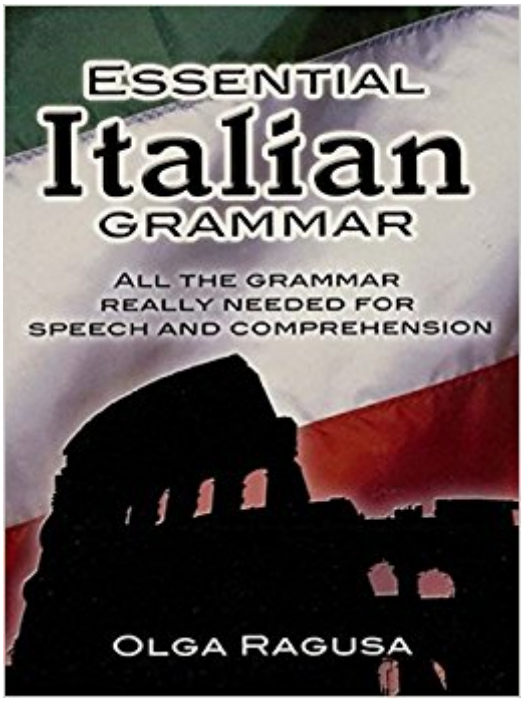
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Essential Italian Grammar (Dover Language Guides Essential Grammar)



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Synopsis

In this very useful manual, Dr. Ragusa has presented all the Italian really needed in everyday life and contemporary situations, without devoting space to the intricacies of literary, archaic, and poetic forms that you are not likely to need.It is remarkable how readily Italian grammar lends itself to this form of essential grammar, for within this book Miss Ragusa has presented her material with such clarity that you will probably remember most of what you have read after a single reading. Among the unusual features of this presentation are an extremely clear statement of the complex pronoun situation, an easily followed analysis of the various verb tenses and moods, and a most useful discussion of the many verb idioms that are so important in Italian.All the major aspects of Italian grammar are presented in logical, developmental order: vocabulary, vocabulary building, word order, turning negative sentences into positive and vice versa, forming questions, nouns, articles, prepositions, adjectives, adverbs, verbs, verbal idioms, and whatever else is necessary to a knowledge of essential Italian. An appendix contains clear definitions of all the grammatical terms used in the book.Essential Italian Grammar is not a simplified grammar, not an abridged grammar, but a selected grammar for adult use, with emphasis upon explanation rather than rote memory, and with inclusion of much phrase material for examples. It can be used as a supplement to a course, as an introduction, or as a refresher for those who have already studied Italian.

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Customer Reviews

I give this small book a good rating. At the same time, I'll say that this book will not teach you how to speak Italian. What it does do is give you a place to go to for answers and info during that time when you are learning. If (and when) your primary Italian-learning course teaches you something but doesn't give a reason for or doesn't explain it well...or you arrive at a question in your mind that you can't answer when you're just thinking about stuff in Italian late at night and you aren't sure about a grammar-related issue, like which pronouns to use in a given sentence (I know that happens with me) THIS is the go-to book. It's concise and offers you centralized grammar information so you get your answer quickly and without added confusion. I like the book and make reference to it because it answers the grammar-related questions that come up frequently....and it's certainly well-worth the cost.

Very helpful summation. Could be improved by including the Italian translation of the different verb tenses (ie: Passato Remoto, Passato Prossimo, etc.) I had to cross reference to keep them sorted. Other than that, the book does a good job of concisely explaining the critical elements of Italian grammar.

Though this book may be dated (1961) and while a few words are no longer in use, this for me was hands down the best book on Italian Grammar. What a great find. I highly recommend it. Finally, what had eluded me in the past was made by this book very clear and easy to grasp. Olga Ragusa is a very good writer and the teacher who finally made it click for me. It's not a comprehensive study of grammar but it will make for an excellent foundation.

I had been looking for a good grammar book--not too large, not too small. I believe that grammar is important in learning a language, but it is not extremely necessary on the first stage of such a process.I would recommend you to spend about four months with the Assimil book of you choice (apply Luca Lampariello's "full circle method"), do one lesson a day, six days a week. At the same time try to listen to radio, watch TV, and even read the news in that language. Soon your brain will start to adjust to your new language. It would be helpful to speak to natives of that language just to practice, although it also helps to speak to yourself, and even record and listen to yourself to correct

your accent mistakes. Within a year to a year-and-a-half, you will have a great understanding of the language you started learning a while ago.Of course you could use other courses, you just have to have to motivation to learn a language. Most people have to work or go to school, so they don’t have a lot of time to spend on language learning. An hour a day would work perfectly. I wouldn’t recommend Rosetta Stone or Pimsleur approach; I have tried them both; "you can’t say something’s not good only because is popular." You must realize that, say, Rosetta Stone is popular because of all the propaganda. You don’t believe me? Go ahead and spend $400 on the course and come back within a year telling me how fluent you’ve become.Too much talk. The "Essential Grammar" book arrive in a great condition.

Very very useful book. It is NOT a textbook, but a reference book. I’m teaching myself Italian using Duolingo, and needed an explanation of various grammar points. This book is a perfect companion to Duolingo (which is an awesome app, by the way).

This book and the books in the Essential Grammar series are good resources for learning languages in my opinion, however, I would not solely use these books to learn a language, rather I would use this book in conjunction with other language learning materials, and methods. The only downside is the book in terms of grammar rules and such is that it was written several years ago around 1965 I believe thus grammar rules could have (and probably have) changed since then. Still, I think itÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s a good starting resource when learning a language.

A short, simple overview of the essentials of Italian grammar for English speakers.It is not a start-from-scratch textbook of Italian. Instead, it is best used -- as it suggests itself -- after you’ve learned some basics from phrasebooks or conversation.

First off, I’d just like to say that I’m a big fan of the Essential [X] Grammar series. Being such a huge language/grammar nerd, a compact, yet comprehensive, book like this one will be very helpful in your language learning endeavors. Of course, it’s just for reference. In addition to this, I’d work with some more extensive exercise books to really help yourself apply the techniques.Remember, before you buy it, it’s just a reference grammar (but a very useful one at that!). It’s really exciting to see how a language works, and this straight-forward manual will give you a general run-through of the Italian language.Cheers

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