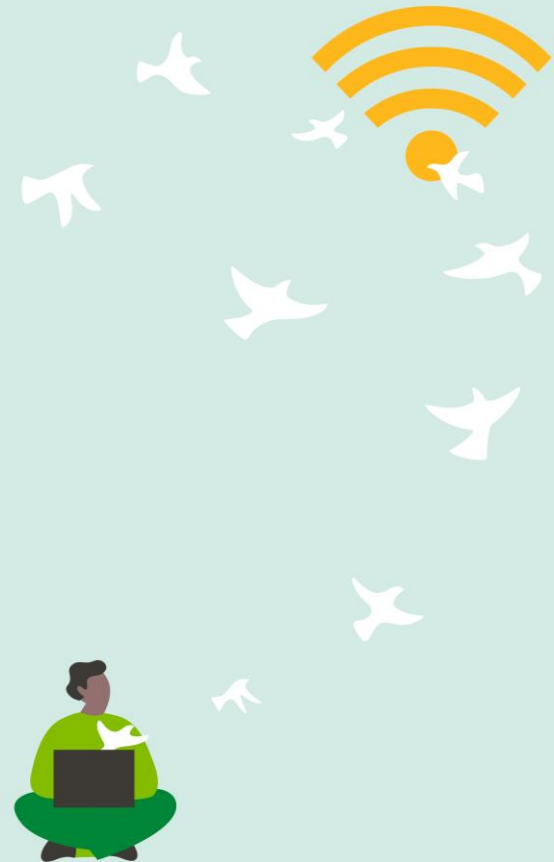


INVALSI: Keep Calm and Don't Panic!

**A Guide to Success with No Stress in
English at Lower Secondary School**

6.12.2017

Joanna Carter



In today's webinar we will.....

- look at how the INVALSI test of English fits in with other INVALSI tests
- understand exactly what is an INVALSI test
- look at the Global Scale of English in comparison to the CEFR
- examine the components, layout and structure of the test
- look at effective ways to prepare students for the exam

Where does the INVALSI test of English fit in?

Legge n.176 25 October 2007

MATHS TEST & ITALIAN TEST

in

Primary School (SP)

2° and 5° Year

Middle School (SSPG)

3° Year

High School (SSSG)



Where does the **INVALSI** test of English fit in?

Decreto Legislativo n.62 13 April 2017

INVALSI ENGLISH TEST

Middle School (SSPG)

Students in 3° Year

from 2018

Primary School (SP)

Students in 5° Year
from 2018

High school (SSSG)

Students in 5° Year
(from 2019)



INVALSI Test of English

4th-21st April 2017

565.000 3° Year Students

Computer Based Test



What is an INVALSI test?

INVALSI stand for :-

**Istituto Nazionale per la Valutazione del
Sistema dell' Istruzione**



What is an INVALSI test?

- a standardized national test
- provides a 'benchmark' or model level of education that students need to attain
- monitors and evaluates learning at a regional or national scale



What do INVALSI tests mean for the teacher?

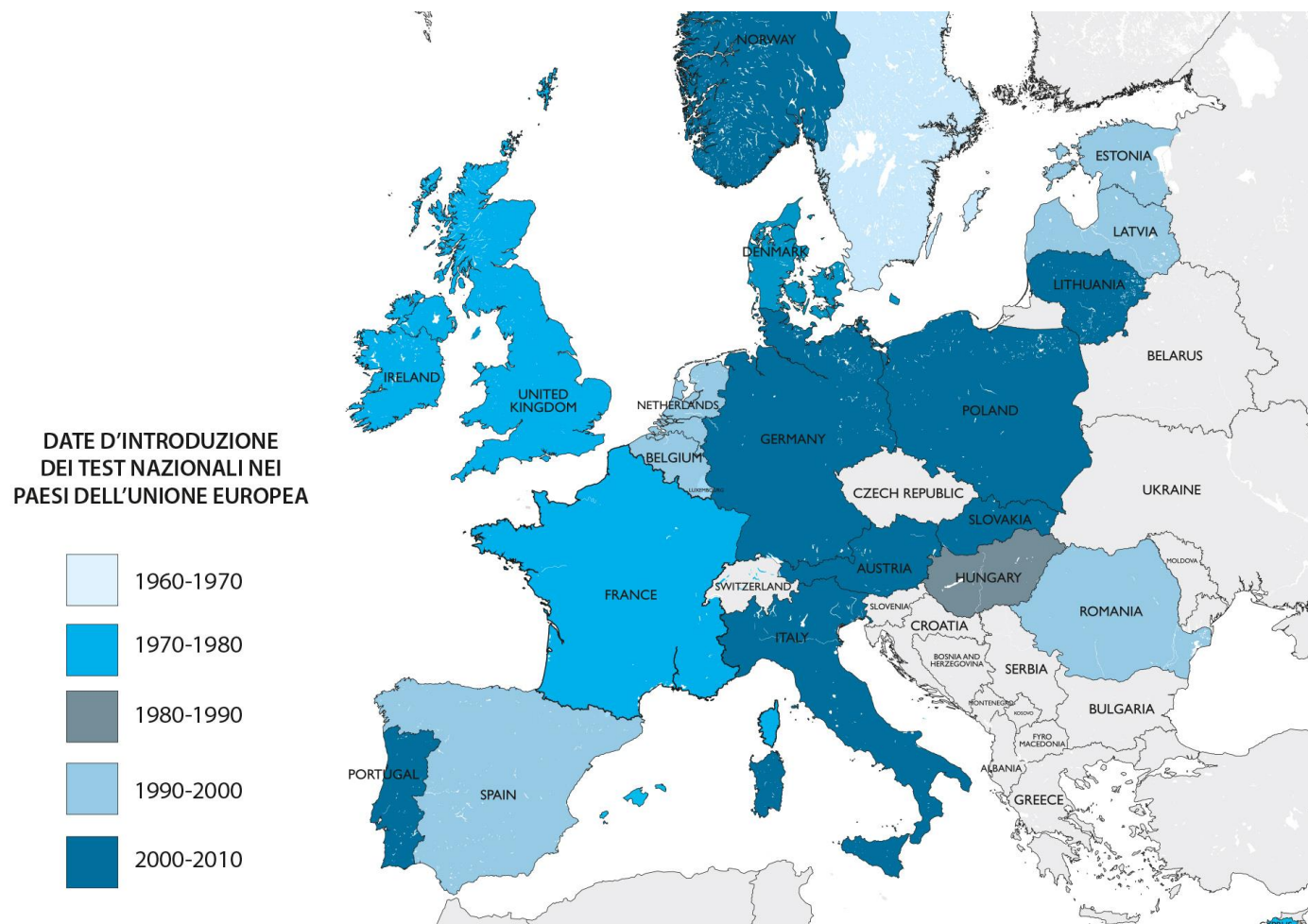
- can recognize their individual class' and pupil's level of learning compared to others in a region or in the country
- see if students are meeting pre-designated goals
- have an instrument to evaluate their own teaching and make adjustments and changes if necessary



INVALSI tests demonstrate how far students have come on their learning path and in which direction they need to go next.



Introduction of National Standards Tests in Europe



Standards Tests in Europe

Common Characteristics

- all managed and monitored by a central recognized body
- insure that each educational institution in a country is providing an appropriate quality and level of education approved at a national level
- each child on reaching adulthood is adequately prepared to successfully find employment



Why INVALSI specifically for English?

- the EU supports the idea that every citizen should have a second /third language of communication
- through the CEFR, the EU recommends language levels to be attained (end Lower Secondary = A2)
- English is the most common language taught in schools in Europe
- almost all European countries have a national standard English test
- therefore a test is also needed in Italy
- INVALSI test for English = a placement test / ‘prova di posizionamento’ .



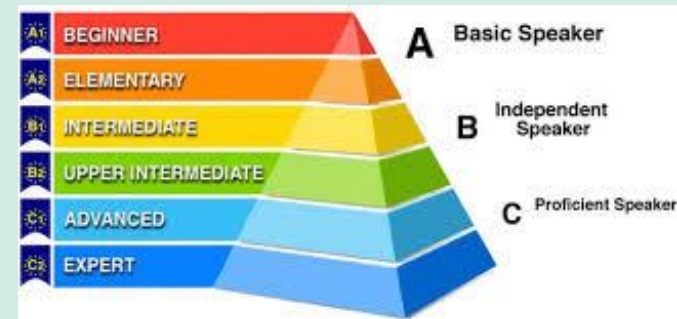
**To help us understand
the INVALSI Test of
English better:**

**What exactly does it
mean to be A1/A2 level
as a Young Learner?**

CEFR

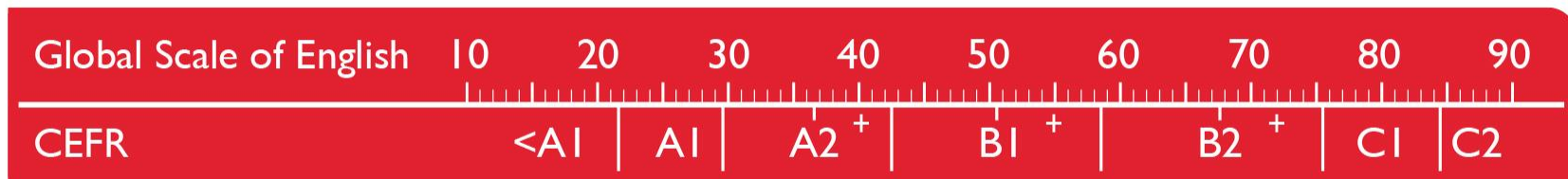
Common European Framework of Reference for Languages

- result of research by Brian North, 2001
- targeted adults and young adult learners
- 6 Bands: A1 A2 B1 B2 C1 C2
- clear language descriptors (Can Do statements)
- not created with youngest learners in mind



Global Scale of English (GSE)

- internationally recognised scale for measuring English language levels
- closely aligned to the CEFR but more detailed indication of progress in language proficiency
- GSE 22-29 is equivalent to A1 level on CEFR
- **GSE 30-36 is equivalent to A2**



‘The GSE for Young Learners is a major breakthrough in the world of ELT, both for teaching and assessing students, since it clearly shows how Young Learners make progress in their different learning paths.’

Leonor Corradi

Lecturer in English Language Education, IES,
Buenos Aires, Argentina

GSE

- a similar proficiency framework to the CEFR but specifically targets learners aged 6-14
- 'learners are developing intellectually and cognitively at the same time as they are learning English, unlike adult learners who have already reached full cognitive development when they start'
- adults use English in the same contexts that they use L1 (work, travel, socialising)
- children mainly only use English in the classroom



Summary description GSE 22-29 (A1)

- learners begin to generate basic language independently, rather than solely relying on memorized chunks
- have a basic repertoire of mostly concrete words, simple phrases and functional language related to :-
 - personal details
 - routine everyday situations
 - very familiar topics
 - topics related to school subjects
- dependent on simplified input, clear, slow speech and structured support e.g. visuals, cues, prompts, written models etc'



GSE‘Can Do’ statements for A2

- can understand and use a range of simple phrases and expressions that they hear and read
- can follow short, simple social exchanges spoken slowly and clearly
- can communicate limited information related to everyday situations
- can ask and answer questions on everyday life and activities in a simple way
- can describe people, places and possessions in simple terms
- can produce very simple paragraph-length connected texts on familiar topics



How do we train students for the
CONTENT
in
the INVALSI test of English?

Use course books based on curriculum

Just Right! PREMIUM

COMPONENTS

INVALSI test of English

READING

LISTENING

USE OF ENGLISH
(from 2019)

DURATION:

- 40 minutes

TASKS:

•3-4 tasks A1

- A1 Texts (max. length 110 words)

•3-4 tasks A2

- A2 Texts (max. length 220 words)
- comprehension questions (3-8 questions)

TYPES OF QUESTIONS:

- multi-choice
- T/F/NG
- matching
- open questions with short answers (max 4 words)

Part 1 READING



READING SKILLS NEEDED:

- quick selective reading
- careful reading

TYPES OF TEXT:

- authentic
- continuous and non-continuous text
- in keeping with the A1/A2 descriptors of the CEFR with content that 3° Middle School students are familiar with

INSTRUCTIONS:

- in English
- always formulated in the same way

Part 1 READING



DURATION:

- 40 minutes

TASKS:

•3-4 tasks A1

- A1 listening tracks (max. length 2 minutes)

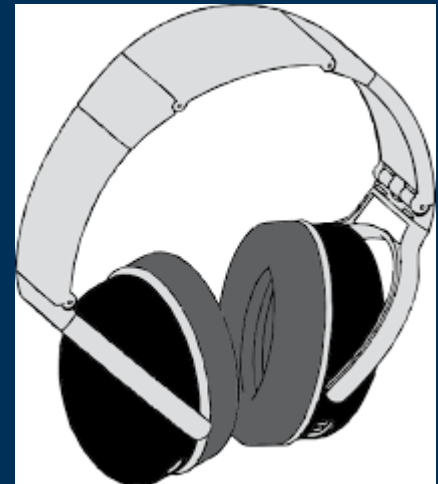
•3-4 tasks A2

- A2 listening tracks (max. length 2 minutes)
- comprehension questions (3-8 questions)

TYPES OF QUESTIONS:

- multi-choice
- matching
- open questions with short answers (max 4 words)

Part 2 LISTENING



LISTENING SKILLS NEEDED

- quick selective listening
- careful listening

TYPES OF LISTENING TRACKS:

- authentic
- in keeping with the A1/ A2 descriptors of the CEFR with content that 3° Middle School students are familiar with

INSTRUCTIONS:

- in English
- always formulated in the same way

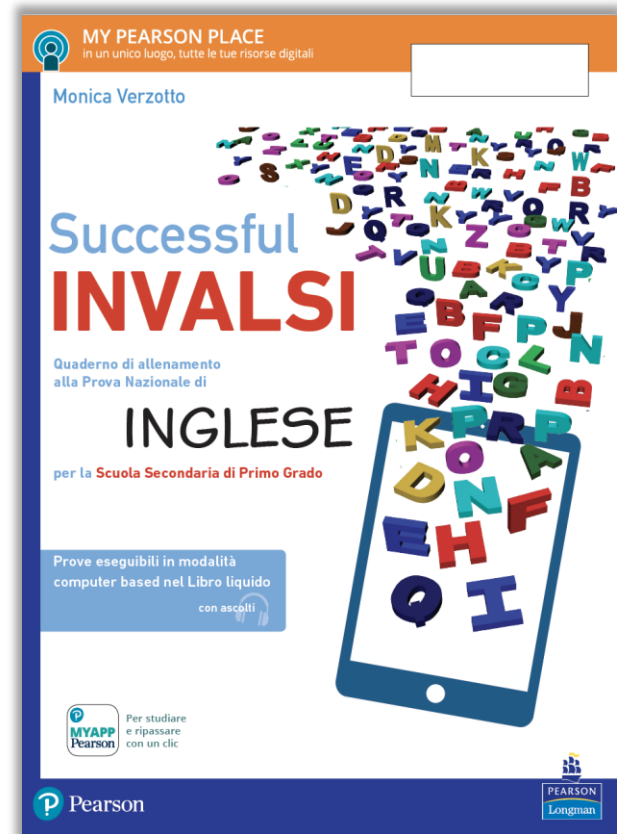
Part 2 LISTENING



INVALSI test of English

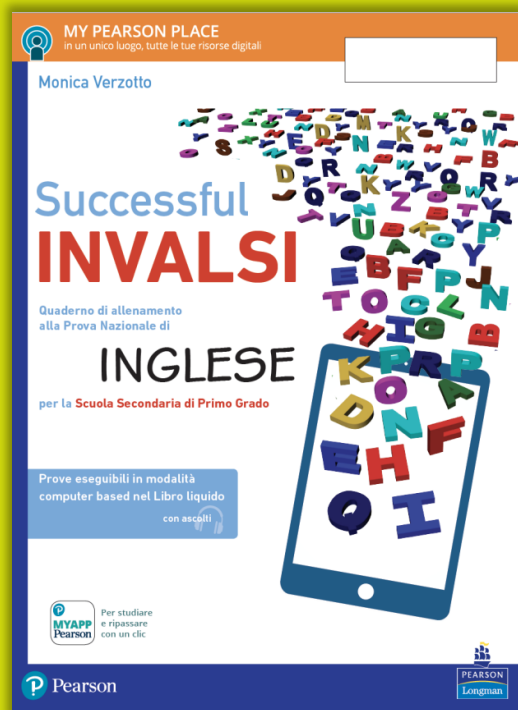
How do we train students to cope with the structure, format and types of questions?

Successful INVALSI



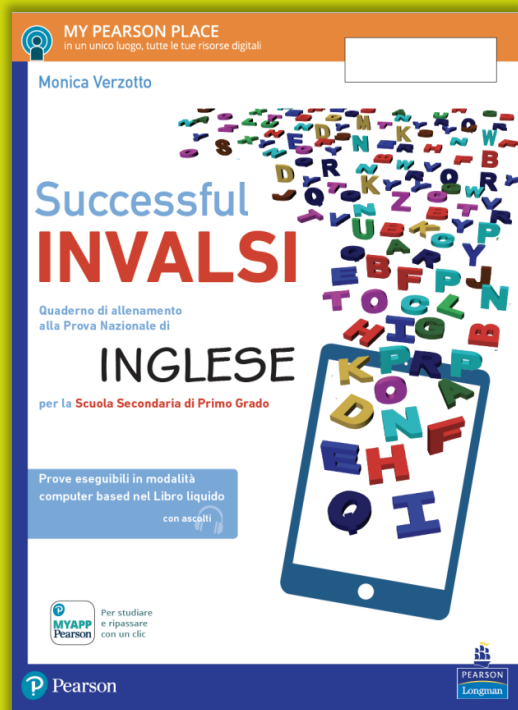
Successful INVALSI

- divided into 3 sections: **Reading, Listening and Use of English**
- the tasks in each section are **graded in difficulty** and cover the levels **A1 /A2**
- all **instructions are in English** and **standardized**, as in the real INVALSI test
- the tasks are **20 items each**, as in the real INVALSI test



Successful INVALSI

- all the task types **correspond exactly** to the real INVALSI test
- there is a **'liquid' digital version** of the book for preparation for the computer based test and to help DSA students
- the **audio** is available from **MYApp** or on **CD**



Training

- use a little and often
- integrate one task into each lesson
- personalise your learning program according to students' needs
- put together tasks to make a 'mock test'



 02 Listen to the girl talking to the boy about her visit to the museum.
Complete the text.

St Mary wildlife museum

More than (1) 270 species of wild animals

Number of floors (2) three

Number of rooms (3) 35

Open: From (4) Wednesday to Sunday

From (5) 9:30/half past nine to 22:00

Price: Adults: (6) 8 euros

Children: 5.50 euros

Family tickets (2 adults and 2 children):

(7) 20 euros

Address: Nr (8) 54 Oak Street

Telephone: (9) 0141 496 0548

Closed on December 24th and on (10) the first of January/January 1st

02 Listen to the girl talking to the boy about her visit to the museum.
Complete the text.

St Mary wildlife museum

More than (1) species of wild animals

Number of floors (2)

Number of rooms (3)

Open: From (4) to Sunday

From (5) to 22:00

Price: Adults: (6) euros

Children: 5.50 euros

Family tickets (2 adults and 2 children):

(7) euros

Address: Nr (8) Oak Street

Telephone: (9) 0141 496

Closed on December 24th and on (10)

TRAINING TIP!
Students predict type of
information missing
before they listen

Prova 15

15 Listen to Mark, a contestant on a TV programme, answering some questions. Choose the best answer.

1 Mark is from ...

- ☐ A Edinburgh.
☐ B Glasgow.
☐ C Liverpool.
☐ D London.

2 The prize is ...

- ☐ A money and a bike.
☐ B money and a trip.
☐ C a trip.
☐ D books and a trip.

3 Mark has to answer ... questions to win the prize.

- ☐ A ... fifteen ...
☐ B ... ten ...
☐ C ... four ...
☐ D ... five ...

4 Mark is very ...

- ☐ A calm.
☐ B nervous.
☐ C scared.
☐ D happy.

5 According to the programme the ... is the fastest animal.

- ☐ A ... elephant ...
☐ B ... tiger ...
☐ C ... giant squid ...
☐ D ... cheetah ...

6 The animal with the biggest eyes in the world is ...

- ☐ A the giant squid.
☐ B the elephant.
☐ C the shark.
☐ D the whale.

7 ... has won the most World Cup championships.

- ☐ A Italy
☐ B Brazil
☐ C Argentina
☐ D England

8 ... is the nearest star to our planet.

- ☐ A Andromeda
☐ B Cassiopeia
☐ C Sirius
☐ D The sun

9 The smallest bone in the human body is in the ...

- ☐ A foot.
☐ B hand.
☐ C ear.
☐ D head.

10 The programme is a ...

- ☐ A reality show.
☐ B talk show.
☐ C quiz show.
☐ D soap opera.

Score: /10

**16** Prova 15, pagina 19

- Jessy** Thank you and welcome to the teens' favourite quiz show 'True or false?' We are here today with Mark from Liverpool, trying to win the super prize, 15,000 pounds and a trip to Niagara Falls ... OK Mark, to win the prize you must answer five true or false questions in only two minutes ... are you nervous?
- Mark** Hi Jessy! Not at all, I'm very calm and ready to win the prize!
- Jessy** Good, first question: 'The cheetah is the fastest animal in the world.' True or false?
- Mark** True, it's true!
- Jessy** Good, second question, 'The elephant has the largest eyes in the world.' False, the giant squid has the largest eyes ...
- Mark** Great, third question, 'Italy has won more World Cup championships than any other country.' False, Brazil has won five and Italy four ...
- Jessy** Excellent, fourth question, 'Andromeda is the closest star to the Earth' ... False, the Sun is the closest star of course ...
- Mark** Good and now fifth question, 'The smallest bone in the human body is in the ear' ... True!
- Jessy** Exactly! You're the winner Mark!
- Mark** Thank you very much!

Training tip!
Students read through all the questions before they listen

Reading comprehension

Prova 6

Read the texts and complete the tasks.



LOST!

Baffy, small black cat
went missing
in St Andrew Park area
on May 1st.
£100 reward offered.
If you see him, please phone
07700 900461
(John or Jasmine)
We really miss him!

SCHOOL CONCERT

DON'T MISS THE END-OF-YEAR
SCHOOL CONCERT!

WHERE?

School auditorium

WHEN?

Saturday, June 18th

WHAT TIME?

From 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

MAKE A DONATION

VOLLEYBALL MATCH!

WONDERS
vs HIGHFIVE

At the school gym
next Monday

10th June

At **10:30 a.m.**



SELLING!



Blue mountain bike
£120

Phone Mike 07700 900827
Dinner time

Reading comprehension

TASK A Choose the best answer.

1 Baffy got lost on ...

- ☐ A June 10th.
☐ B June 18th.
☐ C May 1st.

2 The school concert is ...

- ☐ A in St Andrew Park.
☐ B at the school auditorium.
☐ C at the school gym.

3 The concert starts at ...

- ☐ A lunchtime.
☐ B 5:30 a.m.
☐ C 17:30.

4 A ticket for the concert costs ...

- ☐ A £5.50.
☐ B nothing, you make a donation.
☐ C nothing.

5 The name of the volleyball team is ...

- ☐ A Summertree.
☐ B Wonders.
☐ C The Greatlakes.

6 If you want to buy a bike, you have
to contact ...

- ☐ A Mike. ☐ B John. ☐ C Jasmine.

Score: /6

TASK B Read these sentences. Choose T (true),
F (false) or NG (not given).

- 1 Baffy is a white cat. T F NG
2 A reward of \$120 is offered
for Baffy. T F NG
3 The concert is at 5:30 p.m. T F NG
4 The volleyball match
is at the school gym. T F NG
5 The Highfive team won the last
match. T F NG
6 You must phone Mike on Saturday. T F NG

Score: /6

TASK C Put the words below in the right
column.

10th June • 07700 900827 • school gym •
May 1st • dinner time • St Andrew Park •
school auditorium • June 18th

Lost	Match
Concert	Bike

Score: /8

Total score: /20

Training Tip!

Before reading students predict type of information they expect to read from the titles.

Missing!



School Concert

Selling!



Volleyball Match

► Reading comprehension

Prova 12

Read the text and complete the tasks.

Choc chip cookie brownies

If you love fresh-baked biscuits, these cookie brownies are just right for you!

INGREDIENTS

- 225 g of butter
- 1 cup of brown sugar
- ½ cup of white sugar
- 2 tablespoons of vanilla extract
- 2 eggs
- 2 cups of flour
- 1 tablespoon of baking soda
- 1 tablespoon of salt
- 1 ½ cups of walnuts (roughly chopped)
- 1 ½ cups of dark chocolate (roughly chopped)

METHOD

- 1 Preheat the oven to 180 °C.
- 2 Cream the butter and sugar together until it is light and **fluffy**. Add the vanilla and then the eggs one at a time, beating well.
- 3 In a second bowl, **sift** together the flour, baking soda and salt. Add the flour mixture to the butter mixture slowly.
- 4 Add the walnuts and chocolate chunks.
- 5 Spread the **dough** into a large 20 cm x 30 cm baking pan. The mixture will rise, so don't worry if it looks a little thin in the tin.
- 6 Bake for 30 minutes. Leave to cool completely and then cut into squares.



NOTES

- You can use chocolate chips in this recipe if you don't want to cut a block of chocolate into chunks.
- Make sure you don't overcook the cookies, they are best when they are a little bit **sticky** in the centre, like a brownie.



Reading comprehension ◀

TASK A Put the actions in the correct order.

- ☐ A Add the vanilla and the eggs.
- ☐ B Put the dough into the tin.
- ☐ C Heat the oven.
- ☐ D Bake for half an hour.
- ☐ E Mix the flour, the salt and the baking soda.
- ☐ F Cut into squares.
- ☐ G Cream the butter and sugar together.
- ☐ H Add the flour mixture to the butter mixture.
- ☐ I Add the walnuts and the chocolate.

Score: /9

TASK B Match the words from the text (in bold) with the correct definition.

1 roughly

- ☐ A irregularly
- ☐ B gently
- ☐ C silently

2 chopped

- ☐ A liquid
- ☐ B cut into small pieces
- ☐ C heated

3 fluffy

- ☐ A hard
- ☐ B creamy
- ☐ C cold

4 sift

- ☐ A bake
- ☐ B separate
- ☐ C filter

5 dough

- ☐ A soft uncooked mixture of flour and other ingredients
- ☐ B biscuit
- ☐ C mixture of butter and sugar

6 sticky

- ☐ A soft
- ☐ B dry
- ☐ C similar to glue

Score: /6

TASK C Read these sentences. Choose T (true), F (false) or NG (not given).

- 1 You need white sugar in this recipe. T F NG
- 2 The oven must be hot when you put the tin inside it. T F NG
- 3 You must use glass bowls. T F NG
- 4 The baking pan must be round. T F NG
- 5 It's better not to cook the biscuits for more than thirty minutes. T F NG

Score: /5

Total score: /20

Prova 3

Read the text and complete the tasks.

Chocolate

- (A)
Christopher Columbus was probably the first person to take cocoa beans from the New World to Europe in around 1502 but the tasty secret of the cocoa tree was discovered 2,000 years ago in the tropical rainforests of the Americas.
- 5 (B)
The Aztecs, who lived in Central America, thought that their bitter cocoa drink, called *xocolatl*, was a gift from heaven.
- (C)
When the Spanish explorer Hernán Cortés went to America in 1519 he visited Montezuma, the emperor of the Aztecs. He saw that Montezuma drank dried fermented cocoa beans mixed with vanilla and spices.
- 10 (D)
Cortés took some cocoa home as a gift to the Spanish monarch, King Charles. In Spain, people began to drink cocoa with chilli peppers.
- 15 (E)
The natural taste of cocoa was too bitter for most people and so Europeans began to add sugar to the drink. As a sweet drink, it became more popular. By the 17th century, rich people in Europe were drinking it.
- (F)
In 1828, the Dutch invented a way to remove the fat from cocoa beans. The remaining powder was easy to mix with sugar. People started to mix this sweetened powder with cocoa butter and in 1849, an Englishman made the first chocolate bar.
- (G)
In the 19th century, the Swiss started making milk chocolate by mixing powdered milk with sweetened chocolate. Milk chocolate has not changed much since this process was invented.
- 25 (H)
The United States import most of the chocolate in the world, but the Swiss eat the most chocolate per person. Most chocolate eaten today is sweet milk chocolate, but people also eat white chocolate and dark chocolate.
- (I)
Cocoa and dark chocolate are believed to help prevent heart attacks, to be good for the circulatory system and also for the brain. On the other hand, the high fat content of chocolate is not good for people's health. If you have pets, remember that chocolate is very dangerous for some animals such as dogs, cats, parrots and small rodents.
- 35 (J)
Chocolate is a popular holiday gift. A popular Valentine's Day gift is a box of chocolate hearts with a card and flowers. Chocolate is sometimes given for Christmas and birthdays, chocolate bunnies and eggs are popular at Easter, as well as chocolate coins at Hanukkah.
- 40



TASK A Match the headings (1-10) with the corresponding paragraphs (A-J).

- ☒ 1 Milk and chocolate
☒ 2 Big chocolate eaters
☒ 3 'Hot' chocolate
☒ 4 An ancient discovery
☒ 5 A present from the gods
☒ 6 Good and bad
☒ 7 A sweeter drink
☒ 8 The explorer meets the emperor
☒ 9 No more fat
☒ 10 For all occasions

Score: /10

TASK B Read these sentences. Choose T (true), F (false) or NG (not given).

- 1 Cristopher Columbus liked chocolate very much. ☐ T ☐ F ☐ NG
2 The Aztecs drank cocoa with sugar. ☐ T ☒ F ☐ NG
3 Hernán Cortés was a Spanish explorer. ☒ F ☐ NG
4 The Swiss started to make chocolate in the 1700s. ☐ T ☐ F ☐ NG
5 Giving chocolate as a present is very popular. ☒ F ☐ NG

Score: /5

TASK C Choose the best answer.

1 Cristopher Columbus took cocoa beans from the New World in ...

- ☐ A fifteen twelve. ☒ C fifteen oh two.
☐ B fifteen twenty. ☐ D fifteen nineteen.

2 In 1828, Dutch chocolate makers began ...

- ☐ A to add sugar to cocoa.
☐ B to eliminate sugar from cocoa.
☐ C to add fat to cocoa.
☒ D to eliminate fat from cocoa.

3 Milk chocolate ... since it was invented.

- ☐ A ... has completely changed ...
☒ B ... hasn't changed very much ...
☐ C ... has changed a lot ...
☐ D ... has remained exactly the same ...

4 Which of these statements is correct?

- ☐ A The USA import less chocolate than the Swiss.
☐ B The Swiss import more chocolate than the USA.
☐ C The USA eat more chocolate than the Swiss.
☒ D The Swiss import less chocolate than the USA.

5 The text is about ...

- ☐ A different kinds of chocolate.
☒ B the history of chocolate.
☐ C the pros and cons of eating chocolate.
☐ D different holidays.

Score: /5

Total score: /20



Prova 1

TASK A Choose the best answer.

1 Mary and Tony ... 13 years old.

- ☐ A ... am ...
☐ B ... is ...
☐ C ... have ...
☒ D ... are ...

2 Susan ... a beautiful house.

- ☐ A ... lives ...
☐ B ... have got ...
☒ C ... has got ...
☐ D ... is ...

3 How long does it take to get to school?

- ☒ A Only ten minutes.
☐ B It's ten km away.
☐ C By bus.
☐ D At 8 o'clock.

4 There is ... milk in the fridge.

- ☐ A ... any ...
☒ B ... some ...
☐ C ... many ...
☐ D ... a ...

5 The office ... I work is on the ground floor.

- ☐ A ... who ...
☒ B ... where ...
☐ C ... which ...
☐ D ... what ...

Score: /5

TASK B Complete the sentences with ONE of the words below. There are three extra words.

~~florist's~~ • ~~swimming pool~~ • ~~bookshop~~ • ~~butcher's~~ •
~~library~~ • ~~greengrocer's~~ • ~~shopping mall~~ • ~~stadium~~

- 1 A: I want to buy a book.
 B: Go to the bookshop.
 2 Grandma prefers buying fresh vegetables at the greengrocer's, not at the supermarket.
 3 I'm going to the florist's to buy some flowers for my mum, it's her birthday today.
 4 Dad and I always go to the stadium on Sundays, we love football!
 5 In my town there is a big shopping mall full of shops.

Score: /5

TASK C Match the questions (1-4) with the answers (A-D).

- ☒ B 1 What does Bob like?
☒ A 2 What is the weather like today?
☒ C 3 Would you like a coffee?
☒ D 4 Who is he like?

- A It's very cold.
 B He likes vanilla ice cream.
 C Yes, please.
 D He is like his mother.

Score: /2

TASK D Put the actions in the correct order.

How to make a chocolate cake

- ☒ 7 A When the chocolate cake is ready, ...
☒ 6 B ... bake it for 40 minutes.
☒ 8 C ... sprinkle some icing sugar on top.
☒ 2 D ... then put all the ingredients into a bowl.
☒ 1 E First of all heat the oven to 180 °C, ...
☒ 3 F Beat them and mix them together, ...
☒ 5 G Put the tin in the oven and ...
☒ 4 H ... then pour the mixture into a baking tin.

Score: /8

Total score: /20

Training Tip!
 Integrate one or two tasks
 into every lesson

Marking Scheme

Reading / Use of English

10	19-20	5	9-10
9	17-18	4	7-8
8	15-16	3	5-6
7	13-14	2	3-4
6	11-12	1	1-2

Whole test

10	46-50	5	21-25
9	41-45	4	16-20
8	36-40	3	11-15
7	31-35	2	6-10
6	26-30	1	1-5

Useful info:

**certificates, materials,
archives, video
tutorials,
calendar of events**

1. Informazioni e supporto

**Per informazioni contatta il tuo consulente personale
vai su pearson.it/consulenti-personali**

**Per problemi tecnici contatta il nostro supporto
pearson.com/supporto**

1. Certificate of attendance

New!

To obtain a **certificate of attendance**, valid to certify obligatory training hours:

1.

**Vai su pearson.it/place
e rispondi ad alcune
semplici domande di controllo**

2.

**In caso di esito positivo al questionario,
Scarica subito l'attestato**

2. All materials and video lessons are available in the Pearson Education Library:



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Pearson Academy – Italia



**Thank you for your
attention!**

IMPARARE SEMPRE