



Unit Objective: To say what instrument you play in Italian.

By the end of this unit we will be able to:

- Recognise, recall and spell up to ten instruments in Italian with the correct definite article/determiner.
- Start to understand articles/determiners better in Italian.
- Learn to say and write 'I play an instrument' in Italian using the high frequency 1st person regular verb '**suono**' (I play) with up to ten different instruments.

Skills we will develop:

To work on improving memory skills. Learning to recognise and learn cognates such as **arpa**, **pianoforte**, **clarinetto** first. Starting to build a short phrase in Italian using the conjugated 1st person verb (**suono**), and the definite determiners/articles (**il**, **la**, **l'** & **i**). Choosing and ordering these words accurately. Learning that in Italian the personal pronoun 'I' (**io**) is often dropped.

Activities we will complete:

Several activities with speaking, reading, listening and writing tasks to help learn and retain the new vocabulary including word puzzles, word searches, and crosswords to help the final task of recalling from memory in oral and written form **suono** plus the partitive article/determiner and an instrument.

Vocabulary we will learn & revisit:

Ten common instruments with their appropriate definite article/determiner first and then in a short phrase using the partitive article. First person conjugation of the verb **suonare** (**suono**). This is all listed on the Vocabulary Sheet.

It will help if we already know:

- What nouns, verbs and articles/determiners are in English.
- A basic understanding of the concept of gender in Italian.

Phonics & pronunciation we will see:

- **Vowels.** In Italian vowel sounds are short, clear-cut and not drawn out! A, I and U are always pronounced in the same way. A sound as in cat, I sound as in tea and U sound as in rude! E and O can change. E can sound like the E in 'pen' or the ai in 'fair' and O in 'oh' (**nome**) or an open O as in 'or' (**cosa**).
- **Double letters.** It is very common to find double consonants in Italian. They have a different pronunciation than single consonants and can change the meaning of the word. Double consonants are pronounced much more forcefully than single consonants as seen in **clarinet-to**, **bat-teria** and **chit-tara**. Stronger rather than longer!
- **R sound.** The 'r' in Italian is always a rolled r. Difficult but can be done with practice! It is the tip of the tongue moving very quickly against the roof of the mouth, just behind the teeth especially like in the word **chitarra**!

Grammar we will learn & revisit:

Nouns, definite articles/determiners and high frequency verb 'suonare' in 1st person singular only. Using a noun (instrument) with the correct definite article and 1st person singular form of the verb '**suonare**' (to play), '**suono**' (I play). Learning that nouns in Italian can have different articles based on their gender (masculine/ feminine nouns) and plurality. Introduction to four definite articles **il**, **la**, **l'** and **i** (**lo**, **gli** and **le** is not seen in this unit). Learning how to categorise nouns in Italian by their article/determiner, gender and plurality.