

Appendix 4

Word and sentence scoring criteria in the L3-test

Word scoring criteria

At the level of the word production, the scoring was as follows: 2 points if the target word was produced fully correctly (e.g. *crisi* for the keyword *crisi* “crisis”), 1 point if the created word exhibited some minor form-related mistakes (e.g. *criso* for the keyword *crisi* “crisis”), and 0 points if the word did not bear straightforward resemblance to the target word (e.g. *crizisso* for the keyword *crisi* “crisis”), or corresponded to another word that exists in Italian (e.g. *crescita* for the keyword *crisi* “crisis”). The details are provided below.

The word was scored with 2 points if it was used accurately, even if:

1. it was used in any gender or any number (except for the words such as *obese*; for details, see section “1 point”), as in *ruga* and *rughe* for the keyword *ruga* “wrinkle”
2. with no diacritic for the accent where it is supposed to occur, as in *abilita* instead of *abilità* “ability”
3. the form of the article was incorrect, as in *il scheletro* instead of *lo scheletro* “skeleton”

The word was scored with 1 point if it was used:

1. in the wrong derivational form (i.e. with an incorrect derivational suffix, as in *spontanico* instead of *spontaneo* “spontaneous”), or in the wrong conjugation form (e.g. wrong number or gender suffix, as in *criso* instead of *crisi* “crisis”)
2. with incorrect spelling, as in *dramatico* instead of *drammatico* “dramatic” (including the addition of the accent where it is not supposed to occur, as in *crescità* instead of *crescita* “growth”)
3. the incorrect use of the suffix *-e* in the case of the adjectives that in English end in a letter *e* and in Italian msc. sg. end in a letter *o* (e.g. *obese* ENG. - *obeso* IT)

The word was scored with 0 points if it was a different Italian word (as in *triangolo* instead of *triangolare* “triangular”), or it exhibited many formal mistakes not defined in the section “1 point” (as in *bruttata* instead of *bruttezza* “ugliness”).

Sentence scoring criteria

The scoring of the sentence production was the following: the sentence was scored with 3 points if the target word was used in the sentence fully correctly, both grammatically and semantically (as in *Durante le vacanze io spesso vado a dormire in una tenda* for the keyword *tenda* “tent”). The sentence scoring was 2 points if the sentence produced by the participant comprised a target word that was used semantically accurately, but with some

form-related mistakes (as in *Oggi noi dormiamo nella tenta nel foresto* for the keyword *tenda* “tent”). The sentence was scored with 1 point if the target word was used in a correct grammatical form, but semantically incorrectly (as in *Marco e' un furto. Ha furtato gli occhiali* for the keyword *furto* “theft”). Finally, the sentence was penalized with the scoring of 0 points if it was too short (below 7 words, as in *Furto è crimine* for the keyword *furto* “theft”), or it included a word which was substantially different from the target word (as in *La mia amica dice che ha solo prestato i miei soldi, ma secondo me questo e' stato un furbo* for the keyword *furto* “theft”, not *furbo* “sly”).

The sentence was scored with 3 points if the target word was used grammatically and semantically accurately, even if:

1. there were errors in other parts of the sentence
2. the form of an article preceding the keyword was incorrect (i.e. wrong number or gender of the article)
3. the conjugation of the target word was incorrect (e.g. wrong number or gender suffix)

The sentence was scored with 2 points if the target word was used semantically accurately, but it exhibited some form-related mistakes in the target word, such as:

1. the wrong grammatical category of the target word (e.g., as a noun instead of an adjective; this concerns the words such as *adolescent*, *beige*, *clinico*, *ceramico(a)*, where the noun and the adjective are formally identical)
2. the wrong derivational form of the target word (i.e. incorrect suffix)
3. incorrect spelling of the target word
4. wrong collocation (verbal, nominal, etc., e.g. “to *do* sense”)
5. incorrect use of the suffix *-e* in the target word in the case of the adjectives that in English end in a letter *e* and in Italian msc. sg. end in a letter *o* (e.g. *obese* ENG. - *obeso* IT)

The sentence was scored with 1 point if the target word was used in a correct grammatical form, but semantically incorrectly. In other words, the target word was demonstrated accurately, but the word was not used appropriately in the sentence. The 1 point scoring included cases such as “*Lei è molto bruttezza (...)*”, where the target word was used in the incorrect syntactic, category-related context, thus the sentence did not carry correct meaning.

The sentence was scored with 0 points, if:

1. the sentence was too short (i.e. it consisted of fewer than 7 words)
2. the word produced by the participant was a totally different word, or a similar word, but present in Italian dictionaries with a different meaning.