



Italian

Topic 13- Common Proverbs/Sayings [Proverbi/Detti]

- **Chi dorme non piglia pesci.**
(Literal translation: Who sleeps does not catch fish.
English equivalent:
-You snooze, you lose.
-The early bird catches the worm).
- **Il lupo perde il pelo ma non il vizio.**
(Literal translation: The wolf loses its fur but not its vice.
English equivalent:
-You can't teach an old dog new tricks.
- A tiger doesn't change its stripes).
- **L'erba del vicino è sempre più verde.**
(The grass is always greener on the other side).
- **Ride bene chi ride ultimo.**
(Laughs best who laughs last).
- **Il buongiorno si vede dal mattino.**
(Literal translation: The good morning (day) starts in the morning).

English equivalent: You can tell how something will go by how it begins).

- **Non è tutto oro quel che luccica.**

(Not all that glitters is gold).

- **“In bocca al lupo” “Crepì il lupo”.**

(Literal translation: “in the mouth of the wolf” “may the wolf die”

English equivalent: “Good luck”).

- **Chi va piano va sano e lontano.**

(Literal translation: Who goes slowly goes safely and far. English equivalent: Slow and steady wins the race).

- **Can che abbaia non morde.**

(Literal translation: Dog that barks doesn't bite.

English equivalent: Its bark is worse than its bite).

- **Tutto fumo niente arrosto.**

(Literal translation: All smoke, no roast.

English equivalent:- All talk no action

-All talk and no walk).

- **Lontano dagli occhi lontano dal cuore/
Occhi non vedono cuore non duole.**

(Out of sight out of mind/What the eye doesn't see, the heart doesn't grieve over).

- **Nella botte piccola c'è il vino buono.**

(Literal translation: In the small barrel there is good wine.

English equivalent: good things come in small packages).



- **Buon sangue non mente.**
(Literal translation: Good blood doesn't lie.
English equivalent: The apple doesn't fall far from the tree).
- **Chi cerca, trova.**
(Who seeks, finds).
- **Chi fa per sè fa per tre.**
(Literal translation: Those who do for themselves do for three.
English equivalent: If you want something done, do it yourself).
- **Chi dura la vince.**
(Literal translation: Whoever persists, wins.
English equivalent: Perseverance is the key to success).
- **Quando il gioco si fa duro, i duri cominciano a giocare.**
(When the going gets tough, the tough get going).
- **Chi la fa l'aspetti.**
(Literal translation: Whoever does it, should expect it.
English equivalent: What goes around comes around).
- **Inutile piangere sul latte versato.**
(There's no use crying over spilled milk).
- **Far buon viso a cattivo gioco.**
(Literal translation: To put on a brave face in a bad game.
English equivalent:- To put on a brave face.
-To keep a stiff upper lip).



- **Chi si odia si ama.**
(Literal translation: Those who hate each other, love each other.
English equivalent: There's a thin line between love and hate).
- **L'amore è cieco.**
(Love is blind).
- **L'abito non fa da monaco.**
(Literal translation: The clothes don't make the monk.
English equivalent: You can't judge a book by its cover).
- **Beata ignoranza.**
(Ignorance is bliss).
- **L'unione fa la forza.**
(Unity is strength).
- **La madre degli imbecilli è sempre incinta.**
(The mother of fools is always pregnant.
Explanation: A sarcastic and funny way of saying that the world is full of idiots).
- **La pazienza è la virtù dei più forti.**
(Patience is the virtue of the strong).
- **La notte porta consiglio.**
(The night brings counsel).
- **La verità viene sempre a galla.**
(The truth always comes to the surface).



- **Meglio tardi che mai.**
(Better late than never).
- **Non c'è due senza tre.**
(Literal translation: There's no two without three.
English equivalent: Third time's a charm).
- **Patti chiari amicizia lunga.**
(Clear agreements, long-lasting friendship).
- **Ride bene chi ride ultimo.**
(He who laughs last, laughs best).
- **Tentar non nuoce.**
(There's no harm in trying).
- **Vivi è lascia vivere.**
(Live and let live).

