# **ORVIETO**THE TOWN WHERE I LIVE



I. C. Orvieto - Montecchio









Dipartimento per la Programmazione Direzione Generale per interventi in materia di edilizia scolatica, per la gestione dei fendi strutturali per l'istruzione e per l'innovazione digitale Ufficio IV

MIUR

PON 1953/2017

## THE STUDENTS

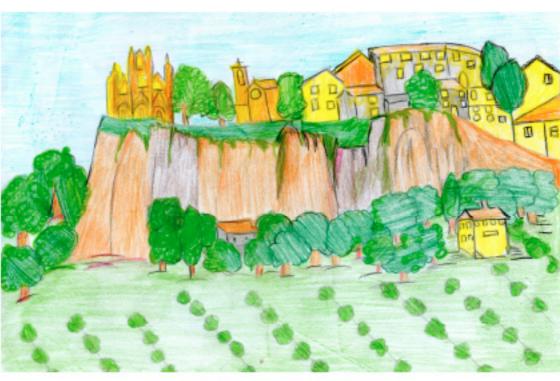
Sara Cencioni Maria Elisa Leonte Gilda Montanari Michele Stratu Margherita Cesari Sofia Magnasciutto Edoardo Nuccioni Tommaso Taddei Lavinia Frosoni Eleonora Mancini Cristiano Pedichini Marzio Testa Martina Grassini Giulia Mandanici Greta Retini Lorenzo Trippini Nicholas Iversa Benedetta Mauti Lavinia Rocchi Sofia Zeno Sara Khalil Denise Menna Agnese Sorbini





## THE TEACHERS

Miriam Picciolini (esperto) Patrizia Forbicioni (tutor)







## **GEOGRAPHICAL POSITION**







## **HOW TO GET TO THE TOWN**

#### By Car

It is simple: from the A1 motorway take the exit at the Orvieto toll booth, and follow the signs for the center, which is about 4.5 km from the motorway. The city is located about 1 hour drive from Rome and 1 hour and 40 minutes from Florence. Another way to reach Orvieto is by the Via Cassia, the old Roman road passing through Buonviaggio-Villanova along a route with a panoramic view of the city.



#### By Train

Orvieto is located on the Rome-Florence-Milan line and accessible by train. The train station, bus station and the funicular are all located in Piazzale Matteotti in Orvieto Scalo. Orvieto train station is on a main route that travels from Rome to Milan. Moreover, from the city, you can take the train to Rome (1 hour) and to Florence (2 hours).



#### By Funicular

The funicular stations are in Piazza Matteotti (right across from the train station) and in Piazza Cahen (in the city center). The funicular takes you to the center of Orvieto in a few minutes, and once you get to Piazza Cahen you can take the local buses that stop in the main squares and streets. This system has been used for a long time.



## **OUR ANCESTORS**

The origin of the Orvieto rock is due to ancient volcanic activity. It is believed that the rock on which the city of Orvieto rises was formed by the material erupted by the volcano, the crater of which is now the lake of Bolsena.

#### The Etruscan period

Beginning in the 9th century B.C. the
Etruscan civilization experienced a period
of great splendor and importance. Orvieto
was the most important town of the vast
territory of Etruria. The Etruscans inhabited
the town up to the 3rd century B.C. The
Etruscan name of Orvieto was Velzna.
The most important witnesses of the
Etruscan civilization are the necropolises,
also called "cities of the dead".





## YOU CAN WRITE YOUR NAME IN ETRUSCAN! Find the Etruscan letters that match the letters in your name. Remember that Etruscan was ususally written from right to left, the opposite of the way English is written.

ENGLISH	Α	В	С	Ch	D	E	F	G	Н	I	J	K	L	М	N
ETRUSCAN	A	8	1	Ψ	1	1	8	7		1	1	K	1	M	Ч
ENGLISH	0	P	Ph	0	R	s	<b>-</b>	Th		v	w	х	Υ	7	

## **OUR ANCESTORS**

#### The Roman period (264 B.C.)

The Romans forced the Etruscans out of the city of Orvieto and relocated them in Novi Velzna (known today as Bolsena). Today there are only some traces of the existence of the Roman civilization in Orvieto: Ponte Giulio in Allerona Scalo, and a river port (Porto di Pagliano) near Corbara, and other sites.





#### The Middle Ages

The Middle Ages (Medieval period) was an important period for the city of Orvieto. In 1200 A.D. Orvieto was a powerful city-state, and it controlled the surrounding territories. In this period the city was called Urbs Vetus (old town), from which the current name of Orvieto originates. The Palazzo del Capitano del Popolo, the Palazzo Comunale, and the Torre del Moro were also built in this period.









## THE CATHEDRAL

In 1262 Pope Urban IV lived in Orvieto because it was safer than in Rome. He commissioned the construction of the Duomo to be built alongside his palace (1290).

## The cathedral facade is a Gothic masterpiece in mosaic and marble.

The three-gable design is attributed to Maitani. The most exciting and eye-catching part is its golden facade, decorated by large bas-reliefs and statues with the symbols (Angel, Ox, Lion, Eagle) of the Evangelists (respectively, Matthew, Luke, Mark, John). The facade was designed by Maitani (1325 to 1330). The symbols stand on the cornice above the bas-reliefs on the piers. The bas-reliefs depict biblical stories from the Old and New Testament.



#### The Rose Window.

The Rose Window was created by Andrea di Cione, also known as Orcagna (1354-1380). The face of Christ the Redeemer is in the center, surrounded by figures of apostles and saints.





## THE CATHEDRAL: THE CHAPELS





#### **Chapel of the Corporal**

The Chapel was built between 1350 and 1356 to house the stained Corporal of the Miracle of Bolsena, that occurred in 1263, when a Bohemian priest, in doubt about the doctrine of Transubstantiation, reported bleeding from the host he had consecrated at Mass. The "Cappella del Corporale" lies on the left side of the main crossing.



Chapel of San Brizio (The Damned). Luca Signorelli (Cortona: 1450-1523)

## FROM THE MIDDLE AGES TO THE RENAISSANCE (1300-1600)





#### Saint Patrick's Well.

After the "Sack of Rome" (1527), Pope Clement VII took refuge in Orvieto. He commissioned Antonio da Sangallo the Younger to build the well to serve as water supply in case of siege. The well was finished in 1537.



#### The Albornoz fortress.

The construction of the fortress was begun in 1359 by order of the Spanish Cardinal Egidio Albornoz, under Pope Innocent VI. The fortress was completed by Popes Paul II and Urban VIII (1620).



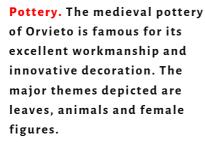






## **CRAFTS**







Wood. The unique Pinewood objects such as dolls, marionettes and rocking horses are sold in several local shops.



Leather. Artisan leather shops are in the historic center. Handcrafted bags and accessories are exclusively in leather.



Irish lace (merletto d'Irlanda).
The decorative motifs find
inspiration in the bas-reliefs of
the facade of the Cathedral.

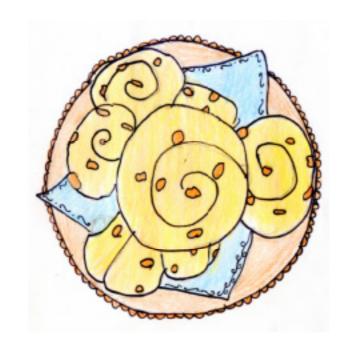
## **FEASTS**

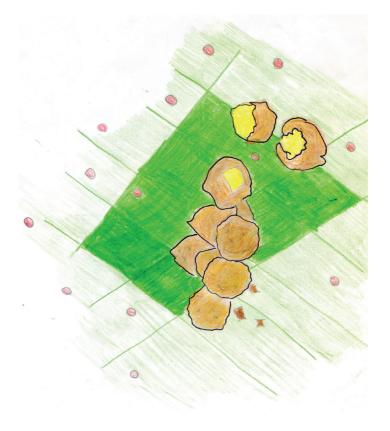


La Palombella. It is a traditional feast that takes place on Pentecost. A dove representing the Holy Spirit is sent in a special carrier from Via Maitani to the square in front of the Cathedral.



Corpus Domini (or Corpus Christi). It is celebrated every year on the 2nd Sunday after Pentecost. A Procession, consisting of 400 participants, represents the history, culture and traditions of what was once the Medieval Comune.





## RECIPES

#### Le Lumachelle

Ingredients

500 g flour, 100 g grated pecorino, 1 tbsp olive oil, 200 ml warm water, 20 g lard, salt & pepper to taste, 180 g diced pancetta (bacon), 20 g yeast.

Place the flour in a large bowl and dissolve the yeast in the water. Add to flour and knead for at least 15 minutes. Add salt, pepper and pecorino cheese and knead the dough again. Finally add the lard and oil, and mix again. Cover and let rise for 1 hour. Add the diced pancetta. Divide the dough into balls of 50 grams each. Roll each ball into 1 cm thick long ropes. Spiral the ropes in a snail (lumachella) shape. Arrange on a large baking sheet covered with parchment paper and let rise for another 20 minutes. Preheat the oven to 190°C and bake for approximately 10 minutes. Lower to 150°C and bake for 20 minutes. Traditionally this recipe makes 24 snails.



#### Le Frittelle di San Giuseppe

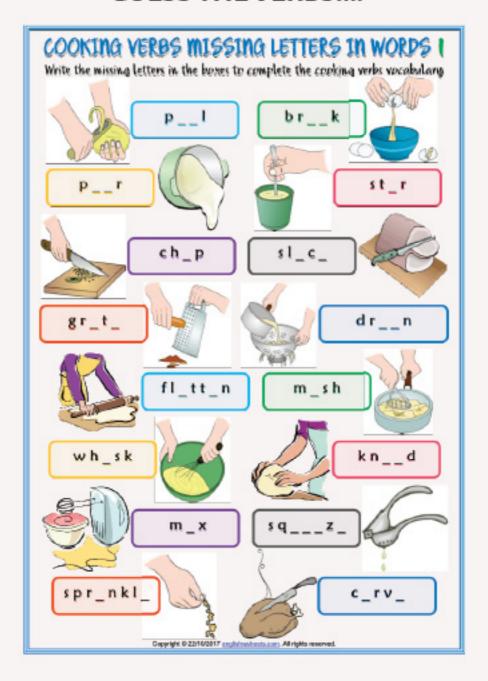
Ingredients

500 g rice, the zest of 1 lemon, 1 envelope baking powder, ¼ liter milk; a handful of raisins, 1 small glass of rum, 100 g sugar, ground cinnamon, confectioner sugar,

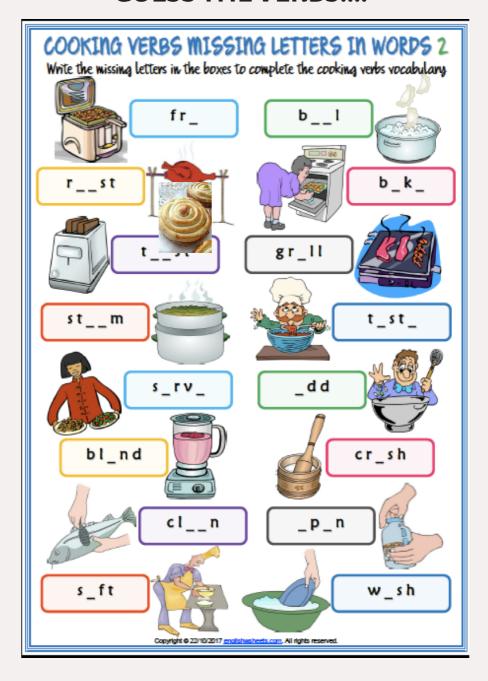
3 eggs, 200 g flour, oil for frying.

In a saucepan, cook the rice in milk over low heat, adding a pinch of salt. If necessary, gradually add more milk. Once done, leave to cool and add the eggs, sugar, flour, baking powder, cinnamon, raisins, lemon zests, rum. Stir well and let rest for about 1 hour. Prepare the oil in a deep wide pan for frying, and when hot drop spoonfuls of the mixture into the oil. When the fritters are golden brown they are done. Drain on absorbent paper, sprinkle with sugar and serve.

## **GUESS THE VERBS....**



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### STUDENTS' TIPS FOR TOURISTS

I want to tell you about Orvieto, more precisely about the Medieval period. The Middle Ages took place from 1200 to 1400. Many monuments were built, for example the huge, expensive and picturesque Cathedral and the Torre del Moro. You can't miss them!

(Nicholas Iversa)

I suggest you visit the Tempietto del Belvedere if you find yourself in Orvieto. It is very beautiful, and is between the Funicular and Piazza Cahen (Cristiano Pedichini)

If you like shopping, visit and buy pinewood objects and leather bags in several local shops of Orvieto! (Lavinia Rocchi)

On March 19th we celebrate our Patron Saint Joseph. On this occasion people usually prepare fritters. These are typical sweets and I really advice you to try them! (Eleonora Mancini)

I suggest that you take the Funicular, because it's faster than the car. The ticket costs only £1.30. The Funicular station is in Piazza Matteotti, right across from the train station (Marzio Testa)

If I were you I wouldn't miss the Palombella festival. This event takes place on Pentecost. It is very fascinating and the Duomo square is bustling! (Gilda Montanari)

If you are in Orvieto in December you can't miss Umbria Jazz Winter. It attracts a lot of tourists, is beautiful, very popular and worldwide (Edoardo Nuccioni)

If I were you I would visit the four districts of Orvieto. They are: Serancia, Corsica, Olmo and S. Maria della Stella (Michele Stratu)

Why don't you go and admire the Rose window? It is on the facade of the Cathedral and it's simply wonderful! Look carefully! In the middle there is the face of the Redeemer!

(Margherita Cesari)

If I were you I'd go and see the San Brizio Chapel, located inside the Cathedral and full of colourful frescoes. The artist was Luca Signorelli (Giulia Mandanici)

You can't miss Saint Patrick's well. Visit it on March 17th, because on Saint Patrick's day it is lit by a fascinating green light! But watch out! The steps are 248!" (Lavinia Frosoni)

I suggest the Facade of the Cathedral because its mosaics depict the major scenes from the life of the Virgin Mary. The most exciting and eye-catching part is its golden facade (Martina Grassini)

If I were you I would visit the" Pozzo della Cava". At Christmas time the Nativity is set up in the well. This event is really beautiful and awesome! (Sara Cencioni)

You can't miss Orvieto pottery and Irish lace because their decorative motifs find inspiration from the bas-reliefs of the facade of the Cathedral and they are simply excellent! (Greta Retini)

I suggest you visit the" Pozzo della Cava" because it is a charming place. Its origins are Etruscan. A lot of interesting everyday objects have been found inside it (Tommaso Taddei)

Why don't you taste the Lumachelle? They are called this way because their shape is similar to snails. You just need: flour, bacon, oil, pecorino cheese, pepper, lard and yeast. They are really good! (Agnese Sorbini)

I think the best monument to visit is undoubtedly the Cathedral. The facade is gorgeous but also the exterior is amazing, with its white and black stripes! (Benedetta Mauti)

You have to know that in Orvieto, two weeks after the Pentecost, we celebrate Corpus Domini. It is a spectacular procession that represents the Middle Ages. There are 400 participants (Sofia Magnasciutto)

If I were you I'd visit the Chapel of the Corporal. It was built to house the stained Corporal of the miracle of Bolsena (Lorenzo Trippini)

Do you know that the Romans conquered Orvieto? They destroyed a lot.

"Ponte Giulio" and "Porto di Pagliano" go back to the Roman period (Denise Menna)

I would advise you to visit the Etruscan tombs. These are small attached houses. The name of the dead person is written over each door (Sara Khalil)

If I were you I would visit Orvieto because its origins are very ancient. The cliff is 325 meters high and it is 1500 meters wide. The cliff has volcanic origins and it is made of tufa (Maria Elisa Leonte)

I suggest you visit the Albornoz fortress. It was built by order of the Spanish Cardinal Albornoz in 1364. It houses public gardens. Today a portion of it still stands with a tower overlooking one of the ancient entrances to the city (Sofia Zeno)





