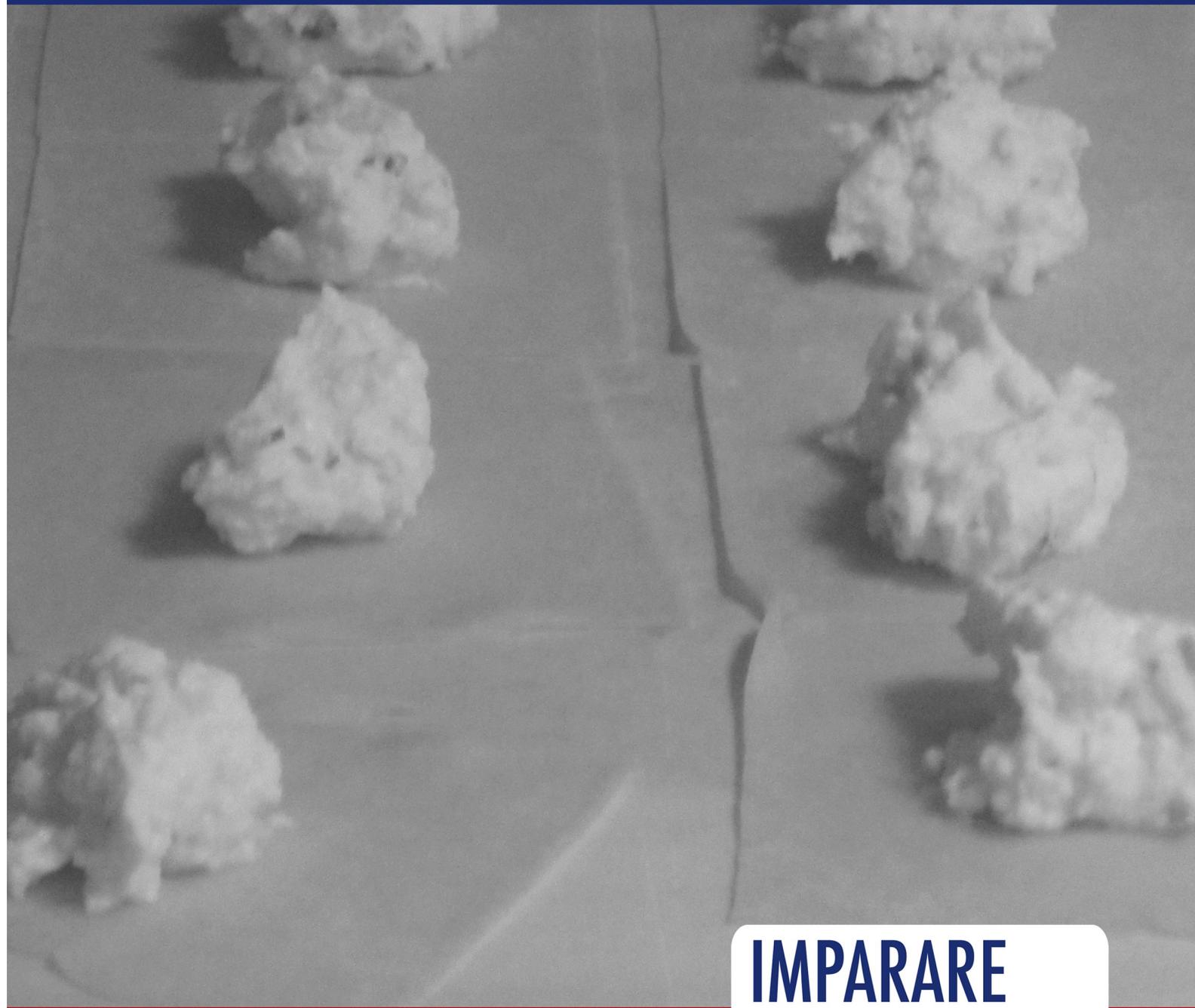




Daniel Stephens
and Stefania Zamagni

The Restaurant



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A1/A2

The Restaurant
By Daniel Stephens and Stefania Zamagni
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The Restaurant

Level A1/A2 Elementary English audio-book
by Daniel Stephens and Stefania Zamagni

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Index

1. A New Adventure in Italy.....	4
Glossary.....	4
Exercise.....	4
2. Nick Arrives in Bologna.....	5
Glossary.....	5
Exercise.....	5
3. The Cookery Course.....	6
Glossary.....	6
Exercise.....	6
4. Gaia's Crisis.....	7
Glossary.....	7
Exercise.....	7
5. Nick's Idea.....	8
Glossary.....	8
Exercise.....	8
6. The Job Offer.....	9
Glossary.....	9
Exercise.....	9
7. Nick Gets a Job Offer Too.....	10
Glossary.....	10
Exercise.....	11
8. Nick and the Italian Cookery.....	12
Glossary.....	12
Exercise.....	12
9. A New and Bigger Flat.....	13
Glossary.....	13
Exercise.....	14
Solutions.....	15

1. A New Adventure in Italy

Listen to this story at: <http://soundcloud.com/imparareinglese-com/sets/the-restaurant>

Nick's an accountant, but loves cooking.

He wants to leave his job in London and open an Italian restaurant.

Nick's girlfriend, Charlotte, is an accountant too.

Nick tells Charlotte he plans to go to Italy for six months.

"I need to learn Italian. And I need to do an Italian cookery course."

Charlotte wants to get married, buy a house and have a family.

She doesn't want to wait for six months.

"If you go to Italy, Nick, it's goodbye!"

Glossary

accountant - commercialista

cooking - cucinare

girlfriend – fidanzata/ragazza

Exercise

True or False? (Vero o falso?)

1. Nick works in an Italian restaurant.
2. He wants to move to Italy.
3. He already speaks good Italian.
4. Charlotte is happy about Nick's plan.
5. She wants to have children.

2. Nick Arrives in Bologna

Listen to this story at: <http://soundcloud.com/imparareinglese-com/sets/the-restaurant>

The first week at the Italian school in Bologna is difficult.

Nick doesn't understand the lessons.

He's depressed!

He asks the tutor for extra help.

Her name is Gaia. She's a volunteer. She wants to improve her English.

Each day Gaia helps Nick with his homework.

She explains everything in English.

On Friday Nick invites Gaia for a meal at his flat.

They drink wine and talk.

Glossary

volunteer - volontario

explain - spiegare

flat – appartamento

Exercise

Put the sentences in order (Metti le frasi in ordine)

1. Gaia helps Nick with his Italian lessons.
2. One evening, Nick invites Gaia to dinner.
3. Nick is depressed because he doesn't understand the teacher or the lessons.
4. At the beginning, the Italian lessons are difficult.
5. The dinner was a success.

3. The Cookery Course

Listen to this story at: <http://soundcloud.com/imparareinglese-com/sets/the-restaurant>

After two months of Italian lessons, Nick finally begins his cookery course.

At first, he doesn't understand everything.

And the other students don't always understand him!

But he's motivated.

Nick loves Italian food and learning how to cook it.

He often prepares dinner for Gaia.

They're always together now.

Glossary

cookery - cucina

dinner – cena

Exercise

True or False?

1. Nick really likes Italian food.
2. He doesn't like the cookery course.
3. His understanding of Italian is very good.
4. Nick often sees Gaia.
5. The cookery course starts after two months of Italian lessons.

4. Gaia's Crisis

Listen to this story at: <http://soundcloud.com/imparareinglese-com/sets/the-restaurant>

The cookery course is going really well.

This evening Nick is making lasagne and they're drinking cabernet.

But Gaia is worried.

She has no job, no money, and soon, no place to live.

She doesn't want to return to her parents' home in Calabria.

She doesn't know what to do.

"Bring your things here, Gaia" Nick suggests.

"Stay with me."

Glossary

going well - andare bene

parents - genitori

your things - la tua roba

stay – restare

Exercise

True or False?

1. Gaia is happy with her life.
2. Gaia has a good job.
3. The cookery course is very interesting.
4. Gaia doesn't want to live with her parents.
5. Nick asks Gaia to come to move in with him.

5. Nick's Idea

Listen to this story at: <http://soundcloud.com/imparareinglese-com/sets/the-restaurant>

Nick cooks 'passatelli in brodo'.

It's a delicious Italian recipe, but Gaia is sad because Nick must soon return to London.

"Must you leave, Nick?"

"Why don't you come with me, Gaia?"

"I don't want to live in London. I want to have a home and a family, but here in Bologna!"

Glossary

delicious - squisito

sad - triste

leave - andare via

Exercise

Put the sentences in order

1. Nick asks Gaia to go to England with him.
2. Gaia refuses because she wants to stay in Bologna.
3. Nick has to go back to London soon.
4. Nick cooks passatelli in brodo for Gaia.

6. The Job Offer

Listen to this story at: <http://soundcloud.com/imparareinglese-com/sets/the-restaurant>

Gaia is excited.

An e-mail has arrived, offering her a job.

It's a permanent job, with maternity pay!

She can start a family.

Perhaps buy a house.

Nick's happy for Gaia.

Her dream is coming true.

Glossary

excited - eccitata

permanent - (permanente), tempo indeterminato

maternity pay- assegno di maternità

dream - sogno

come true – avverarsi

Exercise

True or False?

1. Gaia is offered an interesting job in England.
2. The job is temporary.
3. She's very happy.
4. The job includes maternity pay.
5. Gaia doesn't want to take the job.

7. Nick Gets a Job Offer Too

Listen to this story at: <http://soundcloud.com/imparareinglese-com/sets/the-restaurant>

It's just a week until Nick returns to London.

He hopes to visit Bologna often, to see Gaia.

This evening, Nick and Gaia are drinking Prosecco in a bar with Gaia's new colleagues.

They're eating delicious, warm *tigelle* with Parma ham and *squacquerone* cheese.

Tommaso, Gaia's new boss, is explaining his problem to Nick.

"We all speak English, but we make a lot of mistakes.

I need someone to correct e-mails and translate financial documents.

Do you know an English native-speaker who knows business and needs work?"

Nick promises to think about it.

Glossary

hope - sperare

often - spesso

warm - caldo

ham - prosciutto (crudo e cotto)

cheese - formaggio

boss – capo

mistake - errore

correct - correggere

translate - tradurre

native-speaker - persona madrelingua

promise - promettere

think – pensare

Exercise

True or False?

1. Gaia's new colleagues don't speak English.
2. Tommaso needs someone to help with English.
3. Gaia goes to dinner alone with her new colleagues.
4. Nick is going back to England very soon.
5. Nick wants to think about the offer of work.

8. Nick and the Italian Cookery

Listen to this story at: <http://soundcloud.com/imparareinglese-com/sets/the-restaurant>

Nick loves shopping in the 'Mercato delle erbe'.

Every day there's something different: meat and fish, cheeses and salamis, fruit and vegetables.

His head fills with ideas for new recipes.

Nick isn't enthusiastic about returning to London.

After six months in Bologna, he likes it.

And now he has a reason to stay.

Glossary

shopping - fare la spesa

different - diverso

meat - carne

fill - riempire

recipe - ricetta

return - tornare

reason – motivo

Exercise

True or False?

1. Nick loves shopping at the 'Mercato delle erbe'.
2. Nick wants to go back to England soon.
3. Nick doesn't like Bologna.
4. Nick loves creating new recipes.
5. He's tired of life in Italy.

9. A New and Bigger Flat

Listen to this story at: <http://soundcloud.com/imparareinglese-com/sets/the-restaurant>

Today Nick serves home-made tagliatelle and ragù for lunch.

He pours a good Sangiovese, and raises his glass to Gaia.

“We need a new flat, with two bedrooms, and a bigger kitchen.”

Gaia is confused.

“But Nick, I can’t come with you to London.”

Nick smiles.

“Not London. Bologna.”

“But your restaurant?”

“Tommaso is giving me translation work.

The restaurant can wait until the flat is paid for.

And the children are bigger.”

Glossary

serve - servire

pour - versare

raise - alzare

glass - bicchiere

bigger - più grande

kitchen - cucina

smile - sorridere

wait - aspettare

paid for - pagato

children – bambini

Exercise

Put the sentences in order

1. Nick tells Gaia about finding work in Italy.
2. Nick cooks tagliatelle al ragù.
3. Nick says that they must find a bigger flat.
4. Gaia is confused.

Solutions

Chapter 1

1. F 2. F 3. F 4. F 5. T

Chapter 2

4. 3. 1. 2. 5.

Chapter 3

1. T 2. F 3. F 4. T 5. T

Chapter 4

1. F 2. F 3. T 4. T 5. T

Chapter 5

4. 3. 1. 2

Exercise 6

1. F 2. F 3. T 4. T 5. F

Chapter 7

1. F 2. T 3. F 4. T 5. T

Chapter 8

1. T 2. F 3. F 4. T 5. F

Chapter 9

2. 3. 4. 1.