

I want to help you improve your vocabulary ASAP, and there's no better way than to introduce you to "good friends."



It's easier if you become aware of the **categories** and a **few typical spelling changes**, and learn them along with a few **examples**. Then, when you're speaking or writing, and you need a new word, if it fits one of the categories, it will *probably* be a good friend. (We'll look at "false friends" another time.) - **TYPE** the (AmE) word into the spot...heads up for the spelling!!!

Words ending in -ale in Italian usually end in -al in English, for example: speciale = special.

commerciale = _____

culturale = _____

sociale = _____

(but *fraternal* = *fraterno*)



Words that end in -are in Italian usually end in -ar in English, for example: simile = similar.



familiare = _____

particolare = _____

popolare = _____

(but *salutare* = *salutary*)

Words that end in -ario in Italian usually end in -ary in English, for example: diario = diary.

dizionario = _____

segretario = _____

glossario = _____

(but *orario* = *hours*)



Words that end in -ia in Italian usually end in -y in English, for example, psicologia = psychology.



autonomia = _____

agenzia = _____

gastronomia = _____

gelosia = _____

Words ending in -ibile in Italian usually end in -ible in English, for example: orribile = horrible.

(in)divisibile = _____ abile = _____ (N.B., it's a bit tricky!)

(in)visibile = _____ (il)leggibile = _____



Words that end in -ico/a in Italian usually end in -ic(s) or -ical in English, for example, fisica = physics.



musica = _____

etnico = _____

pratico = _____

(but: *paranoico* = *paranoiac*, adj & noun)

Words that end in -ione in Italian usually end in -ion in English, for example: nazione = nation.

religione = _____ stazione = _____

frustrazione = _____ (but: *cauzione* = judiciary deposit, bail, judiciary bond)



Words that end in -ista in Italian usually end in -ist in English, for example: dentista = dentist.



artista = _____

pianista = _____

igienista = _____

ottimista = _____

Words ending in -ente/o or -ante in Italian usually end in -ent or -ant in English, for example: differente = different.

intelligente = _____

paziente = _____ (noun & adj)

rilevante = _____

ristorante = _____



Words ending in -etto in Italian often end in -ect in English, for example: (in)diretto = (in)direct.



architetto = _____

(im)perfetto = _____

rispetto = _____

sospetto = _____ (noun & verb)

Words that end in -ore in Italian usually end in -or* in English, for example: professore = professor.

attore = _____ conduttore = _____ (in physics; otherwise, it's a False Friend)

interiore = _____ ** esteriore = _____

**[but also: *interno* = interior] * in BrE, some words can end in -our or in -or



Words ending in -oso usually end in -ous in English, for example: religioso = religious.



amoroso = _____

delizioso = _____

gravoso = _____

prezioso = _____

Words that end in -tà in Italian usually end in -ty in English, for example: università = university.

(ir)regolarità = _____

città = _____

(a)normalità = _____

(in)formalità = _____



Words ending in -uro/-ura in Italian usually end in -ure in English, for example: maturo = mature.



futuro = _____ caricatura = _____

struttura = _____ letteratura = _____

Words that end in -za in Italian usually end in -ce in English, for example: importanza = importance (eccezione: ugualianza – equality)

fragranza = _____ (but *romanza* / *romanzo* = novel)

innocenza = _____ (but *emergenza* = emergency)



The names of the months are quite similar:



gennaio = _____ febbraio = _____ marzo = _____

aprile = _____ maggio = _____ giugno = _____

luglio = _____ agosto = _____ settembre = _____

ottobre = _____ novembre = _____ dicembre = _____

Finally, words that came into Italian and English from Greek are similar, for example: telefono = telephone.

dramma = _____ pianeta = _____ telegrafo = _____
televisione = _____ commedia = _____ fotografo = _____
fotografia = _____ programma = _____ [AmE] (but: BrE: programme)



So, together with Star you've discovered some "**Good Friends**" to help you double your vocabulary, immediately, yay!

Don't forget Star's other hint for speaking more confidently and fluently, quickly ... be a **PIRATE!** "Steal" words, phrases, and verb tenses from the person with whom you are speaking! *For example*, if they use the present perfect in a question to you, you can probably use the present perfect in your answer! ... "Hey, what've you done, today?" – "Oh, I haven't done much, and you?" ... It's ~~a lazy~~ an easy way to speak better, quickly!



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