| ITALIAN |
| A2 |
| **Inform friends about language course** |

Description of Test Task*

The task described here was provided by the renowned test institution telc (Germany). Telc test tasks have been subject to the ALTE auditing procedures. In the MERLIN project, all written learner productions were re-rated by especially trained telc raters who used the MERLIN rating grid. It should be noted that the descriptions below refer to these post hoc rating procedures, not to the original marking inside the test institutions.

Report on analysis of	**Writing**
Target language of this test	**Italian**
Target level (CEFR) of this test	**A2**
Task number/name	**Espressione scritta**
	1395-S10-010300

General Information - the whole original test

1	Total test time	Ca. 90 minutes
2	Purpose	General proficiency

3 Examination background

High stakes test developed by telc.

4 Candidature

Adult language learners

5 Structure of the test

Language Elements, Listening, Reading, Writing, Speaking

*The task analysis is based on the "CEFR Grid for Writing Tasks v. 3.1 (presentation)". The original template for this grid was developed by ALTE members: www.alte.org. For explanations of the numbered items in the grid please refer to "Notes on the task descriptions".

General Information - the writing component

6	Number of tasks in the writing paper	1
7	Total component time	15 minutes
8	Integration of skills	Reading and writing
9	Channel	Handwritten
10	CEFR level of this component	A2

11 The writing component format

Open writing task

12 Specific Information - example task

Candidates receive a short description of a contextualised communicative task such as writing a postcard or a short letter to Italian friends that includes detailed information about the language course they are attending in Italy. Three of the six additional points suggested are then chosen by candidates to structure their texts. Candidates are reminded to write an introduction to their text and a closing.

13 Mark distribution in MERLIN

n.a.

14 Task rating in MERLIN

The test was rated on the basis of the MERLIN rating grid which is directly related to the CEFR levels. The grid is available on the MERLIN platform.

15 Effective level

Telc test tasks have been subject to the ALTE auditing procedures. The test publisher is a member of ALTE.

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merlin

16 Sample task:

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4 **Espressione scritta**

*Siete in Italia e state facendo un corso di italiano. Mandate una cartolina o una breve lettera a degli amici italiani. Scrivete (scegliete **tre dei sei punti** elencati sotto) spiegando:*

- *dove siete*
- *che corso seguite*
- *che cosa imparate*
- *chi è il vostro/la vostra insegnante*
- *chi è nel corso con voi*
- *che cosa fate quando non c'è lezione*

Non dimenticate le formule di introduzione e di commiato.

Avete 15 minuti di tempo per scrivere.

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i) Task input/prompt		
17	Language of input/prompt	Italian
18	CEFR level of input/prompt	A2
19	Time permitted or suggested for this task	15 minutes
20	Control/guidance	Semi-controlled
21	Content	Specified
22	Genre	Short letter (personal) or postcard
23	Rhetorical function(s) of input	Describing, reporting events
24	Imagined audience	Friend
25	Mode of input/prompt	Written
26	Topic or theme of input	Travel, language, free time

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27	Integration of skills for input	Reading

ii) Response (description of written response elicited by the prompt(s)/input)

28	Number of words expected	n.a.
29	Rhetorical function(s) expected	Describing, narrating, reporting facts and events, greeting
30	Text purpose	Referential, phatic
31	Register	Unmarked to informal
32	Domain	Private
33	Grammatical competence expected	A2
34	Lexical competence expected	A2
35	Discoursal competence expected	A2
36	Authenticity: situational	High
37	Authenticity: interactional	High
38	Cognitive processing	Reproduction of known ideas
39	Content knowledge required	Personal/everyday life knowledge areas

iii) Rating of Task in the MERLIN project

40	Known criteria	MERLIN rating grid
41	Task rating method	Analytical scale
42	Assessment criteria	Grammatical accuracy, lexical range & accuracy, coherence/cohesion, orthography, sociolinguistic appropriateness, task fulfilment
43	Number and combination of raters	Each test was rated by a trained rater; 10% of the tests were double-rated. The double-ratings serve as a link to calculate a fair average, i.e. to adjust test results to rater severity/lenience. Please note that telc generally provides double-ratings.

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