



## Introduction

### Introduction part 2 - Hello I'm Cinzia. Nice to meet you.

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\* Audio Conversation



## Formal Italian

Buongiorno, Mi chiamo Cinzia. Piacere  
Buongiorno. Mi chiamo Marco. Piacere

## Formal English

Hello I'm Cinzia. Nice to meet you.  
Hello. I'm Marco. Nice to meet you.

## Vocabulary

Italian	English	Class
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### Grammar Points

*Ciao* is the easiest and most common Italian greeting and can be used as "hello" or "goodbye", but be careful it should only be used with people you are well acquainted to, like friends or relatives. It is common for foreigners coming to Italy to be addressed with *ciao*, the reason is because it's a friendly and easy way to greet them. Sometimes in casual and young style shops, customers can be greeted with *ciao* as a way to keep social distances at a minimum and make talking easier and faster, thus making you feel as comfortable as possible.

Conversely *buon giorno* (also written *buongiorno*) can be used with anyone, even people met for the first time. Literally *buon giorno* means "good day" and as such should only be used during daytime. It is also used with the meaning of "good morning" or "good afternoon", so as a rule of thumb it can be used from morning until evening or better yet from before daybreak to before dusk. If we want to clearly express "good morning", *buon mattino* can be used, but is very rare. As for "good afternoon", *buon pomeriggio* is sometimes used.

### Cultural Insight

*Ciao* is the general salute expression used to greet people, regardless the time of the day. It is used as "hi" and "bye" (in any of its forms of valediction; Goodbye, bye-bye, etc.) and it's used when we talk to persons we are acquainted with.

The usage of *Buongiorno* vs. *Buonasera* vary largely according to the city and region we live in. Generally speaking, in southern and central Italy Italians start using *Buonasera* at around 7.00 p.m.,



preferring the slowly fading *Buonpomeriggio* for the afternoon time. This different perception is due to the fact they traditionally consume their larger meals later in the day than northern Italians, although this habit differ in larger cities. As a rule of thumb, we can start using *Buonasera* instead of *Buongiorno* after dusk.