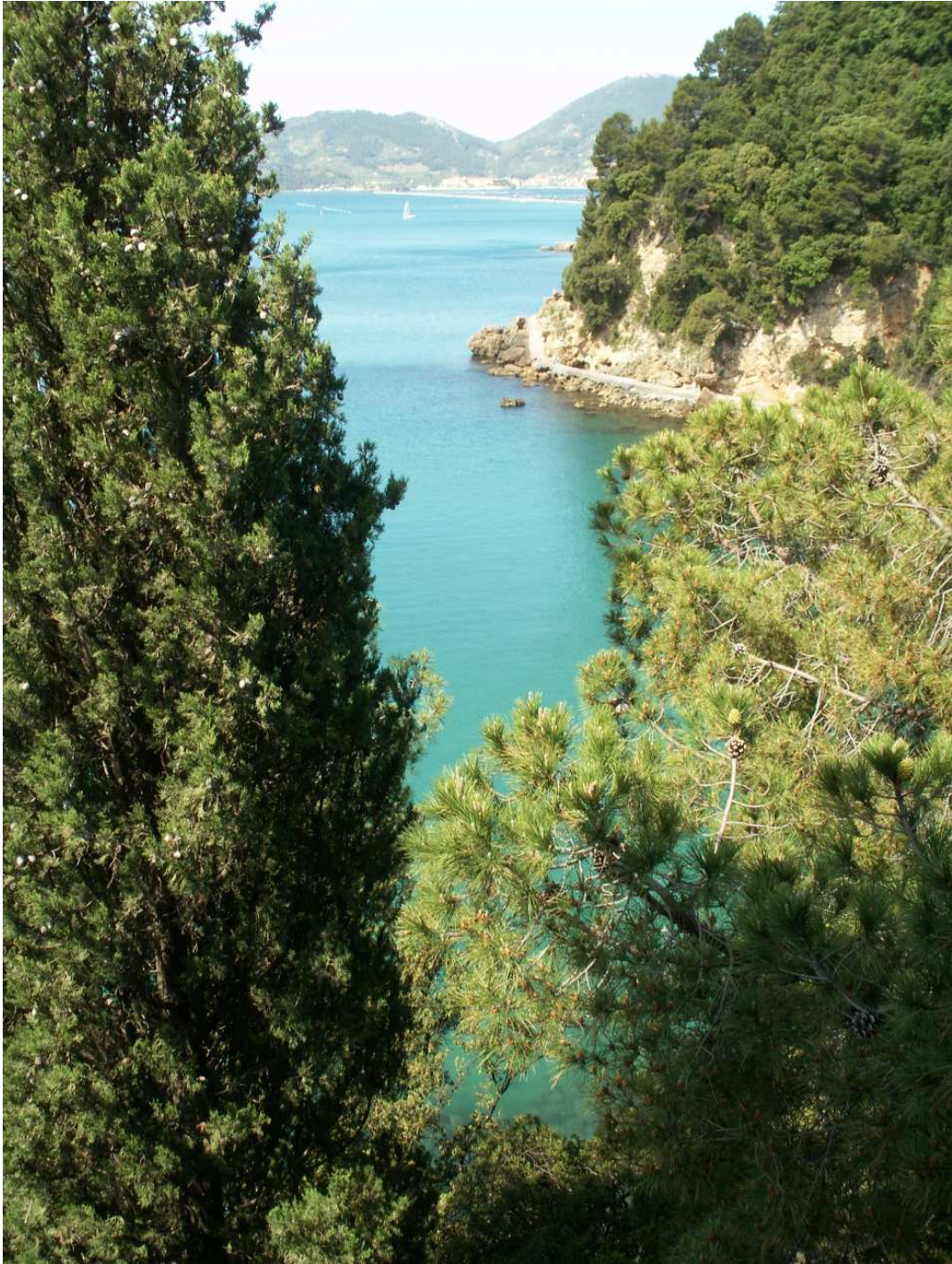


# *Golfo dei Poeti*



*Juni*  
*2006*

# GOLFO DEI POETI

## Arbeitswoche der Klassen MN5c

### Inhalt

1	Portrait of Lerici	<i>Alexandra Manuela St. Rahel</i>	2
2	Languages in Lerici	<i>Andrea Murielle</i>	6
3	Pisa	<i>Franziska Manuela</i>	8
4	Lucca	<i>Michael Robin Christian Katharina</i>	11
5	Elisa Buonaparte	<i>Nadja Regula Selina</i>	12
6	Italia e la Svizzera	<i>Fabienne B. Julia Laura</i>	14
7	Il Nazionalismo degli Italiani	<i>Rebekka Fabienne M. Elio</i>	19
7	The Italian School System	<i>Arash Britta Stephanie</i>	21
8	Poems		23

## A Portrait of Lerici

Lerici is a village which is situated at the Gulf Pearl. We've passed our working week in San Terenzo (28.5. 2006–2.6.2006) which is also part of Lerici. These two bays belong to the province of La Spezia and the region is called Liguria. There are two bays which show the ends of Lerici.



Further north of the coast is the province Cinque Terre. Some of us will visit this place in the afternoon of our last day.

For us Lerici is very friendly, because of the coloured houses and the Mediterranean atmosphere. There are some little beaches which are made by human working. The sand didn't find his way by himself, the sand was transporting by a crane. If you look around you can see a lot of green. We like this pure nature.



There are also a lot of nice restaurants with delicious Italian food.



The area is called the Poet's Gulf, because of two famous poets who have lived here. Percy Bysshe Shelley and his wife Mary Shelley and Byron are those poets. In San Terenzo one can still see the house of the Shelley's.







We had the task to show our poetic qualities. We think Lerici is the perfect place for it. We've passed a wonderful week here in Italy also because of the weather. We've had a lot of free time for enjoying the beach and swimming in the sea and also for sport activities on the beach, like soccer or beach volley.

So we can say  
We'll return one day☺



## Lerici

Province of La Spezia  
Liguria Region, Italy  
Population: about 11.000 inhabitants  
Zip/postal code: 19032  
Phone Area Code: 0187

Lerici is a village along the Italian Riviera on the Bay of Lerici, and is called the Gulf Pearl.

Though recently it has become known and appreciated also as a tourist center, it had always been favorite destination for poets and writers, starting from the Latin Flaccus, to Dante who mentions Lerici in the 3rd Purgatory canto, Boccaccio who chose it as a setting for a short story, Petrarch, who called it the mansion of oil-seeker goddess Athena, the Romantic poets Shelley and Byron, the 20th century novelist D.H. Lawrence, all of whom contributed to make the area known as the Poet's Gulf.

Percy Bysshe Shelley and his wife Mary lived some three miles north in an isolated old boat house called Villa Magni, and anchored their sailing boat in Lerici. Percy Bysshe was drowned on July 8, 1822 in the Bay of Spezia, returning to Lerici from a journey to Leghorn and Pisa, though he is buried in the English cemetery in Rome.

#### History:

Its name comes from portus illycis, possibly derived from the Greek iliakos (that is, originary of Troy), leads to the theory that it was founded by refugees of the Trojan war. This is confirmed by the similarity of the territory to the Trojan coast, and by the name of a bay, Venere Azzurra, dedicated to Venus, the goddess worshipped by the Trojans.

In Roman times Lerici was a minor center, but after the fall of the Roman empire in 476 AD and the rise of Genoa, Lerici became a war theatre for the strife between Genoa and Pisa.

In 1241 after the Giglio island battle, Pisa occupied the town, and changed it into a fortified harbor, but only 15 years later Genoa reconquered Lerici and the castle of San Giorgio was built. For a century, between 1396 and 1491, it was occupied by the French, who used it as a transit port. Then in the 17th and 18th centuries it grew in importance, and in the 19th century was very active in the movement for Italian unity.

Worth visiting is the Monastery of the Olivetani, where some fifteenth-century frescoes by Nicolò Corso have been discovered – evidence of the not unimportant cultural activity of the brotherhood during mediaeval times. Also worth a visit is the late-Gothic Sanctuary of Nostra Signora delle Grazie. One place you really must stop at is Porto Venere, which is recognised



by UNESCO as part of world cultural heritage. The picturesque Genoese-style village (twelfth century) is full of typical coastal charm. You can admire the Genoese castle and the Church of San Lorenzo (consecrated in 1130 and entirely rebuilt in 1931-35), which preserves some remarkable works of art (a marble altarpiece attributed to Mino da Fiesole, the fourteenth-century "White Madonna" and a fifteenth-century triptych over the main altar) and, in the vestry, some magnificent treasure (Arabic-Phoenician and Byzantine ivory caskets). At the far end of the promontory stands the ancient Church of San Pietro, which was built in 1277 on existing sixth-century foundations. You can leave Porto Venere by boat to visit the island of Palmaria, a marine reserve lying in the centre of the "whale sanctuary". You can then visit Tino and the ruins of the Monastery of San Venerio. The festival of San Venerio, a religious hermit who lived on the island of Tino, is held on 13 September every year. The island itself, a jewel in the Gulf of La Spezia, is occupied by a naval garrison but can be visited on the occasion of religious services in remembrance of the saint. You can visit the remains of the abbey, the small cloister and the reconstructed church. Not far from Tino is the small island of Tinetto, where you will find the ruins of a fifth-century church. The island of Palmaria is a splendid nature reserve.

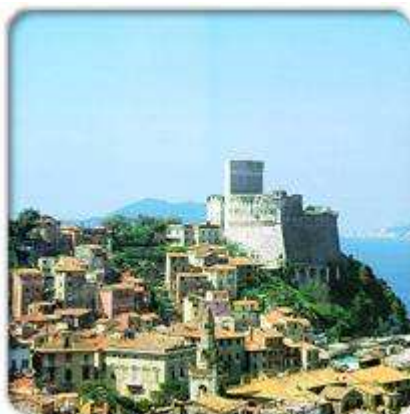


Its host of beaches and coastal rocks make it an ideal place for a holiday with a difference. The network of paths running across the island are ideal for rambling in the greenery. All kinds of water sport can be practised in the Gulf. There is no shortage of accommodation in Porto Venere and its beaches have many facilities. The typical dishes (seafood and

an infinite variety of fish) are quite rightly famous throughout the western part of the Gulf and are served in nearly all restaurants. The seascape of the Gulf is marked by rows of wooden poles: these are part of the breedinggrounds for mussels, which are another fundamental ingredient of La Spezia cuisine. A tour of the eastern side of the Gulf is just as interesting for its natural variety. After leaving the city you go through the commercial and industrial ports. As far as Muggiano, you will see a never-ending series of small and large shipyards and factories.

Once you have gone through the Scoglietti tunnel, you see the charming bay of Lerici. You then go through San Terenzo, the historic site of Villa Magni, where the Shelleys stayed. You will also see the Genoese castle, which is to be a precious museum dedicated to the memory of the nineteenth-century novelist and poet Mary Shelley, the interesting seventeenth-century parish church containing a painting by Fiasella (1629) and magnificent Villa Marigola (formerly Villa Pearce), where Sem Benelli wrote his *Cena delle Beffe* and where many illustrious figures have stayed. The villa belongs to the "Cassa di Risparmio della Spezia" Bank and is used for conferences and important cultural events. It gives onto a beautiful Italian-style garden that is the only one of its kind in the province. After San Terenzo comes Lerici with its Genoese castle (thirteenth-sixteenth century), which was basically an extension of an earlier mediaeval castle. Inside the castle you can visit a very old chapel dedicated to Sant'Anastasia (1250). Lerici Castle houses the Museum of Geopalaontology, which was created after the discovery of prehistoric remains in the area. The museum also has a virtual-reality section, which offers scientifically guided tours through fantastic worlds. The earthquake room actually simulates earthquake phenomena. The castle is also used as a venue for important cultural events. Also of interest is the Oratory of San Rocco (a Baroque church built on the ruins of an older church), which has a remarkable painting by Fiasella, a bell-tower and some fourteenth-century gravestones.

The parish church of San Francesco was entirely rebuilt in 1632 following its total destruction. It contains some impressive works of art: two canvases by Fiasella, a marble triptych by Domenico Gare (1529), a "dead Christ" by Maragliano and some remains from the earlier church. The climate of Lerici makes it a pleasant place to stay all year round: the surrounding countryside is characterised by green hills and lush vegetation. You can visit charming Fiascherino, where D. H. Lawrence once stayed, and then go on to Tellaro, where the buildings are particularly charming. The greenery covers the whole eastern side of the Gulf as far as Bocca di Magra: above Lerici is Barcola and beautiful Villa De Benedetti (now Villa Picedi) and Villa Cochrane (now Villa Carnevali) and its wonderful park. Then there is La Serra, where you can



take a path that offers beautiful panoramic views and leads you through woods and pine groves as far as Montemarcello. From here you can walk down towards Ameglia (with its castle and sixteenth-century church) and the Magra estuary. Lerici has good accommodation facilities, including all categories of hotel, bed and breakfast and camp sites. There are many typical restaurants, bathing establishments and discos. Dishes: mussels, all kinds of fish, Lerici-style spaghetti.

## Languages in Lerici

We had the task to find out what languages are spoken by the inhabitants of Lerici. And also how it fits with the tourists. This was our own decision and we made the choice, because we wanted to speak and have contact with the people living there. So we had the possibility to have experiences with the thinking of Italian people.

First we thought about questions. We had several questions:

- Do you speak English?
- Are you from here?
- Which languages do you speak?
- Which languages would you like to learn and for what reason?
- To young people: Which languages do you learn at school?
- What influences does the Euro have to your business life?
- What do you think about the EU?
- What advantages/disadvantages does the EU bring you?

Then we translated these questions in German, Suisse German, French and Spanish.

Then we started with the practical part of our work. We asked our prepared questions to people from Lerici of different age.

Ten old women and men talked with us. Older people, who live in Lerici, only speak Italian. They were very friendly, but they couldn't or didn't want to speak with us in a different language than their own, perhaps it is like that, because they didn't learn any other language at school or they have forgotten everything.

We've spoken about 6 women and men with little children. The people of middle age spoke only in Italian, but normally they understood a bit English. But they refused to speak English themselves.

The young people of our age spoke a bit English and sometimes a bit French. They learn in school English and rarely some French. Twelve younger people answered to our questions.

Because nobody spoke English well (most of the people didn't speak English at all!) we couldn't ask the questions about EU and Euro. We can't speak Italian, so that was the problem.

The receptionist of our hotel answered to your questions very well. He can speak Italian, English and Spanish. We asked if he thought this is normal for people of hotels, but he answered he doesn't think so, because mostly the people are very old and Lerici is small. About the EU he sees the good and the bad side of it. With the Euro and the EU the prices are growing, but he gets also more guests, which is good for his hotel business. And he said it's a pity, that starting with next year the EU stops paying him for new building projects, because they need the money for the poorer countries in the east.



To sum up one can say the people of Lerici aren't well prepared for the tourists, even the shop assistants aren't! But all were very friendly and pleasant to talk to. And we see an improvement in speaking other languages in future because the next generation is much better prepared to strangers, because learning other languages at school.





# Pisa

## History

The history of Pisa has got its roots in the 5th century B.C., when Pisa was an Etruscan settlement that faced the sea. In the 2nd century B.C. the Romans built Portus Pisanus.

After the end of the Roman Empire, this was a port town of great importance for the Goths, the Longbards and the Carolingians too.

A further development transformed Pisa, in the 11th century, into one of the most powerful Italian Maritime Republics, together with Genoa, Venice and Amalfi.

For most part of the Middle Ages, the powerful navy of Pisa guaranteed to the town the supremacy of the Western Mediterranean Sea.

In this period the buildings that made Pisa famous were begun: the Dome, the cathedral's bell tower and the well known Leaning Tower.

The richness of Pisa in this period allowed it to found some colonies in North Africa, in South Spain and in Asia.

Then, in 1406, the town passed under the dominion of Florence, but not for a long time. In fact, in 1472, the inhabitants of Pisa re-established the university, which brought new prestige to the ancient centre.

Another interesting thing is that Pisa once was a village just at the sea, but nowadays it is about eight kilometers away from the sea, because of the river Arno, that brings with him a lot of stones and land.

Pisa is also the birthplace of Galileo Galilei, the famous astronomer, physicist and mathematician.

## Art

Pisa is one of the greatest Italian cultural centres and has a rich artistic heritage, which is an original reworking of the Middle Ages with Islamic, Lombard and local influences.

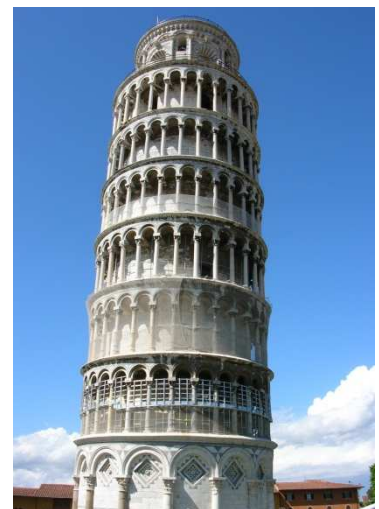
The most important monuments of Pisa stand in Piazza dei Miracoli. In this square you can see: the Duomo (cathedral), Santa Maria Assunta with the Leaning Tower, the Battistero (baptistery), the Galleria that surrounds the Camposanto (graveyard), the Cappella del Pozzo and all the monuments are made of white Carrara marble. The whole place stands under monument protection of the UNESCO.

Another important square in Pisa is the Piazza dei Cavalieri.

In the Renaissance it was the centre of the town and it is the seat of the prestigious Scuola Normale Superiore, founded by Napoleon in 1810. Today it has become an important university, that admits only the most qualified students of the country.

## Leaning tower

The most famous attraction of Pisa is the Leaning tower. It's the bell tower of the Cathedral. Its construction began in August 1173. But soon, the work had to be stopped, because the soil, which is alluvial soil, gave way and the tower began to incline. The work continued one century later under the guidance of Giovanni di Simone and possibly of



Giovanni Pisano. To correct the inclination they added three more floors to the opposite direction of the inclination. The bell room was finally put between 1350 and 1372 by Tommaso Pisano.

In the past it was widely believed that the inclination of the tower was part of the project, but we know that it's not so. The tower was designed to be vertical and started to incline during its construction. Efforts were made to halt the incipient inclination through the use of special construction devices; later columns and other damaged parts were substituted in more than one occasion. Today, interventions are being carried out within the sub-soil in order to significantly reduce the inclination, which is a bit more than five degrees, and to make sure that the tower will have a long live.

It was closed between 1992 and 2001 because of the danger of falling. During the restoration work they tried to correct the inclination of the tower and bring him in the same situation like before 500 years. Therefore ropes of steels were attached and the foundation was filled with cement. Since the 15 of December 2001 tourists can visit the tower again.

One says that Galileo Galilei here made some experiments about the law of the free fall.

## Cathedral



The Duomo is a model of Pisan-Romanesque style with its dark gray marble and white stone. Its construction began in 1064 and it took almost a century to complete. Much of the interior was badly damaged by a fire in 1596, therefore much of what we now see dates from the Renaissance or later.

The pulpit (that's the place where the priest stands) sculpted by Giovanni Pisano is one of the highlights of the Duomo.

Not to be missed are the original bronze doorway, the tomb of the Holy Roman Emperor, Henry VII, and the mosaic of Christ in the apse. (The apse is a kind of a niche, where the altar is.)

The Cathedral is sanctified to the holy Maria. Its form is a Latin cross and on the middle gable is a statue of the Madonna with child from Andrea Pisano.

In the inner of the Cathedral are ancient columns, which came here as spoils of war. In the central ship a richly gilded and magnificent cover from the Renaissance has to be admired.

Inside the cathedral one says that Galileo Galilei became attentive for the first time of the physical regularity of the pendulum by the oscillations of the precious bronze lamp.

## Baptistry (Battistero)

The baptistery is a building, where people were baptized. It belongs to the cathedral, but it was usual in Italy to build the baptistery separate from the church, because the unbaptized people were not allowed to go inside the church. The Baptistry (Battistero) in Pisa is the largest of its kind in Italy.



Like so many buildings, it was started in one style and finished in another; The construction was begun in 1152 by Diotisalvi in Romanesque style, so the lower levels have round arches. In the Romanesque style the horizontal was stressed. They had to stop building, because of financial problems until in the later half of the 13th century. By the time they finished the building, by Nicola Pisano who added the airy loggia, the upper part, people were changing over to the Gothic style, in which the vertical was stressed. And so the upper windows were made with pointed arches. On the top of the cupola stands a bronze figure, St. John the Baptist, which is three meters high.

The outside of the building is covered with white marble and it is decorated with figures, that are prophets and apostles but most of them have now been replaced by copies and the originals are in museums.

In the inside there is under the cupola a basin for the baptism. In the middle of the basin there is a statue of the Baptist.

There is also an altar and a very nice and famous pulpit, which is also of with marble and it stands on seven columns. On this pulpit there are scenes of Jesus' life.

The building has four doors: one on the east, west, north and south side. The one on the east which opens to the Cathedral, is the main portal. On the side it is decorated with relieves of the life of St. John the Baptist.

## Camposanto

The Camposanto Monumentale is a building, that recovers a cemetery. It's lying behind the Cathedral like a backdrop from a wall with marble blocks. The name of this building means cemetery and verbally translated holy field. Camposanto is considered one of the most beautiful cemeteries of the world. Legend has it that Ubaldo Lanfranchi had Pisan knights to bring a cargo of soil from the hill of Golgotha back to this city in order for the eminent people of Pisa to be buried in holy earth.

It's construction was begun by Giovanni di Simone in 1277 and ended during the 16th century. This antique funeral place accommodates still today important late ancient times Sarcophagi, which were used in the Middle Ages as graves and stood at the beginning like a ring around the Cathedral. Originally the walls of this building were decorated with frescoes, which suffered heavy damage during the Second World War. They were removed from the walls after the war and restored.





# Lucca

## History

Lucca was founded in the time of the Romans. In the 9<sup>th</sup> century the people of Lucca held the first democratic meeting to decide what should happen in Lucca. This was the start to an independent city. In the following centuries Lucca got more and more independent and from 1119 on it was a city-state. This means that the town was ruled by a government of its own and didn't belong to any other power.

In the 14<sup>th</sup> century, Lucca was taken over and ruled by some tyrants, but only a few years. From 1400 – 1430, a native patrician family was in charge, after that period Lucca was always more or less free. This is remarkable because other towns like Pisa and Florence always wanted to take in Lucca. The city was very rich because it was an important trading place and had enough political power to stand this pressure. Around 1500 there were about 3000 loom-chairs in the town. In this time the city wall was built. But it wasn't just a wall but more a fortification around the whole city. It was built to prevent the town centre against attacks with in this time modern weapons like canons and guns. But it never had to prove its strength. But it protected the city against a big flood.

Because of the French Revolution, Lucca was forced to become a European democracy under Napoleon Bonaparte. In 1805, Napoleon became emperor and made Lucca a principality. His sister Elisabeth Bonaparte and his husband Félix Baciocchi became the ruler their town. In 1814, Napoleon Bonaparte was banished and several troops occupied the city. In 1814/15, the Council of Vienna took place. Lucca was a part of a big quarrel. In 1859–61, Luca became part of the Tuscany and was linked to Sardinia. A few years later this region was linked to Italy.

Luca has 80' 000 inhabitants and is located 19 metres above the sea level.

## Sight-seeing-tour

### *Duomo San Martino*

The Duomo has been rebuilt the first time in the 11<sup>th</sup> century. Then in the 13<sup>th</sup> century the fassade has nearly been finished. The fassade has been made with white and green marble. In the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> century the Duomo got his equipment, the sculptures, the ornaments and the paintings.

### *Palazzo Guinigi*

The Guinigi were the richest and most important family in the old town. They owned a big palazzo with the sextower and two big houses and a villa outside of the town in the countryside. The sextower is a special building because on his top there are some oaks.

### *Piazza del Anfiteatro*

The place surrounded by houses was in the second century an amphitheatre of the Romans. During the Barbarian Invasion it felt into ruins and later in the middle age the Lucchesi built their houses and churches with the stones. The place how it is today was built in 1830.





## Elisa Bonaparte

In 1797 Napoleon Bonaparte began to fight successfully against Austria-Hungary and conquered areas in whole middle Europe. Some of these areas were part of today's Italy. To keep these areas under control, he named members of his family to take over the position of the former leaders and chose influential husbands for his sisters. Napoleon gave all important position to male relatives. The only exception was his oldest sister Marie-Anne-Elisa Bonaparte who was established as a member of the Imperial family of the first French Empire on May 1804. Later she received the title of Imperial Highness and on March 1805 Napoleon named her Duchess of Lucca and Princess of Piombino.



### Biography

Marie-Anne-Elisa Bonaparte was born on January 13 in 1777 in Ajaccio, Corsica, as the fourth surviving child of Carlo Buonaparte and Letizia Ramolino.

Her parents weren't very rich but due to a friend of her father, Elisa got the chance to attend a school in France. There she stayed until 1792 when the school was closed.

Back in Corsica she married Felix Pasquale Bacciochi in May 1797. Her husband was a former officer of the royal Corsican regiment and a member of Corsican nobility, but without much political influence.

They were parents of four children, of whom two died in the first year of their life. Elisa named her children after her and her husband's family: They were called "Felix Napoléon, Elisa Napoléone, Jérôme Charles and Frédéric Napoléon".

She was named Duchess of Lucca eight years after her marriage. Four years later she even became Grand duchess of Tuscany. She carried out this office until the fall of her brother Napoleon in 1814. The separation from her husband took place during these years and was seen favourably by Napoleon. But soon her husband came back to her.

The last years of her life she lived in seclusion and spent much time travelling through Italy. In this time she was known as "Countess Compignano". She died on August 7, 1820 in St. Andrea near Trieste.



### Personality

Historical sources describe her as not so beautiful but very ambitious. Furthermore her sharp tongue often caused trouble in her relation with her brother Napoleon.

As a leader she proved to be extremely serious and competent. She showed a bright knowledge of military affairs and was admired for her intelligence.

### Elisa in Lucca

When Elisa arrived in Lucca she didn't like the narrowly built town with its conservative, uneducated citizens. So she decided to change a lot and teach the people a modern way of living. She started by taking over Napoleon's laws and changing the architecture of the city by breaking down many house walls, putting a gate (called "Porta Elisa") into the big city wall and building a large street that leads from the gate into the middle of the city. What's more, she built a big place called "Piazza Napoleone".

Elisa closed a lot of the old monasteries to destroy the, in her opinion, too big influence of the conservative church. Because of that the people of Lucca were very upset. To illuminate the citizens she supported the city's academy and built some schools. For example the first high school for girls.

Elisa also promoted the economy of Lucca by extending the city, importing a luxurious race of sheep (merino sheep) and keeping wars away from Lucca, due to her relation with Napoleon.

In short one can say that she wanted to try out the structures of an illuminated society.

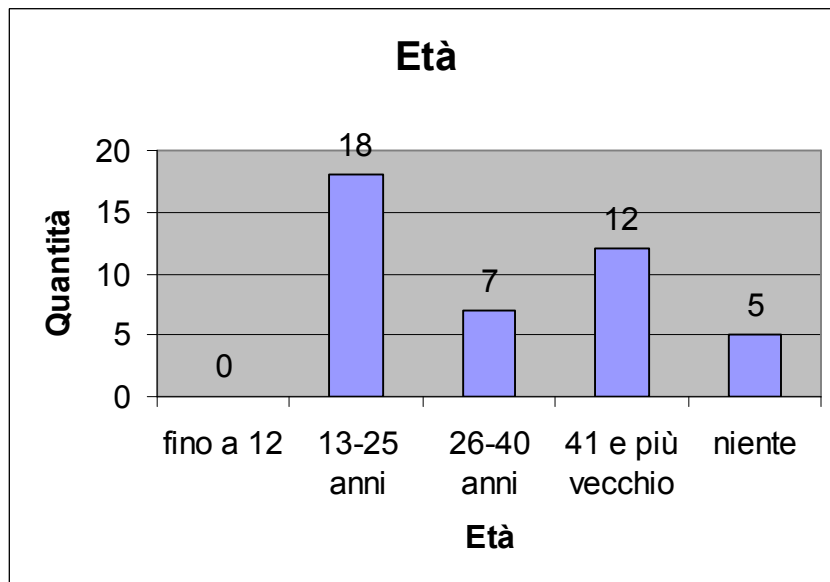


Porta Elisa

## Italia e la Svizzera

### Introduzione

Abbiamo avuto l'incarico di scoprire che cosa pensano e sanno gli italiani della Svizzera. Durante la nostra settimana di lavoro in San Terenzo abbiamo fatto un'inchiesta con delle persone che abbiamo incontrato sulla strada.



Volevamo avere risposte diverse, anche delle varie persone; genitori, giovani etc. Abbiamo visto, che le madri hanno saputo di più, penso anche perché hanno una cultura generale buona. I giovani hanno tante volte avuto alcuni problemi perché sapevano solo le cose conosciute come le lingue. Però con la bandiera o l'eroe nazionale hanno avuto un po' di fatica. Insomma abbiamo interrogato 42 persone.

### 1. Cosa pensa per primo quando sente la parola "SVIZZERA"?

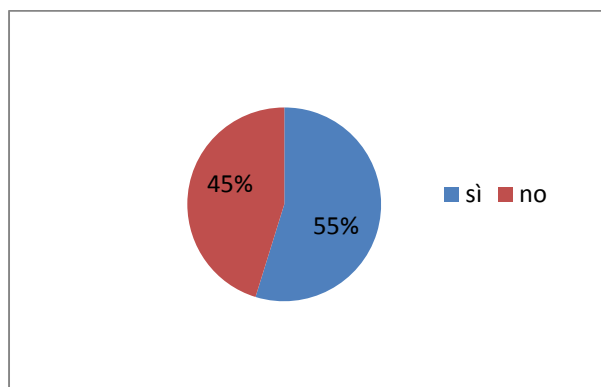
Le risposte che abbiamo sentito tante volte sono che la Svizzera è polita, il cioccolato e gli orologi. Altre risposte che abbiamo sentito: la Svizzera è un paese bello, neutrale e le montagne. Pensiamo che molti hanno risposto con orologi, perché "Swatch" e "Rolex" vengono dalla Svizzera. La pulizia è stato detto, perché in Italia è meno pulito che nella Svizzera. Una risposta divertente era, che una persona ha risposto con città, quando pensa alla Svizzera.

### 2. Che cosa sa della Svizzera?

Molti hanno scritto che sanno poco o niente della Svizzera. Forse perché è un paese molto piccolo. Alcuni hanno risposto con organizzazione, banche, alpi e mucche.

### 3. Che cosa è tipico per la Svizzera?

Anche a questa domanda molti hanno risposto con cioccolato, orologi e formaggio. È stato anche detto la puntualità, le banche e i soldi. Abbiamo pensato, che puntualità sarebbe venuto più spesso.



#### 4. È già stato/a in Svizzera?

La più parte è già stata a Ginevra, Lugano e Zurigo. Una persona è stata anche a St.Moritz, pensiamo per sciare.

Siamo rismasti sorpresi, che nessuno è stato nella capitale.

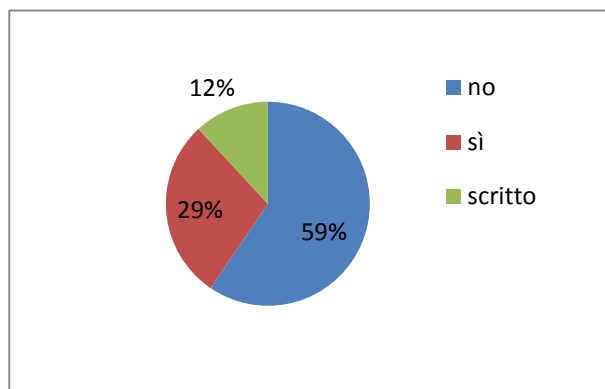
#### 5. Cosa pensa del popolo svizzero?

Molti hanno detto che gli svizzeri sono simpatico, precisi e ordinati. Una persona ci ha detto che il popolo svizzero lavora tanto, più degli italiani e non fa la siesta.

#### 6. Qual'è per Lei la differenza tra la Svizzera e l'Italia?

Il modo di vivere, la serietà nella legge e l'organizzazione sono diversi dell'Italia. La Svizzera è anche più piccola, più ricca e più pulita dell'Italia.

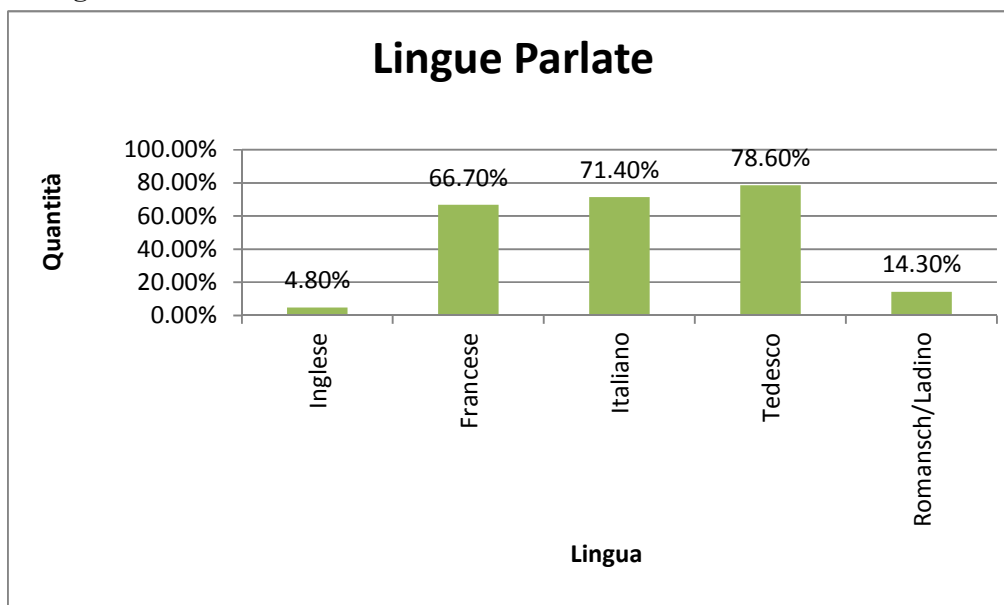
#### 7. Dov'è la Svizzera? Potrebbe disegnare la Svizzera con i paesi confinanti?



Molti non hanno avuto neanche voglia di disegnare qualche cosa. Alcune persone non hanno disegnato la Svizzera ma hanno scritto dov'è. Una persona ci ha chiesto se la Svizzera è nel sud dell'Italia, questa risposta ci sembrava un pò strana, perchè noi sappiamo dov'è l'Italia.

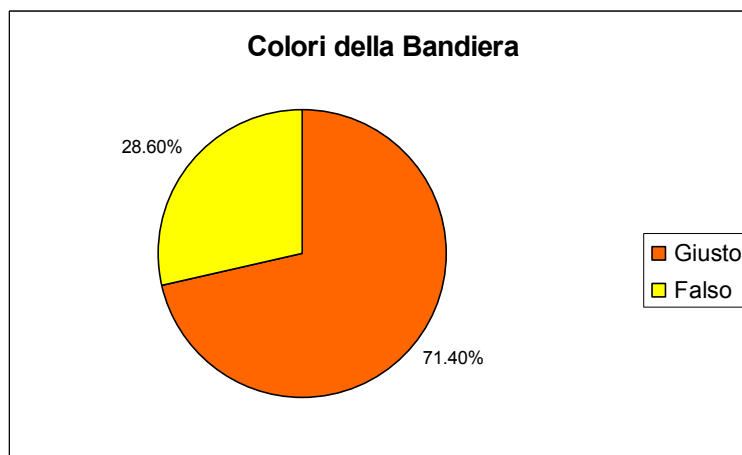
Abbiamo pensato che è molto conosciuto che in Svizzera si parla quattro lingue, o almeno le tre importanti. Ma alcuni hanno solo risposto con tedesco e italiano e hanno dimenticato il francese

che è anche parlato spesso. Le persone più anziane, soprattutto le donne hanno saputo anche il ladino, o da noi il "rumansch". La cosa che abbiamo trovato più strana è che hanno detto che in Svizzera si parla l'inglese. Ecco la statistica:

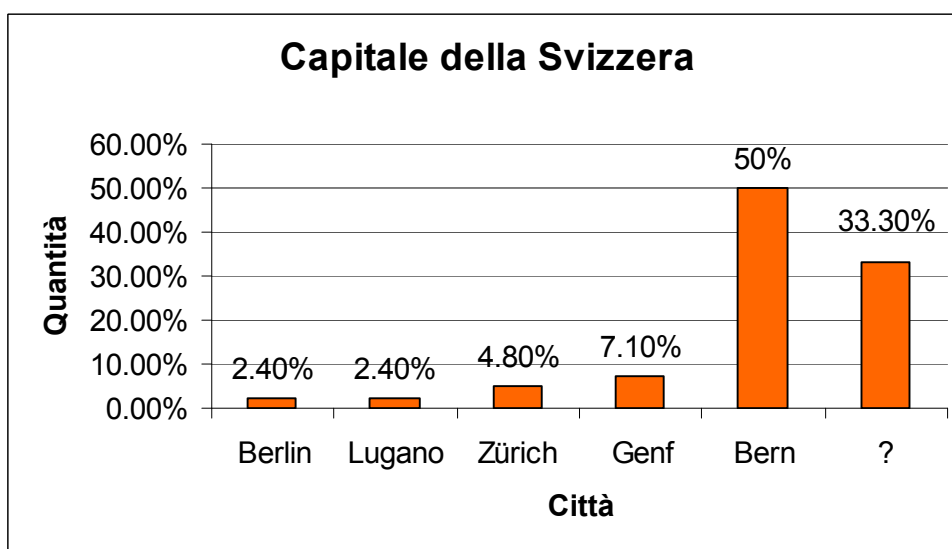




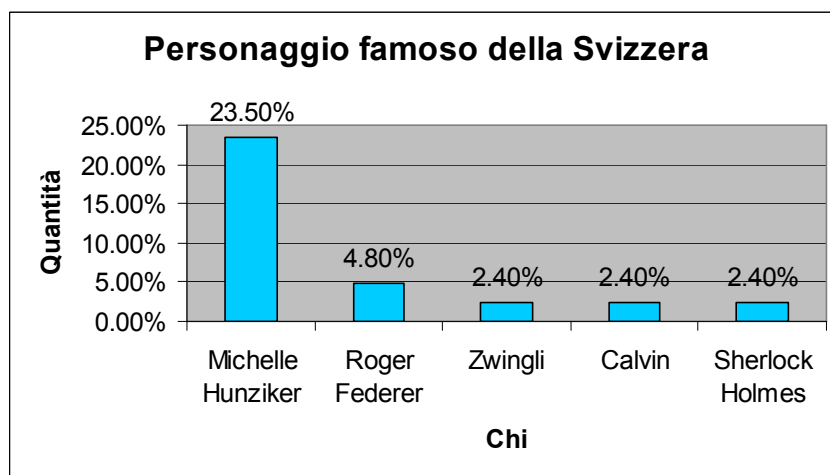
Per cominciare con una domanda facile abbiamo chiesto com'è la bandiera della Svizzera. Per noi era molto chiaro che si sa com'è, ma questo non era così chiaro come si vede nella grafica sotto. Tanti non hanno saputo come sono i colori o che c'è una croce. Dopo che ci hanno pensato un po' alla più parte della gente è venuto in mente. Una risposta molto divertente era un ragazzo della nostra età chi ha detto che la nostra bandiera è gialla e verde.



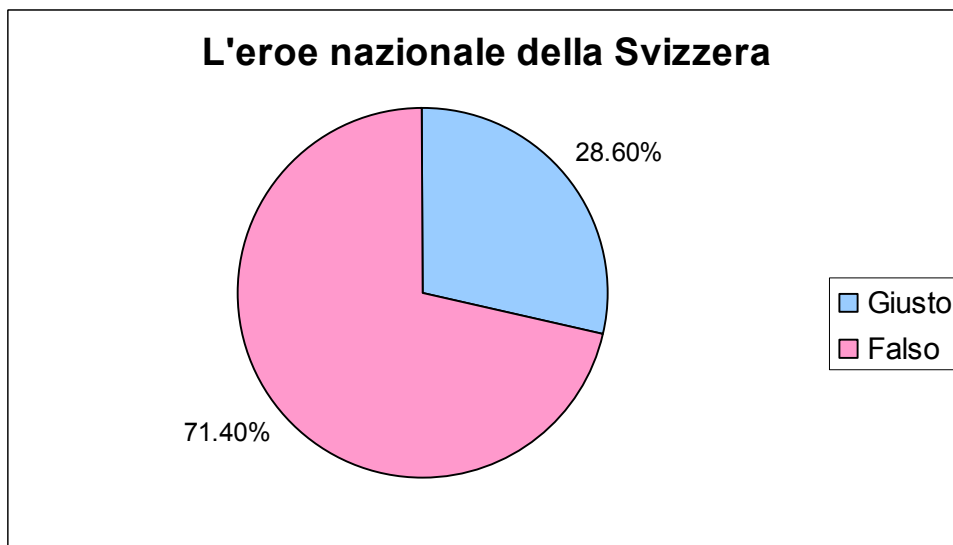
Un'altra cosa era la capitale. Anche qualcosa che si sa, abbiamo pensato, perché noi sappiamo anche la capitale dell'Italia. Allora non è un problema di rispondere a questa domanda. Falso. Era un gran problema, la metà della gente non sapeva come si chiama la nostra capitale! Allora tanti non hanno scritto niente. Ecco le altre risposte che abbiamo ricevuto:



Questa domanda ci ha interessata perché volevamo sapere chi "rappresenta" la Svizzera un po' all'estero. Come abbiamo pensato tanti hanno scritto la Michelle Hunziker, anche perché la conoscono come moglie di Eros Ramazotti. Ci ha molto sorpreso che una donna, che era professoressa, ha detto che "conosce" Calvin, Zwingli e altri riformatori!

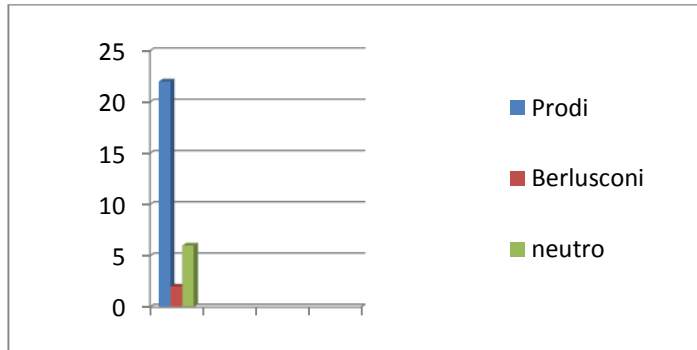


Prima che abbiamo scritto il questionario abbiamo parlato di Giuliemo Tell nel Tedesco, allora abbiamo pensato che chiediamo il nome del eroe nazionale della Svizzera. C'erano alcuni che l'hanno saputo, ma la più parte non ha detto niente.



## Il Nazionalismo degli Italiani

1. Siete contenti dell' elezione di Prodi?



2. Chi era Garibaldi? Era un eroe? Se sì perché?

La maggioranza della gente sa chi è Garibaldi e viene considerato un eroe per quello che ha fatto. Certi conoscevano il nome, sapevano che era un gran uomo ma non cos' ha fatto.

3. Cosa è importante della storia italiana? – culmine? – periodo più nero?

Culmine: Gli ultimi 50 anni

Periodo più nero: seconda guerra mondiale, fascismo

4. Perché l' Italia è importante per il mondo?

E stato detto: la bellezza, le spiagge, il vino, la cultura, il cibo, il mare

5. Descriva l'italiano tipico:

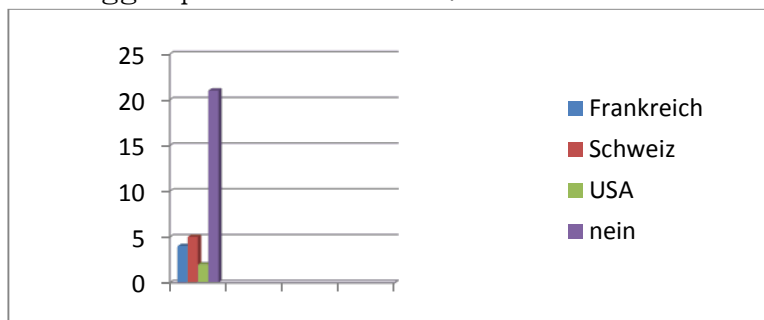
Tifoso, aperto, patriota, familiare,

6. E orgoglioso di essere italiano?

La maggioranza ha detto sì, per certi non è importante.

7. Si può immaginare di emigrare in un altro paese? Perché sì perchè no?

La maggioranza ama l' Italia. 2 non erano mai all'estero.



8. Cosa cambierebbe per fare l'Italia più attrattiva per turisti?

Mettere in ordine le spiagge e fare delle attrazioni.

9. Quale è la differenza fra un italiano e uno svizzero?

Hanno detto che gli svizzeri sono più precisi e puntuali. Ma gli italiani non sono così complicati, più furbi e crezzo.

10. E contenta dei campionati mondiali? Pensa che l' Italia vince il mondiale? Tutti attendono con tensione i mondiali. Un paio di tifosi fanatici hanno detto che l' Italia vincerà il mondiale. Gli altri però hanno detto che l' Italia verrà eliminata alla fase preliminare.





## The Italian school system

To find out something about the Italian school system we went to La Spezia and visited the high school (scuola superiore, liceo). We talked to a teacher and some pupils there. It's a high-standard school in the heart of La Spezia.

We also had the opportunity to participate in a lesson. Everybody was very friendly and put a lot of effort in helping us.

We also learned to know the Italian a bit better and we're glad that we could communicate even without speaking their language.

When we visited the school on Wednesday, the janitor told us that the principal wasn't accessible, so that we should come back the next day. But even then she wasn't there, so we decided to interview some students and visit a class.

We found out that they had a lot of theory and just little practical experience. Usually teachers come to the classroom, except when they want to show the students an experiment.

There are teachers who teach 2 subjects simultaneously. For example:

Biology and chemistry

Philosophy and history

Mathematics and geometry (two different subjects)

Their marking system ranges from 1 to 10 and the sufficient mark is a 6.

If one has more than three "5's" in his report card, teachers may decide to let him repeat a class. But they can compensate their marks one on one. That means if someone has a 5, he can compensate it with a 7.

They have Italian, history, philosophy, Greek, Latin and English as main subjects and 5 – 6 other subjects which depend on their profile selection.

Each subject is tested by three hours written and two hours oral examinations.

In their maturity examination every subject of the last year is tested in depth.

The students live up to 20kms away from the school.

Because the class we visited was in the last year, they had a lot of homework, about 5 hours a day.

We also interviewed some students because we wanted to have some opinions from themselves. These are the summed up answers

## Interview

How long do you attend school?

5 years elementary school, 3 years medium school and then 5 years mid-school.

How long is your school day?

8h-13h, 5 -6 lessons a day (10mins break in between, at 11 o'clock 15mins)

How long are your holidays?

3 months in summer, 20 days in December

How many subjects do you have?

10

How many foreigners are there in your class?

< 2

Do you learn foreign languages?

English, Latin, Greek, [French, Spanish -> freiwillig]

What are your maturity-tests like?

All subjects are examined

What are your normal tests like?

2 months at the end of the year do they write tests, but they can make their own timetable

Do the pupils eat at school?

No, they can go home at one o'clock

Do you have a lot of homework?

1-4 hours a day!

How many sport lessons do you have?

2h a week, they also have school teams, but it's nothing serious

## Poems

### Autumnal Breeze

Sitting on a bench of stone  
Waiting for the coming night,  
There I'm dreaming all alone  
Light and darkness are in fight.

Flowers lie in blurred green  
Sunset turns the sky to red,  
Such a pattern never seen  
Colours fade on earth instead.

Softly moves the wind my hair  
From the sea it brings the salt,  
Dreaming of the one I care  
Wondering, was it my own fault?

Garden full of ancient trees  
Tangerines hanging on their branches,  
Leaves, that rustle in the breeze  
Falling onto marble benches.

In my hand a glass of wine  
Thoughts now fade with every sip,  
Memories, though, stay in my mind  
Like a never sinking ship.

High above the living race  
Isolated on an hill,  
See in everything her grace  
She'll come back, I hope so still.

Coldness comes, the night is here  
Enchanting light the moon does spread,  
Loneliness is what I fear  
I hear the words, she never said.

*Selina, Nadja, Regula*

Poem by Rahel, Manuela St., Fabienne M. & Alexandra

Early woken up on this cloudy day  
So sad I had to say  
I want to be on a sunny beach  
That I've managed to reach

Enjoying the endless sound of the sea  
My soul changed to liberty  
Followed by the secret ocean  
Resulting in unique emotion

I could still feel the same  
When the darkness came  
Moon and stars were shining bright  
Together with the glowworm light

Foaming waves slapping the bay  
Showing a better way  
Then my wishes became true  
In the ocean's blue

I wanted to spread my wings to fly  
Looking at the cloudless sky  
A marvellous picture to never forget  
Memories kept in a net



# Ode to the bay

By Andrea and Murielle

I know a place where I'd like to be,  
The silent bay of Lerici.  
No human being can be found,  
No matter where we look around.

The power of waves breaks at the cliffs,  
That's where the holy spirit lives.  
Surrounded by mighty rocks, alas,  
Reaching to the sky, not less.

How green this carpet of the trees,  
Moving slightly in the refreshing breeze.  
Blue sky smiling at your face,  
This is the key for joy and grace.

My senses dizzy burned by sun,  
I feel my destiny is done.  
The sun of wonder above my head,  
And my fears are completely dead.

Imagine destroying a place like here,  
'Tis a shame that I do fear.  
I know a place where I'd like to be,  
The silent bay of Lerici.

## Ode to the sun

Sunshine, sunshine burning bright  
`pon the sky not in the night  
Near Lerici and on the beach  
Our souls for freedom now may reach

The sand`s as white as falling snow  
And that is why we love it so  
We feel the grains below our feet  
With their agreeable glowing heat

The sun`s reflection burns the sea  
There`s no one `round, nature and me  
Our view`s lost in the distance  
We can give no resistance

The only thing we miss is this  
The man from whom to get a kiss  
As we discover him in the end  
We`re blinded by the perfect blend

A man so gorgeous God created  
Walks through the wind totally naked  
Next to him a woman appears  
Her face is all covered with tears

Her sadness comes from unknown reasons  
And it has lasted for some seasons  
Nothing could brighten up her mind  
That`s why the tears now make her blind

Now she met her "cavalier"  
Who makes her forget the fear  
They melt together in dusk`s sun  
(Then the police come and they have to run)  
But their star-crossed love has just begun

*Britta, Stephanie, Arash, Rebekka*

## *Le bellezze di San Terenzo*

*Look at this beautiful sea  
Un posto più bello non c'è  
There's no better place to be  
Per spendere la settimana di lavoro, per me*

*And when my feet feel the fine sand  
Per capire questo è quasi impossibile  
If you don't feel it with your hand  
È una bellezza quasi incredibile*

*Also the water is not really cold  
Quando la sento con i miei piedi  
I believe it's here I want to grow old  
Ma era solo un sogno, ti chiedi?*

*But look at this sea, it is a real hit  
È così bello, verde e blu  
And of its beauty it is only a bit  
In realtà si vede tanto di più*

*Practical to refresh of course  
Sono i gelati speciali di qui  
I don't know the recipe's source  
C'è tutto, fragola, nocciola e kiwi*

*Everywhere the food is well-known  
Pizza, Risotto, Pasta o Pesce  
All three plates, just for our own  
E dopo aver mangiato si esce*

*Everything will remain in our mind  
Il sole, il mare e tutto il resto  
The great gardens and bays of every kind  
E so che qui ritornerò presto*

*Julia, Katharina, Fabienne, Laura*

## *The woman who walked into the sea*

*Standing at the beach  
Starring at the sea  
Blended by the sun  
Reflecting in her eyes  
The sound of broken waves  
Makes her wanna be  
Swimming in the sea  
Wouldn't it be nice*

*Wind makes dance her hair  
Around her lovely face  
Sand below her feet  
Playing 'round her toes  
Gulls are singing sweet  
Describe that perfect place  
Scent of salty water  
Reaching to her nose*

*One step into the wet  
But wait it is too cold  
No, it's pleasing though  
And so she's walking on  
Waves around her knees  
But deeper step by step  
And never stop at all  
So she swims alone*

*Diving in the sea  
Like flying in the sky  
Now the sun has set  
Darkness comes to be  
Still she's swimming on  
Feeling light and high  
In the magic sea  
To eternity*

*Manuela K., Franziska*