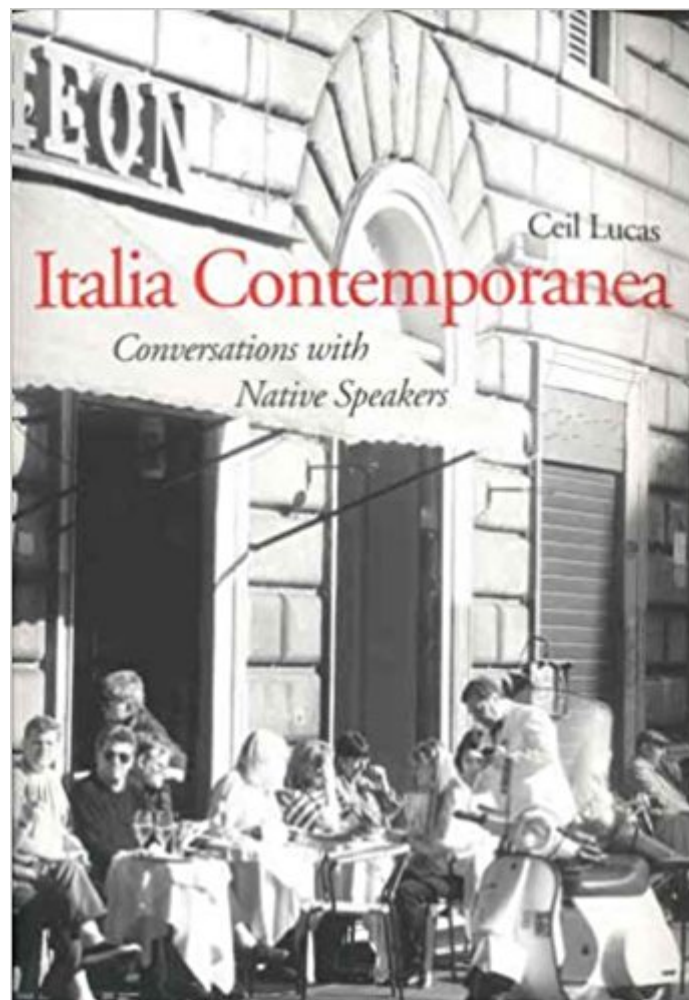




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# Italia Contemporanea: Conversations With Native Speakers (Yale Language Series)



## Synopsis

This exciting, authentic text will enhance any Italian class or laboratory program. It consists of interviews with ordinary people speaking Italian—among them a farmer, a mechanic, a neurologist, a journalist, a nurse, and a secretary. Each interview focuses on aspects of everyday life: work, housing, soccer, poetry, the role of women in Italian society, politics, the use of language, and many other lively topics. Natural and unscripted, the interviews showcase a variety of accents, including Roman, Florentine, and Milanese. The video interviews related to the text can be obtained by purchasing the text with DVD package, available separately. Designed for use with students at almost any level, *Italia Contemporanea* is ideal for improving listening and comprehension skills. The text includes complete transcripts of each interview, notes about vocabulary and usage, questions about the content of the interviews, as well as questions about the student's own experience.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This exciting, authentic video will enhance any Italian class or laboratory program. It consists of interviews with ordinary people speaking Italian—among them a farmer, a mechanic, a neurologist, a journalist, a nurse, and a secretary. Each interview focuses on aspects of everyday life: work, housing, soccer, poetry, the role of women in Italian society, politics, the use of language, and many other lively topics. Natural and unscripted, the interviews showcase a variety of accents, including

Roman, Florentine, and Milanese. Designed for use with students at almost any level, *Italia Contemporanea* is ideal for improving listening and comprehension skills. The video is accompanied by a video manual (also available separately) that includes complete transcripts of each interview, notes about vocabulary and usage, questions about the content of the interviews, as well as questions about the student's own experience. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Ceil Lucas is a professor in the department of linguistics at Gallaudet University.

Well, I thought this was a great product and it would have been except it did not come with the DVD. Without the recorded conversations, this is just another reader without any reference material. Called upon receiving it and they really did not help so now I have a book of conversations that I cannot listen to. Don't buy it unless it has it with the DVD!

My continuing education class in Italian is using this book as its textbook. I read the description carefully to make sure the DVD was included, and made the purchase. When I received the book, there was no DVD. I returned the book to , and purchased it from the publisher's website. It cost \$18 more, but I got the DVD.

Beginners and advanced students of Italian alike will enjoy the authentic, unrehearsed, and thoroughly fascinating interviews presented in the DVD accompanying the book *Italia Contemporanea: Conversations with Native Speakers* by Ceil Lucas. Each interview focuses on aspects of everyday Italian life: work, housing, soccer, poetry, the role of women in Italian society, politics, the use of language, and many other lively topics. The speakers offer a variety of regional accents, including Florentine, Milanese and Roman. *Italia Contemporanea* is populated with unforgettable characters, including a farmer, a mechanic, a neurologist, a journalist, a nurse, and a secretary. You will meet a 77 year-old woman who recounts a moving incident during WWII in which she traded her starving family's last possession, a bike, for what she was told was a sack of flour. (We won't spoil the surprise by revealing the actual contents of the sack.) As you listen to these ordinary Italians, you come away with a sense of their passion for their work, their culture, their language. Along the way you invariably hear their strong opinions. If you are Italian American, you will want to watch this DVD with your children and grandchildren. There are multiple lessons contained in this video, as it captures the Italian language in its essence with the colors and sounds

of an Italia that is growing and changing slowly but relentlessly. The 85-minute long DVD contains fifty-one interviews, divided among twenty chapters. It is accompanied by a video manual that includes complete transcripts of each interview, as well as notes about vocabulary, grammar and usage, and questions about the content of the interviews. An interactive feature is a series of questions about the student's own experience. This is simply a wonderful way to learn Italian!

This text is designed to be LISTENED to. It consists of transcribed interviews intended to be accompanied by a SOUND recording. The paperback alone is of diminished use and cannot be used as the book was designed. Instructions in the book prescribe LISTENING several times before reading. I will try to find another copy elsewhere. Possibly Europa bookstore or the publisher: Yale.

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