

Universities and schools
working together



La musica e le culture delle città in Italia

Music and City Cultures in Italy

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Presdales School, Hertfordshire

January 2024

50 minutes

2 classes of Year 9 students (13-14 years old)



Ambition



Equality



Creativity



Integrity



Resilience



Kindness



Liberato

- ?? - anonymous artist, the Italian musical equivalent of Basky
- Napoli
- Multilingual lyrics (Neapolitan, Italian, English, Spanish...)
- YouTube artist – since 14 Feb 2017 ('Nove Maggio')
- Naples and its image/history ('Gaiola portafortuna' – 19 Sept 2017)
- Social activism (LGBT+; prisoners, etc.)
- Collaborations – e.g., with Massive Attack, Ghali

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tB0ApQWQTLs>



Mahmood (Alessandro Mahmoud)

- Nato a Milano (mamma sarda, padre egiziano)
- X-Factor (2012)
- Sanremo – 'Soldi' (vincitore, 2019) [rel with father, use of Arabic]
- Sanremo – 'Brividi' (vincitore, con Blanco 2022)
- Eurovision (2019, 2022)
- First Italian of African descent to win the Sanremo contest
- 'Moroccan pop' with influences from traditional Sardinian music, popular Italian singer-songwriters (Lucio Conte), and American rap

wordwall.net/resource/66451797



Liberato QR Code

<https://wordwall.net/resource/66451797/liberato-je-te-voglio-bene-assaie>

Per chiudere

- La diversità delle culture italiane
- Le tante Italie e le culture delle città
- La musica come un solo esempio tra i molti possibili





Did anything you learned surprise you?

“That he used different languages in his songs.”

“That there is Italian rap.”

“How there were slightly different languages in Italian cities.”

“How important music is to Italian culture.”

“That one of the musicians had three languages in one song.”

“The difference between the dialects.”

“Generally the map of Italy since I didn't realise how bad I was at pinpointing the different areas.”

“The amount of languages and different cultures that inspires the Italian music scene.”

“Where the different places on the map are.”

“I liked how we learnt about Eurovision and the musicians and Neapolitan language.”



Can you think of anything you would change next time?

“No, everything was great.”

“The amount of time. I would make it longer.”

“Maybe not just the one lesson because I felt like it was very rushed.”

“Have more time so we can finish the music lyric part.”

“Watch more music videos.”

“Listen to the songs for longer.”

“We would get to sing the songs.”





Our thoughts

- Resources engaging / cultural content valuable.
- Pitched too high? Ability range, practical issues, ability to follow instructions.
- Students too young / better to aim at Year 11 upwards?
- More time needed. Permission to miss other lessons?
- Schools working together?
- Long journey from Bristol to Hertfordshire.
- Hybrid model (online presentation, activities in situ, feedback online)



University of Essex

The Sixth Form College, Colchester

Languages Visit

Wednesday 6 December

- 10:00am** **Arrival**
Meeting point: Outside entrance to Student Silberrad Centre (University reception)
- 10.15am** **Welcome Talk & Why Essex**
Location: LTB 3
- 10.45am** **Campus Tour** *with Student Ambassadors*
Location: Across Campus
- 11.30am** **Choosing a Course/University Talk**
Location: LTB 3
- 12:15pm** **Lunch**
Location: LTB3/ Campus
- 1:00pm** **Interpreting Taster – Interpreter-mediated roundtable on multilingualism**
In this event, experts from diverse linguistic backgrounds will discuss various aspects of multilingualism and linguistic diversity. The discussions will include interventions in German, Italian, and Spanish, with our interpreting trainees providing real-time interpretation into English using modern interpreting lab equipment resembling that of European institutions. Attendees will also have the opportunity to learn about the work of the Translation and Interpreting program at the University of Essex. Questions and active engagement in the discussion are encouraged from the attendees as part of this event.
Location: Interpreting Lab (CB28)



University of Essex

The Sixth Form College, Colchester

Languages Visit

Wednesday 6 December

2:00pm **Break**

2:15pm **Linguistics Taster - Computational Linguistics**

In this session, we will have students participate in a few brief sample computer-based experiments on speech perception and word recognition, show them graphs of their data, explain what it means, and ask for their own thoughts on various factors that could have influenced the results. We will also demo a couple of specialist devices we use for experimentation: eye tracking (where we track a person's eye movements on a screen as they are performing a language task) and EEG (where we record a person's brain signals as they read or hear different language structures). Finally, we will demo some computational/AI systems (such as automated speech recognition, like Siri or Alexa; and dialogue systems like ChatGPT) and discuss ways linguists are working to improve them.

Location: IT Lab N (5A.101)

3.15pm **Final Q&A**

Location: IT Lab N (5A.101)

3.30pm **Departures**

Schools and universities working together

Increase uptake of Italian and languages (A level and degree-level study)

Raise awareness of the how **attractive** graduates of Italian are

Present Italy as a **serious economy**

Highlight that Italy **does not have as many fluent English speakers** as other European economic partners