

Attachment 1

LANGUAGE ASSISTANTS

Duty Statement

Role

A Language Assistant as a native speaker is considered a resource person who will enrich students' learning by adding a contemporary cultural dimension to a school's Italian Language program. They offer unique opportunities for both students and teachers to increase their fluency in the target language.

A Language Assistant is assigned to a school to assist Teachers of Italian in the preparation and presentation of the school's Italian program. The assistant is not responsible for the program or for delivering Italian classes, but is to act as an assistant in the teaching of the Italian language.

Typical Duties

A Language Assistant:

- 1) Is assigned to a school – governative, Catholic o private - to assist a teacher(s) of Italian in the preparation and presentation of the school's program.
- 2) Is expected to respect and adapt to the specific values, practices, and requirements of the host school, even when these may differ from their personal beliefs or preferences. Participation in school activities that are part of the institution's culture or routine may be required.
- 3) Is not responsible for the Italian program or for delivering Italian classes but is to act as an assistant in the teaching of the target language.
- 4) Assists teachers of Italian and co-ordinators with the development and preparation of lessons (e.g. questions, speaking and listening activities, comprehension passages, games, work sheets, audio-visual materials or other materials) which may require the expertise of a native speaker.
- 5) Participates in whole class activities under the supervision of a teacher but **must never assume sole responsibility for the students.**
- 6) Verifies language usage in the spoken and written form, provides information regarding current idiom and provides a model for correct pronunciation, accent and stress.
- 7) Participates in group work with students to develop their confidence and fluency in the target language. The Language Assistant can provide direct aid to the development of correct spoken and written communication in the language through a variety of methods.
- 8) Provides not only opportunities for teachers and students to practice conversing with a native speaker, but also provides information about their society and culture.
- 9) Participates in activities to promote the target language in the school and also at a regional level. The Language Assistant may be involved in professional development seminars for teachers of Italian.