

Italian Answers to Preliminary Open Questions

In planning to study abroad what kinds of problems would you expect to need help with?	What reasons hold you back from studying abroad?	What reasons encourage you to study abroad ?	In what way can it be an advantage for the professional or personal development to study abroad?
The Italian students are mostly worried about the language and housing, but also think about expenses and homesickness.	Mostly family and friends but also money.	First of all learning the language. Also knowing different cultures and lifestyles, and quality of academic education.	Again, learning languages. Knowing cultures makes you more openminded. Also more independent and self confident.
What skills would you need most in case you decide to study abroad?	"study abroad opportunities" offered in your country.	Have you ever considered studying abroad?	If yes, where would you like to study? Why?
Social skills and communication skills are the most important skills mentioned.	Erasmus, study abroad programmes of organisations like Intercultura Youabroad, etc; United World College; school exchanges.	80% say yes	Mainly in the USA, then in the UK, Scandinavian countries, or "where art is important"
Name some skills you have learnt at school which you think are transferable to the world of work.	What reasons hold you back from working abroad?	What reasons encourage you to study abroad?	What kind of problems could cultural differences cause in a workplace?
Languages, social skills, team work, working hard and punctuality.	Mainly family and friends, and expenses; also great change and no one helping you.	Jobs and cultural opportunities.	Mainly discrimination and communication problems.
Employers find it important that employees are able to connect with others, interact, be able to work with all kind of personalities. How do you show that you are good at this when applying for a job?	If you were an employer, what skills would you look for in a job candidate? What is important regardless of the job?	What might be your strengths when applying for a job?	What skills do you still need to develop before applying for a job?
Showing flexibility and readiness to adapt, and to work in teams, besides general receptiveness and good manners.	Seriousness, motivation, social skills.	Motivation, social skills, desire to learn.	Languages, social skills/team work.
Do you think "team work/ collabor -ation" is one of the skills needed in the world of work? If yes, why? If not, why?	What do you think "learning to learn" means?	Why would you need "learning to learn" skills in your future life?	Name some challenges of working abroad?
Mostly yes: more opinions, faster work, fewer mistakes.	Be more open minded, continue to learn, learning not in school but in life.	More adaptability.	Some students might have misunderstood "challenges", others say applying for, getting and keeping a job, making new friends, having a different lifestyle.
How can you overcome these challenges?	How or where can you best learn these skills?	Have you ever considered working abroad?	Have you ever considered setting up your own firm/business?
Studying languages and cultures, being adaptable and determined, asking for advice.	School, family, life experiences, university.	Yes: 32 students No: 4 students	Yes: 18 students No: 18 students
What are the advantages of being and entrepreneur?	What are the disadvantages of being an entrepreneur?		
You are your own boss, can make decisions, you can become richer and more important.	You have all the responsibility, bureaucracy, you are always busy, more difficult in times of crisis.		