intelligence and sound interpersonal skills and to demonstrate discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgement. They will exercise initiative as needed. They will be capable of risk assessment, and be able to handle ambiguity and complexity, enabling them to be adaptable in diverse and changing environments.

This graduate capability is supported by:

#### Learning outcomes

- To read, listen to, comprehend and discuss a variety of Italian texts.
- To attain a good level of spoken and written Italian through practice in class and completion of exercises and assignments.
- To understand and gain proficiency in the mechanics of writing Italian.
- To gain an appreciation of the Italian culture through textual (including literature) and aural material introduced in the class resources and discussed in class as well as online.

#### Assessment tasks

- Participation
- Listening comprehension
- Oral test - video presentation
- On-Line Quizzes
- Exam

### Commitment to Continuous Learning

Our graduates will have enquiring minds and a literate curiosity which will lead them to pursue knowledge for its own sake. They will continue to pursue learning in their careers and as they

participate in the world. They will be capable of reflecting on their experiences and relationships with others and the environment, learning from them, and growing - personally, professionally and socially.

This graduate capability is supported by:

## **Learning outcomes**

- To hear, speak, read and write modern Italian language in a variety of registers.
- To attain a good level of spoken and written Italian through practice in class and completion of exercises and assignments.
- To revise grammatical structures previously studied and learn new structures essential to oral and written fluency and accuracy.
- To understand and gain proficiency in the mechanics of writing Italian.
- To gain an appreciation of the Italian culture through textual (including literature) and aural material introduced in the class resources and discussed in class as well as online.

## **Assessment tasks**

- Participation
- Listening comprehension
- Oral test - video presentation
- On-Line Quizzes
- Exam
- Written assignments

## **Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills**

Our graduates will take with them the intellectual development, depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content in their chosen fields to make them competent and confident in their subject or profession. They will be able to demonstrate, where relevant, professional technical competence and meet professional standards. They will be able to articulate the structure of knowledge of their discipline, be able to adapt discipline-specific knowledge to novel situations, and be able to contribute from their discipline to inter-disciplinary solutions to problems.

This graduate capability is supported by:

## **Learning outcomes**

- To hear, speak, read and write modern Italian language in a variety of registers.
- To read, listen to, comprehend and discuss a variety of Italian texts.
- To attain a good level of spoken and written Italian through practice in class and completion of exercises and assignments.
- To revise grammatical structures previously studied and learn new structures essential to

oral and written fluency and accuracy.

- To understand and gain proficiency in the mechanics of writing Italian.
- To gain an appreciation of the Italian culture through textual (including literature) and aural material introduced in the class resources and discussed in class as well as online.

## **Assessment tasks**

- Participation
- Listening comprehension
- Oral test - video presentation
- On-Line Quizzes
- Exam
- Written assignments

## **Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking**

We want our graduates to be capable of reasoning, questioning and analysing, and to integrate and synthesise learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments; to be able to critique constraints, assumptions and limitations; to be able to think independently and systemically in relation to scholarly activity, in the workplace, and in the world. We want them to have a level of scientific and information technology literacy.

This graduate capability is supported by:

## **Learning outcomes**

- To hear, speak, read and write modern Italian language in a variety of registers.
- To read, listen to, comprehend and discuss a variety of Italian texts.
- To attain a good level of spoken and written Italian through practice in class and completion of exercises and assignments.
- To revise grammatical structures previously studied and learn new structures essential to oral and written fluency and accuracy.
- To understand and gain proficiency in the mechanics of writing Italian.
- To gain an appreciation of the Italian culture through textual (including literature) and aural material introduced in the class resources and discussed in class as well as online.

## **Assessment tasks**

- Participation
- Listening comprehension
- Oral test - video presentation
- On-Line Quizzes
- Exam

## Problem Solving and Research Capability

Our graduates should be capable of researching; of analysing, and interpreting and assessing data and information in various forms; of drawing connections across fields of knowledge; and they should be able to relate their knowledge to complex situations at work or in the world, in order to diagnose and solve problems. We want them to have the confidence to take the initiative in doing so, within an awareness of their own limitations.

This graduate capability is supported by:

### Learning outcomes

- To read, listen to, comprehend and discuss a variety of Italian texts.
- To attain a good level of spoken and written Italian through practice in class and completion of exercises and assignments.
- To revise grammatical structures previously studied and learn new structures essential to oral and written fluency and accuracy.
- To understand and gain proficiency in the mechanics of writing Italian.
- To gain an appreciation of the Italian culture through textual (including literature) and aural material introduced in the class resources and discussed in class as well as online.

### Assessment tasks

- Participation
- Listening comprehension
- Oral test - video presentation
- On-Line Quizzes
- Exam

## Effective Communication

We want to develop in our students the ability to communicate and convey their views in forms effective with different audiences. We want our graduates to take with them the capability to read, listen, question, gather and evaluate information resources in a variety of formats, assess, write clearly, speak effectively, and to use visual communication and communication technologies as appropriate.

This graduate capability is supported by:

### Learning outcomes

- To hear, speak, read and write modern Italian language in a variety of registers.
- To read, listen to, comprehend and discuss a variety of Italian texts.
- To attain a good level of spoken and written Italian through practice in class and completion of exercises and assignments.

- To revise grammatical structures previously studied and learn new structures essential to oral and written fluency and accuracy.
- To understand and gain proficiency in the mechanics of writing Italian.
- To gain an appreciation of the Italian culture through textual (including literature) and aural material introduced in the class resources and discussed in class as well as online.

## **Assessment tasks**

- Participation
- Listening comprehension
- Oral test - video presentation
- On-Line Quizzes
- Exam
- Written assignments

## **Engaged and Ethical Local and Global citizens**

As local citizens our graduates will be aware of indigenous perspectives and of the nation's historical context. They will be engaged with the challenges of contemporary society and with knowledge and ideas. We want our graduates to have respect for diversity, to be open-minded, sensitive to others and inclusive, and to be open to other cultures and perspectives: they should have a level of cultural literacy. Our graduates should be aware of disadvantage and social justice, and be willing to participate to help create a wiser and better society.

This graduate capability is supported by:

## **Learning outcomes**

- To hear, speak, read and write modern Italian language in a variety of registers.
- To read, listen to, comprehend and discuss a variety of Italian texts.
- To attain a good level of spoken and written Italian through practice in class and completion of exercises and assignments.
- To revise grammatical structures previously studied and learn new structures essential to oral and written fluency and accuracy.
- To gain an appreciation of the Italian culture through textual (including literature) and aural material introduced in the class resources and discussed in class as well as online.

## **Assessment tasks**

- Participation
- Listening comprehension
- Oral test - video presentation
- On-Line Quizzes

- Exam

## Socially and Environmentally Active and Responsible

We want our graduates to be aware of and have respect for self and others; to be able to work with others as a leader and a team player; to have a sense of connectedness with others and country; and to have a sense of mutual obligation. Our graduates should be informed and active participants in moving society towards sustainability.

This graduate capability is supported by:

### Learning outcomes

- To hear, speak, read and write modern Italian language in a variety of registers.
- To read, listen to, comprehend and discuss a variety of Italian texts.
- To attain a good level of spoken and written Italian through practice in class and completion of exercises and assignments.
- To revise grammatical structures previously studied and learn new structures essential to oral and written fluency and accuracy.
- To gain an appreciation of the Italian culture through textual (including literature) and aural material introduced in the class resources and discussed in class as well as online.

### Assessment tasks

- Participation
- Listening comprehension
- Oral test - video presentation
- On-Line Quizzes
- Exam

## Additional Information

### Unit requirements and expectations

This unit will assess students' progress regarding the skills of listening, speaking, reading, writing and grammar. The assessment aims to cover each skill and to offer fair and varied types of evaluation. You will need to attend all four language classes and actively participate in all. The language of instruction is mainly Italian. You will be expected to regularly access ILearn for extra revision and task completion. Those of you who do not have a computer at home can work in the University's computer labs. It is expected that all external students use a computer, preferably with high-speed internet to facilitate access to the online resources.

Homework is to be completed on a continual basis. Remember that language-learning is cumulative, and it is in your best interest to regularly complete homework tasks. You will regularly be given exercises to complete at home from both texts.

We value student feedback, and take student comments into serious consideration when revising our courses. During the semester you will be asked to participate in formal and informal feedback sessions. Feedback is voluntary and anonymous, and comments on your experience of the Unit of Study are much appreciated.

Form of Assessment	% Weighting	Note for External Students
Class and ILearn participation (including completion of homework tasks and in-class activities, initiating discussion, asking questions, speaking in Italian)	10%	For external students, more weight will be placed on ILearn participation
1 listening comprehension	10%	External students to complete this task at home
1 oral test	10%	External students to complete this task over the phone
3 online quizzes, 3 written assignments and 1 in class assignment	40%	External students to attach their written assignments as Word documents in the ILearn discussion board by the due date
End of semester final written exam	30%	External students to sit this exam at various locations

**Preparation:** Students are expected to prepare the course work to be covered in class in advance, as set out in programs or announced in class.

**Punctuality:** Please arrive on time for classes. Arriving late is very disruptive. All classes start five minutes past the hour. If you should arrive late, it is your responsibility to find out what you have missed.

**Examination Period:** Students enrolled in units that require them to sit for compulsory examinations (to be held during business hours) during the official examination period must **not arrange to go away before the end of the exam period**. Exams could be scheduled for Saturdays during that period. Do not expect that alternative examination arrangements can be made for you. The only exceptions to this are:

- a) members of the armed forces who must go away on duty;
- b) students representing Australia or the University in a national or international sporting or cultural event;
- c) students proceeding to a period of study in a foreign country, associated with their Macquarie program of study.

## Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR)

The unit aims at fostering language skills to level B1, described as follows in the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR): Can understand the main points of clear standard input on familiar matters regularly encountered in work, school, leisure, etc. Can deal with most situations likely to arise whilst travelling in an area where the language is spoken. Can produce simple connected text on topics which are familiar or of personal interest. Can describe experiences and events, dreams, hopes and ambitions and briefly give reasons and explanations for opinions and plans.