



Piazza della Grammatica 1 • Antonella Olson & Eric Edwards, Presentatori e Capocomici

Gentili Ascoltatori, Dear Listeners,

Here's a transcript of *The Joy of Stress*, our recent show on **stressed pronouns**. You can hear this podcast at <https://coerll.utexas.edu/ra/episode/ep13.html>

Buon divertimento!

Ha partecipato
Rachel Showstack

Featured in this broadcast
Eager Young Italian Grammar Cadet, New Supplifono Fan

Eric and an Eager Young Italian Grammar Cadet 1.

--Il professore **ti** spiega la grammatica?

--Sì, **me la** spiega.

--Professore, **mi** spiegherà il congiuntivo?

--Certo, **te lo** spiegherò domani.

--Il professore **vi** ha spiegato i pronomi?

--Sì, **ce li** ha spiegati.

--Professore, **ci** spiegherà le poesie di
Arlecchino?

--Mi dispiace, ragazzi, non **ve ne** spiegherò
neanche una. Nessuno potrà mai
spiegar**vele**...

=====

Eric and an Eager Young Italian Grammar Cadet 1.

--Does the professor explain the grammar
to you?

--Yes, he explains it to me.

--Professor, will you explain the
subjunctive to me?

--Of course, I will explain it to you
tomorrow.

--Has the professor explained pronouns to
you?

--Yes, he has explained them to us.

--Professor, will you explain Arlecchino's
poems to us?

--I'm sorry, guys, I won't explain even one
of them to you. Nobody will ever be able to
explain them to you.

=====

Eric and an Eager Young Italian Grammar Cadet 2.

--Il professore spiega la grammatica allo studente?

--Sì, **gliela** spiega.

--Professore, spiegherà il congiuntivo alla studentessa?

--Certo, **glielo** spiegherò domani.

--Il professore ha spiegato i pronomi agli studenti?

--Sì, **glieli** ha spiegati.

--Il professore spiegherà le poesie di Arlecchino alle studentesse?

--Purtroppo no, non **gliene** spiegherà neanche una. Nessuno potrà mai spiegar**glielle**...

=====

Il Dottore per i supplì al telefono “Supplifono” -- lo Spuntino Divino!

La ragazza: Pronto? Pronto? Pronto? Ma chi è? Chi c'è?

Dottore: Ha ha! Ma non è il Suo ragazzo che **Le** telefona. Non è il Suo cellulare!

La ragazza: E allora?

Dottore: È lo spuntino degli dei che **La** chiamano... al Supplifono!

La ragazza: Come?

Dottore: Sì, i supplì al telefono del Dottor Balanzone! Ecco**li**, ecco**li**, ecco**li**! Deliziosi

Eric and an Eager Young Italian Grammar Cadet 2.

--Does the professor explain the grammar to the student?

--Yes, he explains it to him.

--Professor, will you explain the subjunctive to the student?

--Of course, I will explain it to her tomorrow.

--Has the professor explained the pronouns to the students?

--Yes, he has explained them to them.

--Will the professor explain Arlecchino's poems to the students?

--Unfortunately no, he won't explain even one of them to them. Nobody will ever be able to explain them to them.

=====

Il Dottore for *supplì al telefono* “Supplifono” - The Snack Divine!

The girl: Hello? Hello? Hello? Well who is it? Who's there?

Dottore: Ha ha! But it's not your boyfriend calling you! It's not your cell phone!

The girl: Well then?

Dottore: It's the snack of the gods calling you... to the Supplifono!

The girl: Huh?

Dottore: Yes, Dottor Balanzone's *supplì al telefono*! Here they are, here they are, here

e nutritivi! Venite! Vedete! Assaggiateli!
Li offro ora a **voi** come **li** offriva a **me** la nonna... con amore... perché con amore sono stati sempre fatti... Signorina, posso offrirgliene uno?

La ragazza: Grazie. Uh!

Dottore: Stia attenta! È caldo! **Mi** dica, signorina, come **lo** trova?

La ragazza: Mmmmm.... riso...

Dottore: Sì, il riso, sì... e...?

La ragazza: Mmmmm.... ragù di carne...

Dottore: Esatto... e...?

La ragazza: Mozzarella.....

Dottore: Ecco! Questo è il supplì della nonna -- **Supplifono!**

La ragazza: È squisito! Non **me ne** offrirebbe un altro?

Dottore: Come no! Ecco a **Lei**, signorina!

La ragazza: Grazie. Ahi!

Dottore: Stia attenta! Sono ancora caldi! Oh! questo sì sarà il Suo fidanzato!

La ragazza: Lasciamo perdere, Dottore. Da ora in poi ricevo solo le Supplifonate! Mmmmmm!

Dottore: Supplifono! Sono gli dei che **vi** chiamano dall'Olimpo, ad invitarvi a condividere con **loro** lo spuntino divino!

=====

they are! Delicious and nutritious! Come! See! Try them! I offer them to you now as my grandmother offered them to me... with love... for with love they have always been made... Miss, may I offer you one of them?

The girl: Thank you. Ooh!

Dottore: Watch out! It's hot! Tell me Miss, what do you think of it?

The girl: Mmmmm.... rice...

Dottore: Yes, rice, yes... and...?

The girl: Mmmmm.... meat sauce...

Dottore: Exactly... and...?

The girl: Mozzarella.....

Dottore: There you are! This is grandmama's supplì -- **Supplifono!**

The girl: It's scrumptious! Wouldn't you offer me another one of them?

Dottore: Why, certainly! Here you are, Miss.

The girl: Thank you. Ow!

Dottore: Careful! They're still hot! Oh! now this must be your boyfriend!

The girl: Don't mind him, Dottore. From now on, I only take Supplifono calls! Mmmmmm!

Dottore: Supplifono! It's the gods calling you from Olympus, inviting you to share with them the Snack Divine!

=====

Eric and an Eager Young Italian Grammar Cadet 3: The *pronomi tonici* in action!

--Guarda chi sta entrando! Sono Arlecchino e Arlecchina! Li conosci?
--Come no! Ascolto spesso **lui** su Radio Arlecchino, e ho visto **lei** molte volte a teatro.

--Com'è possibile che Arlecchina ami non solo **me** ma anche Pulcinella?
--Ama **te** perché sei un tipo in gamba, sportivo... ama **lui** perché ha l'anima di un musicista, di un poeta...

--Chi ami?
--Amo solo **te**, cara mia.

--Che cosa mi dicevi?
--Non dicevo niente a **te**. Parlavo con il Dottore.

=====

The pronome tonico with prepositions.

È arrivata una lettera per **te**!

Vuoi venire al cinema con **noi**?

Non ti scordar di **me**!

Evviva Pulcinella! Stasera ci sarà una grande festa da **lui**!

Non avremmo potuto farlo senza di **voi**!

=====

Eric and an Eager Young Italian Grammar Cadet 3: The tonic pronouns in action!

--Look who's coming in! It's Arlecchino and Arlecchina! Do you know them?
--Of course! I often listen to him on Radio Arlecchino, and I have seen her many time at the theatre.

--How is it possible for Arlecchina to love not just me but also Pulcinella?
--She loves you because you're on the ball, athletic... she loves him because he has the soul of a musician, a poet...

--Whom do you love?
--I love only you, my dear.

--What were you saying to me?
--I wasn't saying anything to you. I was talking with the Dottore.

=====

The tonic pronouns with prepositions.

A letter has come for you!

Do you want to come to the movies with us?

Don't forget me!

Long live Pulcinella! Tonight there will be a big party at his place!

We couldn't have done it without you!

=====

Eric telefona ad Antonella a Roma.

[All personal pronouns are highlighted in this phone call.]

Antonella: Pronto...

Eric: Ciao, Antonella!

Antonella: Ciao, Eric! Come stai?

Eric: Bene, bene, grazie! E **tu**? **Ti** disturbo?

Antonella: Sto bene, grazie! Questa volta non **mi** sto abbuffando di arte ma di cibo vero!

Eric: Ottimo! Buon appetito! Proprio di cibo volevo parlar**ti**. Con tutte le pubblicità di generi alimentari che stiamo trasmettendo qui ho finito per comprare un sacco di roba... il riso Barobio, la mozzarella Rintupicchio, e figurati, pangrattato Crostafù!

Antonella: E che cosa pensi di fare con questi ingredienti?

Eric: Proprio per questo **ti** ho chiamato! Pulcinella non c'è... **mi** devi aiutare **tu**...

Antonella: Momento migliore non potevi trovar**lo**! Infatti sto abbuffand**mi** in una rosticceria di quello che per **me** è il miglior *fast-food* italiano! Il supplì!

Eric: Domani sera vengono a casa mia parecchi amici dello studio... fam**mi** fare bella figura con uno sfizio italiano..

Eric phones Antonella in Rome.

Antonella: Hello...

Eric: Hi, Antonella!

Antonella: Hi, Eric! How are you?

Eric: Fine, fine, thanks! And you? Am I interrupting?

Antonella: I'm fine, thanks! This time I'm not stuffing myself with art but with real food!

Eric: Excellent! Enjoy it! In fact it was food I wanted to talk to you about. With all these commercials for food that we've been broadcasting here I've ended up buying a bunch of stuff... Barobio rice, Rintupicchio mozzarella, and go figure, Crostafù grated bread!

Antonella: And what do you plan to do with these ingredients?

Eric: That's just why I've called you! Pulcinella's not around... you've got to help me.

Antonella: You couldn't have caught me at a better moment! In fact I'm stuffing myself in one of those *rosticcerie* with what as far as I'm concerned is the best Italian fast food. Supplì!

Eric: Several friends from the studio are coming to my house tomorrow evening... help me make a good impression with

Andiamo con i supplì?

something Italian and fanciful. Shall we go with the supplì?

Antonella: Sarebbero perfetti! **Ti** do subito la ricetta per i supplì al telefono!

Antonella: They would be perfect! I'll go ahead right now and give you the recipe for *supplì al telefono*!

Eric: Al telefono, per forza, altrimenti non c'è tempo...

Eric: It'll have to be *al telefono* [on the phone], otherwise there's no time.

Antonella: Quindi... stasera prepara un ragù di carne e cuoci il riso con il ragù... Poi, domani, usa il riso freddo, amalga al riso un uovo intero...
Prendi una manciata di riso, mettilo dentro un pezzetto di mozzarella fresca.
Appollotalo il riso a forma ovale...
Copri il supplì con il pan grattato e appena l'olio nella padella è caldo, metti il supplì e friggilo.
Ecco! Così avrai fatto i supplì al telefono!

Antonella: So... tonight make a meat sauce and cook the rice with the sauce. Then, tomorrow, use the rice cold and add a whole egg to it...
Take a handful of rice, put a cube of fresh mozzarella in it and roll the rice into an oval shape. Cover the supplì with grated bread and as soon as the oil in the pan is hot, put the supplì in it and fry it.
There! That's how you'll have made *supplì al telefono*!

Eric: Be', spero di non farli proprio al telefono!

Eric: Well, I hope I won't be making them right on the phone!

Antonella: No, i supplì sono "supplì al telefono"! Quando arriveranno i tuoi amici, servili caldi, e insieme, spezzate in due il supplì, portate una metà all'orecchio e l'altra metà alla bocca... la mozzarella sarà il filo del telefono... e dite:

Antonella: No, the supplì are "supplì al telefono"—"telephone style supplì!" When your friends get there, serve them hot, and together, split the supplì in two. Hold one half up to your ear and the other to your mouth... the mozzarella will be the phone cord... and say:

Eric: "Arisentirci"?

Eric: "Arisentirci"?

Antonella: Hai capito!

Antonella: You've got it!

Eric: Grazie, Antonella, saranno deliziosi!

Eric: Thanks, Antonella, they'll be delicious!

Antonella: Sono buonissimi! I miei li ho finiti tutti!

Antonella: They're great! I've finished all of mine!

Eric: Parleremo di nuovo presto attraverso il filo del supplì!

Eric: We'll talk again soon over the supplì wire!

Antonella: Buon appetito!

Antonella: Enjoy them!

Nota Grammaticale

Stressed pronouns: pronomi tonici

The object pronouns that we've been using so far are called *pronomi atoni* in Italian. The adjective "atono" means "unstressed." So, when we want to **stress**, or **emphasize**, the pronoun, we use one of the *pronomi tonici*, or "**stressed pronouns**." The *pronome tonico* is the same whether it's replacing a direct or an indirect object.

The first- and second-person singulars are:

me, a me	me, to (or for) me
te, a te	you, to (or for) you (informal)

The rest of them are the same as the subject pronouns:

Third person singular:

lui, a lui	him, to (or for) him
lei, a lei; Lei, a Lei	her, to (or for) her; you (or for) you (formal)

and the Plurals:

noi, a noi	us, to (or for) us
voi, a voi	you, to (or for) you (informal)
loro, a loro; Loro, a Loro	them, to (or for) them; you, to (or for) you (formal)

Note that when a *pronome tonico* is an indirect object, you have to have **the preposition in front of it**, whereas the unstressed pronoun, the *pronome atono*, never has a preposition in front of it.

Talking of placement, the *pronome tonico* is always placed **after the verb**, and it is **never attached** to any form of the verb. In fact, these *pronomi tonici* are called "**disjunctive**" pronouns in English precisely because they do not get joined to the verb.

We use the *pronome tonico* when

- we want to resolve ambiguity:

Non ti confondere, ho visto **lui** cucinare e ho trovato **lei** ad aggiustare il lavandino.
Don't get confused, I saw him cooking and I found her fixing the sink.

- we want to compare or to contrast:

Ama **te** perché sei un poeta e ama **lui** perché è uno sportivo.

She loves you because you're a poet and she loves him because he's the athletic type.

- the pronoun is the answer to a question:

Chi hanno applaudito?

Hanno applaudito solo **lei**!

Whom did they applaud?

They applauded only her!

- the pronoun contains the emphasized information:

Cosa mi racconti?

A **te** niente!

What have you got to tell me?

To you, nothing!

If a pronoun is the **object of a preposition**, the pronoun must be a ***pronome tonico***.

Vuoi venire a teatro con **noi**?

Do you want to come to the theatre with us?

Preferisco non venire da **te** se c'è anche il Dottore.

I prefer not to come to your place if the Dottore is there too.

Many students love to use the ***pronome tonico*** instead of the *pronome atono*, possibly because it always comes after the verb the way pronouns do in English. But watch out! You need to have one of the compelling reasons that we've just listed to use the ***pronome tonico***.

Nota Culturale

Trattorie

In Italy there are different types of restaurants and fast-food establishments. One of the most popular of these, *la trattoria*, has a relaxed flair and is more economical and less formal than *un ristorante*. At most of *le trattorie*, you can order an array of *primi e secondi piatti* (first and second courses) and *contorni e dolci* (side dishes and sweets). You can also choose to drink *il vino della casa* (the house wine) or *acqua gassata/naturale* (sparkling/natural water). In *una trattoria* or *un ristorante* you normally pay *il conto* (a bill) that includes *il coperto* (cover charge for the tablecloth and bread) and *il servizio* (service charge).

La pizzeria can be thought as an Italian fast-food place. The environment is very informal and they usually serve pizza by the slice. You can take it home on a tray (*un vassoio*) or you can eat your slice on the go. *La pizzeria* also sells a variety of fried goodies (*suppli, arancini, verdure*) and, at times, roasted chickens.

La tavola calda (literally, hot table) serves dishes prepared in advance and *l'osteria* serves primarily wine and beer and light snacks. Modern fast-food is available all over Italy and, with some variation, the same food is served everywhere. Some Italians are unhappy about the presence of fast-food. The Slow Food Movement was created as a way to oppose fast-food culture and to rethink our relationship to food. The organization was founded in 1986 in Piemonte. It has 80,000 members in over 100 countries and 800 eating clubs where people gather to prepare and eat delicious meals.

In many parts of Italy indigenous forms of fast-food have survived for centuries. If you visit Palermo, your eyes will pop out of their sockets. *Piccoli carretti con griglie* (small moveable stands with grills) sell a variety of delicious snacks: *le arancine* (balls made of bread, rice, eggs and meat), *la vastedda ca meusa con le panelle* (beef kidney and spleen with buns), *i cazzilli* (fried potatoes with herbs), *lo sfincione* (a Palermo pizza), *la stigghiola* (lamb liver and intestines), *la quarume* (beef tripe served in a broth). The tradition dates back to the Ancient Greeks who first had a section of the agora (square) reserved for delicious, economical snacks to be consumed on-the-go. You not choose to try these snacks, but the fact that these items have been consumed for the past 2000 years should make you think twice. Buon Appetito!

All right, so now you have Pronoun Fever! What's next? You need to relax, take it easy, and reflex on all the good things Radio Arlecchino has been feeding you. Afterward, your newly acquired Pronoun Power will get a serious workout when we discover the pleasures of the verb *piacere*!

Thanks for listening! And be sure to tell your friends that you heard it here on **Radio Arlecchino**!

Your hosts with the most – grammar,
Antonella Olson & Eric Edwards
“*Out of our minds ... into your ears*”