



Meet Claudio Fiore, Italy

Name: Claudio Fiore

From: Italy

Occupation: Lieutenant Colonel in the Italian Airforce

Course:

Quatorial + 5 Tutorial Programme

14th April–11th May, 2013

Accommodation:

Mansion Lock Studio apartment

Level of English on entry: B2

Level of English on departure: B2-C1

Goal for the course: To improve his general English and confidently hold work meetings in English.

Current use of English: Meetings abroad every three months as well as some weekly emails.

Main areas of English to improve:

General English with a particular focus on:

- Meeting skills & pronunciation
- Expanding his vocabulary
- Improving his writing skills

Claudio arrived at OISE with an upper-intermediate level of English that just needed to be “polished”. Working as a Lieutenant Colonel in the Italian Air Force, his current use of English involves writing reports and emails, as well as attending conferences held in English every 3 months. His main goals, therefore, were to improve his presentation skills, to expand his vocabulary, and to improve his written English.

Claudio originally enrolled on a Quatorial Course, and in the first few weeks worked on improving areas such as pronunciation, writing and expanding his vocabulary. However, after speaking with other students, Claudio decided that he would benefit from the individual attention offered by Tutorial lessons. He therefore added these to supplement his group lessons. In these lessons he worked on:

- Lexis and vocabulary
- Pronunciation
- Reading skills
- Writing
- Communication skills

By the end of the course, Claudio was able to communicate with confidence and clarity. Following his departure he went on to an international conference in Brussels where he was able to put his improvements in English into practice in a live environment.

“I really enjoyed my time at OISE London and I will highly recommend the school to my work colleagues. The accommodation recommended by OISE was great and I loved the area in which I lived during my time in London. If I get an opportunity again, I would definitely love to come back!”

Claudio Fiore

“Claudio was able to produce some really impressive written work, demonstrating the improvements and refinements he had made. He also demonstrated superb interpersonal skills in a variety of interactive communicative activities as well as developing better pronunciation. We wish him the best of luck.”

*Ian Holmes,
Tutor at OISE London*



Examples of Claudio's programme throughout his stay

Although Claudio joined OISE London with a good level of English, he needed to improve in some areas. The combination of Quatorial lessons and the individual attention of Tutorials allowed him to work on both universal aspects of fluency as well as acquiring a broad range of productive writing competencies, and improving his reading skills such as scanning, skimming for detail and reading for gist.

| Quatorial Lessons | Tutorial lessons |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essential language - meeting people for the first time; socialising. • Life Skills and Professional skill - communication strategies, team working, negotiating, evaluating, decision making, intercultural interactions, health safety and law, meeting skills, recruitment, crisis management, policy and procedure, giving and receiving instructions and making presentations. • Writing skills - emailing, appropriate use of register—formal and informal, following protocol. • Listening and speaking - use of videoconference, dealing with different accents, pronunciation features including intrusive linking and cantenation for improving speech flow. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing - tasks focusing on linking phrases, register and tone. • Reading - for general purpose. Learning to focus on acquiring skills such as scanning, skimming for details and reading for gist. • Metalinguistic Prowess - fully explored metalinguistic aspects of communication which included the use of voice and body-language. • Building complex sentences by using: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Narrative tenses (mixing tenses) 2. Reference (using pronouns) 3. Cohesive devices (linkers) 4. Subordinate clause (relative causes) |

Tutorial lessons

During his Tutorial lessons Claudio decided to focus on pronunciation and expanding his vocabulary. With Denis, his personal tutor, they went through an intensive programme for Claudio to acquire and competently use the key attributes of “received pronunciation”, cadence and intonation to enable him to effectively communicate as a natural and winning interlocutor.

Together, they deeply explored a broad spectrum of lexical areas related to politics, professional life, economics, social life and culture. This has enabled Claudio to confidently and productively engage with such texts in future in order to continue augmenting his vocabulary and idiomatic prowess.

Quatorial Programme + 5 Timetable

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| News Review | 15 minutes |
| Quatorial lesson | 30 minute pre-lesson preparation 1.5 hour lesson |
| Quatorial lesson | 30 minute pre-lesson preparation 1 hour lesson |
| Quatorial Project | 30 minutes |
| Tutorial lesson | 1 hour |
| Spoken Performance Workshop | 1 hour |

Level of English at course completion: *Advanced*

Claudio's biggest achievement at OISE: Claudio's biggest achievement is the broader range of vocabulary he has acquired as well as a great improvement in his pronunciation. He feels more confident when speaking in English and is able to communicate in a much more natural way.

