

**IL PASSATO PROSSIMO: Composizione*****“La settimana scorsa ed il fine settimana scorso”***

Write a well-developed composition in Italian, presenting activities that you and others did or did NOT do last week and this past weekend.

Focus ONLY on listing activities that you and others did. DO NOT try to describe the situation when any given activity took place. Do not tell how you or others were feeling at any given moment. Focus solely on listing activities done. We have not yet studied past-time narration sufficiently in order for you to do this

Be sure to vary your subjects (I; my friend or roommate, father, mother, etc.; my friends, siblings, parents; my friends and I, my siblings and I, my family and I), in order to give yourself as much practice as possible with the passato prossimo.

The verb list I handed out with the summary of concepts studied in ITA 101 is a source of those verbs with which you are familiar, and which you can consult to get ideas of things to write about, if need be. Of course, you are also welcome to look up any verbs for activities you do not know how to say yet in Italian. HOWEVER: be aware that many verbs have an irregular past participle in the passato prossimo! Fortunately, Section D (p.A-5) of the Reference Section at the back of your textbook provides a fairly large list of verbs with irregular past participles. LEARN TO CONSULT THIS LIST!!

**GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR COURSE COMPOSITIONS**

- Compositions may be either handwritten (but must be legible), or word-processed (but must have accent marks).
- **DOUBLE-SPACE throughout the composition.**  
Compositions not double-spaced will not be accepted; you will have to re-write it and hand it in late (see penalty below).
- **COMPOSITION SHOULD BE SUFFICIENTLY DEVELOPED** -- Make sure you adequately cover the assigned composition topic. Treat this more formally than a routine homework assignment.  
**MINIMUM REQUIRED LENGTH:** Depending on the size of your handwriting: **at least one page** (probably two pages if your handwriting is large)

- **COMPOSITION SCORING:**

Compositions will be scored on a 10-pt. scale, at quarter-point increments.

Compositions will be scored using a rubric, with the following parameters:

- |   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| • degree of development (how well the topic is covered & instructions followed) | <b>(5 pts.)</b>   |
| • sophistication of expression (level of complexity of structures incorporated) | <b>(2.5 pts.)</b> |
| • vocabulary (breadth of vocabulary incorporated)                               | <b>(2.5 pts.)</b> |

While grammar is NOT a scoring parameter, the student's attention to grammatical accuracy will be taken into consideration in computing the final score. From 0.5 to 2.0 pts. will be deducted from the final score if it is clear that there was little time, care, and attention to all aspects of grammar that the student is expected to be familiar with.

- **COMPOSITION DEADLINES:**

Compositions are due on the specified due dates, whether or not you were in class when the composition was assigned, and whether or not you are in class the day it is due. Compositions are due when collected in class. Out of fairness, compositions handed in later in class or later in the day must be penalized.

Compositions may be submitted electronically, but only as an attachment -- not pasted into the body of an e-mail.

**LATE PENALTIES:** -0.5 pt. if later the same day; -1.0 pt. if the next day; -1.5 pts. if two days after; etc.