



I.I.S.S. Alfano da Termoli

CURRICOLO DI TRANSIZIONE  
ISTITUTO ALFANO  
quaderno di INGLESE per le vacanze  
per i nuovi iscritti alla classe prima  
READING COMPREHENSION



*Cari ragazzi,*

*vi proponiamo delle attività da poter svolgere durante l'estate, quando ne avrete voglia, in previsione del nuovo anno scolastico.*

*Questa sezione è dedicata al potenziamento della comprensione scritta.*

*Looking forward to meeting you in September,*

## READING COMPREHENSION

### Reading 1

**Leggi la breve biografia di Avril Lavigne e rispondi alle domande.**

Avril Ramona Lavigne was born on 27 September, 1984 in Canada. She is now a famous rock star and award winning singer-songwriter. Although her surname is of French origin, she does not speak French and her name is pronounced in an anglicized way. She has a star tattooed on the inside of her left wrist. She started singing when she was very young and she also taught herself how to play the guitar. Her first album was released in 2002 and became number one in Australia, Canada, and the UK. Her single, Sk8er Boi, reached the top ten. She moved to California and married Deryck Whibley in 2006. The lyrics below are part of the song, Who Knows? that she performed at the Winter Olympics closing ceremony in Turin 2006 to announce Canada's Olympics in 2010.

"I think there's something more, life's worth living for

Who knows what could happen

Do what you do, just keep on laughing

One thing's true, there's always a brand new day

I'm gonna live today"

1. What is Avril Lavigne's nationality?

.....

2. Does Avril Lavigne speak French?

.....

3. What kind of tattoo has she got?

.....

4. How old was she when her first album came out?

.....

5. Do you like the song, Sk8er Boi. Why or why not?

.....

6. Where did she sing Who Knows?

.....

**WRITE. Scrivi una breve riflessione su cosa pensi della musica. Rispondi a una o più delle seguenti domande.**

1. Do you like music? Why or why not?

.....

2. When and where do you listen to music?

.....

3. What kinds of music do you like and dislike?

.....

4. Who is your favourite musician?

.....

## Reading 2

### An Italian astronaut on a Shuttle mission

Paolo Nespoli was the second Italian astronaut to travel aboard the Space Shuttle on a scientific mission in 2007. Our correspondent was at the NASA centre at Cape Canaveral to interview him.

INTERVIEWER: Good morning Mr Nespoli, pleased to meet you.

PAOLO: My pleasure.

INTERVIEWER: First of all, when and where were you born?

PAOLO: I was born on 6th April 1957 near Milan, in Italy.

INTERVIEWER: Were you interested in Science and Astronomy when you were young?

PAOLO: Yes, I was! And I was a good student in all the scientific subjects... poetry and literature weren't really my favourites... My idea was to become an astronomer – but now I've got a Degree<sup>1</sup> in Aerospace Engineering<sup>2</sup> and a Master of Science<sup>3</sup> in Aeronautics and Astronautics...

INTERVIEWER: I imagine you can fly a plane and you can do many other dangerous activities... was this part of the training?

PAOLO: Well, yes. I can fly, but I'm also a parachute instructor and a scuba diver<sup>4</sup>.

INTERVIEWER: Wow, that sounds really exciting. And what are your hobbies, what do you do in your free time?

PAOLO: I enjoy doing yoga, scuba diving, piloting airplanes, assembling computer hardware and electronic equipment<sup>5</sup>. I also like 'playing' with computer software.

INTERVIEWER: That doesn't sound very relaxing...

PAOLO: Well, you know... I'm a lucky person. I do what I like in my life. That means that there isn't much difference between my work and my hobbies...

INTERVIEWER: Yes, I understand you quite well... I started writing a school weekly newspaper when I was ten... What's the strongest<sup>6</sup> memory you have of the first day on the Space Shuttle?

PAOLO: Yes, that was on October 23th, 2007. I don't want to sound predictable<sup>7</sup>, but it was definitely seeing the Earth from Space – our planet's so beautiful, and fragile... it's got a vivid bluish halo<sup>8</sup> around – the atmosphere – and it seems that nothing horrible can happen to you! It's a real gift, especially when you see it at dawn<sup>9</sup> and at sunset<sup>10</sup>.

INTERVIEWER: Finally, what do you suggest to young people who want to become astronauts?

PAOLO: They have to study hard and be ready to make a lot of sacrifices if they want their dream to come true.

INTERVIEWER: Thanks a lot, Mr Nespoli.

PAOLO: Thank you.

## GLOSSARY

1 Degree - Laurea; 2 Engineering - Ingegneria; 3 Master of Science – Dottorato in Scienze, 4 scuba diver - subacqueo; 5 electronic equipment – apparecchiature elettroniche, 6 strongest - più forte 7 predictable - prevedibile ; 8 halo - alone; 9 dawn - alba; 10 sunset - tramonto

**Leggi l'intervista a Paolo Nespoli e completa la scheda qui a fianco.**

- NAME AND SURNAME: .....
- PLACE AND DATE OF BIRTH: .....

- JOB: .....
- ACADEMIC CAREER: .....
- HOBBIES: .....
- WHEN TRAVELLED ON THE SPACE SHUTTLE: .....

**Rileggi il testo e rispondi sul quaderno alle domande.**

1. Was Mr Nespoli a good student?
2. Was poetry one of his favourite subjects at school?
3. Were flying and parachuting part of his training?
4. Does he do what he likes in his life?
5. What's Mr Nespoli's opinion about his job and hobbies?
6. What does he remember as particularly exciting about his flight on the Space Shuttle?

**Reading 3 Quick Selective Reading**

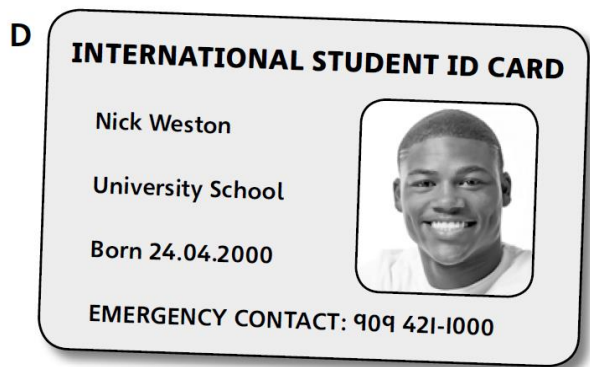
**Match the cards (A–E) with the sentences (1–6).**

**You can use a card more than once. Write your answers in the boxes.**

**The first one (0) is an example.**

- 0 A** This card is useful at the library.
- 1  You pay for things with this card.
  - 2  You can contact the person on this card.
  - 3  You can't use this card in the morning.
  - 4  This card is useful in case of an accident.
  - 5  You can get something for free with this card.
  - 6  This card gives information about the person's age.





**Reading 4** Careful Reading

Read some descriptions of friendships (1–5) and match them with the sentences (A–G). There is one sentence you do not need.

The first one (0) is an example.

**0 D**  
My best friend and I are classmates. We love going to the cinema and discussing films together. We're also into rock music. We practise at my house every weekend. We're very noisy, so we practise in the garage.

**1**   
My best friend is my sister. We weren't close before, but now we both take dance lessons, and we dance together in our bedroom at home! We both want to become professional dancers, but we aren't competitive.

**2**   
My best friend lives in Brazil. We started writing to each other four years ago but we've never met in person. We chat online and we send each other postcards, too. If I can save enough money, I'll visit him in Brazil one day.

**3**   
I like my best friend because she's so funny. She arrived at my school two years ago and I was her first friend. Now she's really popular, but I know I'm important to her. We usually do something together at the weekend, even if it's nothing special!

**4**   
My best friend's a great guy. We met at the Spanish club in our local community centre. We do lots of things together – walking, fishing and cycling. Next weekend, we're going camping in the woods by my house.

**5**   
My best friend and I were at the same school before, but last year her family moved away. Now we only spend Saturday or Sunday together. During the week we talk and we send text messages, so it isn't too bad. One day, we want to go to university together!

**A** These friends hope to meet.

- B These friends are only together at the weekend.
- C These friends live together.
- D** These friends watch films together.
- E These friends have got plans for next weekend.
- F These friends are only together from Monday to Friday.

**Reading 5** Careful Reading

Read about a tour of China. Answer the questions (1–6). Use a maximum of four words. Write your answers in the boxes.

The first one (0) is an example.

**Visit China with an expert guide!**

**Group size:** 5–20 participants

**Cost:** £1200–1500 depending on group size, excluding international flights

**Programme**

**Day 1–3: Beijing**

I'll be waiting for you at the airport. We tour Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City and the Summer Palace. Finally, we travel outside the city to explore the Great Wall.

**Day 4–6: Xi'an**

We explore the historical royal garden at Jingshan Park and the Buddhist buildings at Beihai Park. We finish this stop by admiring the famous terracotta warriors and horses.

**Day 7–8: Guilin**

Here we will explore the beautiful scenery, with mountains and waterfalls all around. We will do some short hikes and take a cruise on the Li River to admire the views (not available November–February).

**Day 9–10: Shanghai**

This modern city is full of museums, gardens and shopping opportunities. I'll take you to the airport for your return flight.

More information at [www.expert-china-guide.com](http://www.expert-china-guide.com)

- 0 How many cities are included in the tour? **four**
- 1 What determines the cost of the tour? \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 What doesn't the price include? \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 Which attraction is near Beijing? \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 Which city is the most interesting for nature lovers? \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 Which attraction can you only see for part of the year? \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 Which city is the best place for buying presents? \_\_\_\_\_



**Reading 6** Careful Reading

Read the text about Harrods. Choose the correct word (A, B, C or D) for questions 1–5. Put a cross (X) in the correct box. Only one answer is correct.

The first one (0) is an example.

**HARRODS**

Every year, more than 15 million customers visit the famous shop Harrods in London. They see thousands of different things for sale and they spend millions of pounds.

Harrods is one of the largest and most famous department stores in the world. Charles Henry Harrod opened it in 1824. At that time, it was a small shop in East London. It had one room and it didn't have many shop assistants – only three people worked there. It sold tea, food and a few other things. Harrods became very popular and the company quickly got bigger. In 1849, it moved to a large building in the centre of London. By the end of the 19th century, it was a place where rich people went to buy high-quality clothes, jewellery, medicine and perfume. Today, Harrods has 90,000 square metres of space on seven floors. Most of the things for sale are very expensive, but it's an interesting place to look around. Be careful though – it's also a place where you will spend too much money if you aren't careful!

0 Harrods is

- A  in Scotland.
- B  a famous person.
- C  a shop.
- D  15 years old.

1 Harrods contains

- A  thousands of people.
- B  millions of people.
- C  thousands of things.
- D  millions of things.

2 Harrods opened

- A  in a big building.
- B  in a small building.

- C  in 1842.
- D  in West London.

3 Originally, the shop assistants

- A  worked in different rooms.
- B  sold lots of things.
- C  sold a few things.
- D  were very busy.

4 In 1849, Harrods changed

- A  location.
- B  products.
- C  shop assistants.
- D  into a chemist's.

5 Shopping at Harrods today is

- A  dangerous.
- B  cheap.
- C  fun.
- D  expensive.

*E se vuoi esercitarti ancora...*

Puoi collegarti ai link indicati qui di seguito e svolgere le attività suggerite

<https://inenglish.loescher.it/what-services-can-hotels-offer3F.n3632>

<https://inenglish.loescher.it/netspeak.n7078>

<https://inenglish.loescher.it/songs-and-messages.n5746>

<https://inenglish.loescher.it/eco-friendly-tourism.n5249>

<https://inenglish.loescher.it/theatre-and-william-shakespeare.n4774>