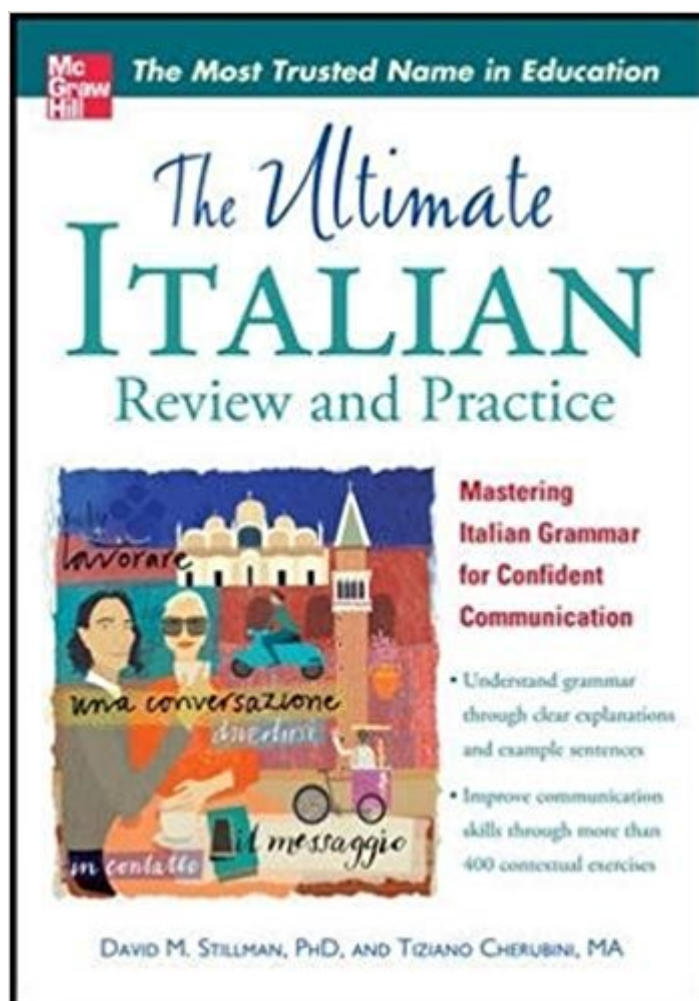


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The Ultimate Italian Review And Practice (Ultimate Review & Reference Series)



Synopsis

Review + Practice = Confident Communication in Italian! Focused on the needs of advanced beginners to advanced students, The Ultimate Italian Review and Practice will transform the way you look at Italian grammar--from a set of easily forgotten rules to stepping stones toward accurate and confident communication. Combining concise review with extensive practice, this book provides the ultimate way to polish your Italian-language skills. The Ultimate Italian Review and Practice offers: Clear, concise explanations of all the grammar topics, illustrated with examples from everyday life More than 350 exercises with an answer key to help you master Italian grammar and vocabulary Vocabulary boxes providing the terms and expressions that will increase your ability to express yourself Cultural notes enhancing the effectiveness of the grammar exercises while acquainting learners with contemporary Italy Expand your knowledge of grammar parts such as: The present tense of irregular verbs * Passato prossimo * Gerunds * Gender of nouns * The pronoun ne * Possessive adjectives * Prefixes * Cardinal numbers * Imperatives * and much more

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Customer Reviews

David M. Stillman holds a PhD in Spanish linguistics from the University of Illinois and has taught at Harvard, Boston University, and Cornell. He is a professor at The College of New Jersey, where he teaches Italian, Spanish, and French. He has authored and co-authored more than forty foreign language textbooks, multimedia courses, and reference books. Tiziano Cherubini, MA, is an

instructor of Italian and a PhD candidate at Rutgers University, New Jersey. He holds a laurea in Foreign Languages and Literatures from the Università della Tuscia, Viterbo, Italy, and an MA in Italian Literature from the University of Virginia. He has taught extensively at colleges, universities, and private institutions both in Italy and in the United States, most recently at Rutgers.

I have been learning Italian for the past year or so, and over this time this book has been my main reference for learning grammar. I was referring to it so often, I actually also bought the Kindle version as well, for reference away from home. The book covers the entirety of Italian grammar: from simple present tense conjugations, all the way to complex compound tenses that even many native speakers do not use correctly. It is well-structured and divided into logical sections with meaningful titles, making information easy to find. It is not intended for a student to work through in sequential order from the first chapter to the last, but rather to provide focussed lessons on a particular topic. Each session introduces and explains an aspect of grammar, describes uses and exceptions, and gives examples and explanations. Each session has practice exercises which help solidify the lesson in memory, but which should not be relied upon solely for practising a new concept. While the book does introduce a lot of vocabulary (mainly verbs), it should definitely not be relied upon for vocabulary-building. For beginners, I would recommend this for use as a reference alongside another beginners Italian course. For intermediate learners, or those with experience learning languages (especially Romance languages), I think this could be effective as the main book to drive your studies. The book does explain each new concept completely, however I think it would be difficult for a complete beginner to navigate and learn sections in an appropriate order. For those who already know the basics, this book provides a good framework to build an advanced knowledge of the language. Some learners may find the presentation to be very dry, lacking in flavour or humourless (indeed there are no pictures, no flashy colours, so if you need this kind of thing to keep you interested in learning, you may need to look elsewhere). Others, like myself, will find this approach refreshing. The information is presented clearly and accessibly without clutter. The presentation is concise, yet complete. There is really a lot of detail here that I haven't seen in other books on Italian grammar. The book goes to great pains to explain ideas and avoid misunderstanding. For example, many books will simply introduce tenses and their construction - this one also gives detailed examples of when to use and when not to use a particular tense, and contrasts similar tenses (e.g. Passato Prossimo and Imperfect) so that the learner can understand not only how the tense is conjugated, but how it is actually used in practice. It is very difficult to find this kind of completeness of information in one book, so accessibly and clearly presented. If you are

a self-driven learner who is looking for a concise, detailed and comprehensive book on Italian grammar, I highly recommend this book.

I am now in Intermediate Italian and I have lots of various Italian reference books. I just got this one and it's ok but not one of my favorites. Learning a language should be fun and as less complicated as possible otherwise students just lose interest. I feel his explanations are not straightforward and a bit complicated. Also different words he uses to explain how to make words plural, etc and not very common. For anyone wanting to study Italian I think the best book to start with is Italian Is Fun by Giuliano and Wald. It's very easy and fun to be sure. This book to me leaves a lot to be desired

This book is INEXPENSIVE! It is presented well. It is colorful, didactic and most useful for a general review of ITALIAN. Its price and delivery are both superior! Additionally, this text is not bulky; so, it is easy for students to carry around with them to coffee shops. American students of Italian like bright books that invite them to study and review. Buy this Italian text for beginners, intermediate students and also as a review for the so-called advanced student.

I wouldn't approach this as a text to learn the language--there are no dialogues for context--but if you've already had a bit of exposure to Italian, or another language such as Spanish, this is a very solid refresher course at the intermediate level. The practice sections are very solid and some of them are quite fun, which helps to remember some of the rules.

Wonderful organization, extremely perspicacious explanations of complex grammatical concepts. As a student of languages, I often think about the relationship between rules and "exceptions" or "irregularities" of a language. In many other Italian grammar guides, the "rules" are strictly and simply laid down, and everything else is labeled as "irregular" and "to be memorized." In "The Ultimate Italian Review and Practice," however the rules and structure of Italian grammar are so astutely conceived and explained that even those aspects of the language traditionally deemed idiosyncratic or irregular are accounted for, rationalized, and shown to indeed belong to the overall grammatical system or structure. I thank the authors for filling a huge gap in Italian language pedagogy. This book is a huge help and relief to independent students like myself who are seeking to prepare for graduate-level work.

I speak Italian well and work with an Italian teacher born and raised in Italy. This is one of the best

books I have purchased and I have a massive library of books. It has answered some of the questions I had on various subjects. It is challenging if you do not have a good knowledge of the language and definitely NOT for the beginning student. I would love to see a second and more advanced edition and I would definitely purchase - maybe dealing only with some of the more difficult concepts - not the more more basic, but advanced, concepts111

This book is definitely for review and practice. You won't be able to "teach yourself" with it, but that is not the focus. I bought this after many years of not speaking Italian. I had been keeping up with it now and again. Now I use it with a tutor. I do the exercises at home, and we talk about them. She makes me say sentences using the words. Great book for a comprehensive review.

Really worth the price. This compact little book is easy to read & understand. It is well organized to lookup a question on grammar. It explains the fine points of the language so you can understand it rather than just trying to memorize. You can use this book to teach yourself to learn the language.

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