

Italy is one of the most popular tourist destinations in the world. You can visit there spectacular cities such as Florence, Rome and Venice. You will see fine art, palaces, cathedrals, beautiful countryside and mostly happy people. And they cook the world's best pizza.

Italy lies on a long strip of land sticking out below the Alps. It looks like a football boot kicking out the island of Sicily.

Fruit and vegetables grow on Italy's rich farmland. The warm climate allows vines to grow everywhere. So Italy is one of the world's most important vine producers. The cities in the north are leading in design and engineering, making cars, clothes, shoes and textiles.



An Italian hero: **Giuseppe Garibaldi**

Two thousand years ago, the Roman Empire was large and the people of Italy ruled the world. Four centuries later barbarian tribes invaded the Italian peninsula, destroyed the city of Rome and broke up the empire.

From the middle Ages until the 19th century Italy was a jigsaw of small city states. Then, in 1860, a soldier, Giuseppe Garibaldi, and a politician, Camillo Cavour, managed to unite these states into a single country: Italy.

Between World War I and World War II Italy was under the control of the fascist dictator Benito Mussolini. But then the Italians voted to make Italy a republic.

Inside Italy, in Rome, we find the world's smallest country: Vatican City. It has a population of 1000 people. The Pope is protected by Swiss soldiers. They wear old-fashioned uniforms.

Find out and write RIGHT or WRONG:

0	The island of Corsica is part of Italy.	WRONG
1	The island of Sardinia is part of Italy.	
2	Sicily belongs to Italy.	
3	Italian wines are famous.	
4	Italy has no industry at all.	
5	Italian people are known for feeling unhappy.	
6	Mussolini was a great artist.	
7	The Pope lives in Vatican City.	
8	The Swiss guard in the Vatican are famous for their modern outfit.	
9	Today Italy is a republic.	
10	Italy is a member country of the European Union.	

Do you understand Italian?

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|-------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| acqua: ... <i>water</i> | gelato: | pagare: |
| arrivederci: | isola: | pane: |
| autostrada: | latte: | parlare: |
| capire: | maestro: | ristorante: |
| cantare: | mangiare: | sole: |
| casa: | mare: | tavola: |
| dormire: | paese: | vino rosso: |