VOL. 3 WEEKLY IN ENGLISH Ogni settimana Di che cosa parla il mondo anglofono WEEK OF NOVEMBER 9 TO 15, 2026

The Lucerna

SETTIMANALE IN INGLESE VOL.3 COMMEMORAZIONE FOOTBALL FILM

TESTI IN INGLESE SPIEGAZIONI IN ITALIANO — L'EDIZIONE PER I LETTORI ITALIANI

ELEVEN ELEVEN — AND TWO MINUTES OF SILENCE !

Wednesday, November 11, at 11 a.m., Britain, Canada, Australia and America stop for two minutes.

11 novembre, ore 11

Veterans Day Remembrance Day Vedi pagina 2

THE BIG STORY Titolo

Eleven Eleven : The Two Minutes When the English-Speaking World Stops

By The Lucerna newsroom Reading level : A2

On Wednesday, November 11, at eleven o'clock in the morning, something quiet happens across the English-speaking world. In London, Ottawa, Canberra and Washington, people stop what they are doing, and for two minutes they stand still and say nothing. It is the two-minute silence – for the soldiers who died in war, and for all who served.

The date is not an accident. At 11 a.m. on November 11, 1918, the guns of the First World War fell silent. The armistice – the agreement to stop fighting – began at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. In Britain it is Remembrance Day ; in the United States, Veterans Day, for all who served.

The symbol is the poppy, a small red flower. Poppies grew on the battlefields of Flanders, where so many soldiers died. People wear a paper poppy in November, to help veterans and their families. In London, the King leads the National Act of Remembrance at the Cenotaph in Whitehall – the monument to the dead with no grave of their own.

This week is full of other dates too. On Friday, November 13, the BBC's Children in Need appeal fills British television, and a new Scrooge comes to the cinema. On Sunday, November 15, American football comes to Munich, tennis opens its season finale in Turin, and England play Spain in Madrid.

And one promise from last issue : the midterm election results. This issue went to press on November 2, before the November 3 vote – so it prints no results, and invents none. Page 6 explains why counting takes time. Welcome back to VOL.3 !

Spiegazione | an armistice = l'armistizio • a veteran = un veterano • to fall silent = cadere nel silenzio.

THE WEEK IN NUMBERS In cifre

11 nov, 11:00 – the silence (il silenzio) · 1918 – the armistice (l'armistizio)

13 nov (ven.) – Children in Need + Ebenezer · 15 nov (dom.) – NFL Monaco + ATP Finals

TRY IT NOW Prova subito

A2 1.
The fighting stopped with an ___ in 1918.

A2 2.
A ___ is a person who served in the armed forces.

A2 3.
The silence is on Wednesday, ___.

A2 4.
People wear a red ___ in November.

B1 5.
At 11 a.m., the guns fell ___.

B1 6.
The silence lasts ___ minutes.

SEARCHES OF THE WEEK

Ricerche della settimana Google Trends

1. veterans day
2. nfl munich
3. ebenezer
4. children in need
5. atp finals

Snapshots, early November : search interest changes during the day.

Popolarità relativa, non numeri esatti.

IN THIS ISSUE Sommario

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THE WORD OF THE WEEK

« remembrance »
the act of remembering those who died in war.

Ricordo. Remembrance = giorno del ricordo.



A field of poppies, painted by Claude Monet. The poppy is the flower of remembrance : it grew on the battlefields of Flanders, and it is worn every November.

Claude Monet — public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

FOUR COUNTRIES, ONE MINUTE

One silence, four names. In the United States it is Veterans Day. In Britain it is Remembrance Day. In Canada and Australia, the name is the same too – with the same poppy and the same 11 a.m. silence.

Remember on Wednesday, laugh on Friday, watch sport on Sunday. See you on page 2 !

IN BRIEF In breve

ELECTION
Nov 3 : Americans voted. Press time Nov 2 : no results, none invented. (p. 6)

SILENCE
Wed, Nov 11, 11 a.m. : two minutes of silence in Britain, Canada, Australia, US. (p. 2)

MUNICH
Sunday, November 15 : Patriots–Lions, Allianz Arena, Munich, 3:30 p.m. (p. 4)

LIGHTNING QUIZ Quiz lampo

Leggi pagina 1, scegli la risposta giusta Risposte a pagina 8

A2 7.
The two-minute silence is on... A. November 13 · B. Wednesday, November 11 · C. November 15

A2 8.
The armistice began in... A. 1914 · B. 1939 · C. 1918

A2 9.
People wear... A. a red poppy · B. a white hat · C. a blue ribbon

A2 10.
The NFL game in Munich is on... A. Friday · B. Sunday, November 15 · C. Tuesday

Wednesday, November 11 : Two Minutes That Stop a Country

By The Lucerna newsroom Reading level : A2

On Wednesday, November 11, at 11 a.m., Britain stops. Buses stop. Shops go quiet. In schools, children stand still. For two minutes, nobody speaks. The silence remembers the soldiers who died in the First World War – and in every war since.

Why eleven eleven ? The First World War ended at 11 a.m. on November 11, 1918. The armistice was signed that morning, and the guns stopped. In 1920, Britain built the Cenotaph in Whitehall, London – a stone monument with no body inside it, for all the dead. Every year since, people have gathered there.

In Canada, Australia and New Zealand, the day is the same : Remembrance Day, the same poppy, the same silence at 11 a.m. In the United States, November 11 is Veterans Day – a day for all veterans, living and dead. The names are different. The silence is the same.

The poppy is small, red and paper. Volunteers sell it on streets and in shops, and the money helps veterans and their families. Many people wear it on the left, near the heart – and they wear it all through November, until the day itself is past.

And what about the weekend just gone ? On Sunday, November 8, it was Remembrance Sunday in Britain – the main ceremony, three days before Armistice Day itself. And in India and in Indian homes around the world, Sunday, November 8, was Diwali, the festival of lights : a five-day festival of lamps, sweets and family, with the main night on Sunday. Two festivals of light and memory, one weekend – both just passed, not coming.

This week looks forward too. On Wednesday, November 11, shoppers mark Singles' Day – 11.11, the biggest online shopping day in China, now copied around the world. On Friday, November 13, Britain's Children in Need appeal takes over television. Page 5 has the story of Pudsey the bear.

ELEVEN ELEVEN Undici e undici

11 a.m. on the 11th day of the 11th month : the eleventh hour. Two minutes of silence – 120 seconds. Tradition says the first minute is for the dead, the second for the living who came home.

WHAT IS ON THIS WEEK ?

Second story of the week – and it is on your screen. On Friday, November 13, two films open : « Ebenezer », a dark new Scrooge from Dickens, and « How to Rob a Bank », a heist comedy. One ghost story, one bank story – and both for a Friday night out.

On television, the week is just as full. The Children in Need appeal show is live on Friday night, and the ATP Finals begin in Turin on Sunday. Page 3 has the film guide, page 4 the sport.

How do you say the time of the silence ? « At eleven o'clock – eleven eleven. » is the sentence of the week. The phrase box below shows three ways to say it.

Nota — a silence = il silenzio • an armistice = l'armistizio • a poppy = il papavero • a veteran = un veterano.



The Cenotaph in Whitehall, London, at its unveiling on November 11, 1920. More than a century later, the same stone is still the centre of Britain's Remembrance Sunday.

Horace Nicholls — public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

DID YOU KNOW ?

The Cenotaph was unveiled on November 11, 1920 – two years after the armistice.

The two-minute silence is held at 11 a.m. on November 11 in Britain, Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

Diwali's main night was Sunday, November 8 : lamps, sweets and family, on the darkest night of the lunar month.

AND YOU ? E tu ?

And you ? Do you wear a poppy in November ? What does your country do on November 11 ? Write two sentences in English for VOL.4.

Che cosa fa il tuo paese l'11 novembre? Scrivi due frasi in inglese alla redazione.

SAY IT : ELEVEN ELEVEN Dire l'ora

The silence, in three sentences Il silenzio in tre frasi

At eleven o'clock.
Le 11 del mattino.

Two minutes of silence.
Due minuti di silenzio.

We will remember them.
Li ricorderemo.

- **remember** = to keep in your mind (ricordare)
- **silent** = saying nothing (stare in silenzio)
- **to honour** = to show respect (rispetto)
- **a ceremony** = a formal event (una cerimonia)

This week : on Wednesday, November 11, at 11 a.m., the silence begins. Two minutes – for the dead, and for all who served.

EXERCISES Esercizi di pagina 2

Risposte a pagina 8 Cerca per numero

A THE DATE

Completa le frasi secondo data e ora.

A2 11. Completa
The silence begins at ___ o'clock.

A2 12. Completa
Remembrance Day is on 11 ___.

A2 13. Completa
The silence lasts ___ minutes.

A2 14. Completa
People wear a red ___ in November.

A2 15. Completa
The armistice began in ___.

B WILL

Riscrivi con will + verbo (promesse).

A2 16. Riscrivi
They (remember) them. → ___

A2 17. Riscrivi
She (wear) a poppy. → ___

A2 18. Riscrivi
We (stand) still. → ___

B1 19. Riscrivi
They (watch) the ceremony ? → ___

C COMPREHENSION

Leggi pagina 2, scegli la risposta giusta.

A2 20.
The silence begins at... A. 10 a.m. · B. 11 a.m. · C. noon

A2 21.
The Cenotaph was unveiled in... A. 1918 · B. 1919 · C. 1920

A2 22.
Diwali's main night was... A. Sun, Nov 8 · B. Wed, Nov 11 · C. Fri, Nov 13

A2 23.
In the US, November 11 is... A. Remembrance Day · B. Veterans Day · C. Singles' Day

D THE WORDS

A2 24–27. Abbina

24. a poppy
25. an armistice
26. a veteran
27. a ceremony

a. a red flower worn in November
b. an agreement to stop fighting
c. a person who served in the forces
d. a formal public event

Friday Night at the Movies : Scrooge Comes Early

By The Lucerna newsroom Reading level : A2 → B1

On Friday, November 13, a ghost comes to the cinema – early. « Ebenezer » is a dark new telling of Charles Dickens's « A Christmas Carol », with Johnny Depp as Ebenezer Scrooge, the miser who hates Christmas. Christmas is still six weeks away. The film does not wait.

Dickens wrote the story in 1843, in London. Scrooge is visited in one night by three ghosts : the Ghost of Christmas Past, the Ghost of Christmas Present, and the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come. By morning, the cold old man is warm again. The book made Christmas what it is in Britain – and the films keep remaking it.

The second film of the week is very different. « How to Rob a Bank » is a heist comedy : bank robbers who film their crimes and post them online. The police follow the likes. It is fast, funny and very 2026 – crime as content.

Which film would you choose ? A ghost story in Dickens's London, or a bank story on today's internet ? In our newsroom, the vote is split again – half for the ghost, half for the bank. Tell us your choice on page 7.

COMING SOON Prossimamente

Fri Nov 20 – « The Hunger Games : Sunrise on the Reaping » opens in cinemas. Fri Nov 27 – Disney's « Hexed » arrives.

Sun Nov 15 – the ATP Finals begin in Turin. Fri Nov 13 – Children in Need, live from Salford.

One week, one screen, many stories – and Christmas is coming, one film at a time.

A film is not only a story – it is also English practice. Listen for three things : the catchphrase (the line everybody repeats), the joke (why does the room laugh ?), and the ending (happy, sad, or open ?). After the film, try to tell the story in five English sentences.

And if you stay at home, the same rule works for a series : one episode, five sentences, in English. The best five-sentence reviews will be printed in VOL.4 – send yours to the newsroom.

Nota — a miser = un avaro • a ghost = un fantasma • a heist = una rapina • yet to come = ancora da venire.

A COMPREHENSION

Leggi pagina 3, scegli la risposta giusta.

A2 28.
« Ebenezer » opens on… A. November 11 · B. Friday, November 13 · C. November 15

A2 29.
Scrooge is played by… A. Johnny Depp · B. Charles Dickens · C. John Leech

A2 30.
Dickens wrote the story in… A. 1918 · B. 1920 · C. 1843

B1 31.
Scrooge is visited by… A. one ghost · B. three ghosts · C. five ghosts

B1 32.
In « How to Rob a Bank », the robbers… A. post their crimes online · B. rob a ghost · C. hate Christmas

B1 33.
« The Hunger Games : Sunrise on the Reaping » opens on… A. November 13 · B. November 15 · C. November 20

B SENTENCES

Completa le frasi con le parole.

A2 34. Completa
The film ___ on Friday, November 13.

A2 35. Completa
Scrooge is a ___ who hates Christmas.

B1 36. Completa
In our newsroom, the vote is ___ : half ghost, half bank.

B1 37. Completa
Marley's ___ visits Scrooge at night.

C THE WORDS

A2 38–41. Abbina

38. a miser
39. a ghost
40. a heist
41. a catchphrase

a. a line everybody repeats
b. a person who loves money and hates spending it
c. the spirit of a dead person
d. a robbery, usually of a bank

D PAST SIMPLE

Riscrivi al passato semplice (cose già accadute).

A2 42. Riscrivi
Dickens (write) the story in 1843. → ___

A2 43. Riscrivi
The ghosts (visit) Scrooge in one night. → ___

B1 44. Riscrivi
Scrooge (become) warm again by morning. → ___

B1 45. Riscrivi
She (choose) the ghost story. → ___



A ghost in art : Marley's Ghost visits Scrooge, in John Leech's illustration for Dickens's « A Christmas Carol » (1843). Not film art – but this week, every ghost is a star.
John Leech — public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

SCROOGE'S NIGHT La notte

Three ghosts, one night : Past, Present, and Yet to Come. By morning, Scrooge is a new man – and Christmas is saved, six weeks early.

FIVE SENTENCES

After any film or episode, tell the story in five English sentences : who, where, what happened, the surprise, the ending. Five sentences are enough – and they are excellent practice.

Example : « A ghost comes to a house. A miser is cold and alone. Three ghosts visit him. He sees his past, his present and his future. Then he is warm again. » Now it is your turn.

Cinque frasi | who, where, cosa è successo, la svolta, la fine: cinque frasi bastano.

Sunday in Munich, Turin and Madrid

By The Lucerna newsroom Reading level : B1

Sunday, November 15, is the biggest sports day of the autumn. Three cities, three sports, one Sunday – and American football in the home of Bayern Munich.

In Munich, the NFL plays at the Allianz Arena : the Detroit Lions, the home team, against the New England Patriots. The game starts at 3:30 p.m. local time – 9:30 a.m. in New York. It is the Lions' first game in Germany, and a special game for their German-American star, Amon-Ra St. Brown, whose mother is German. The game is part of NFL Week 10, and it is the week's most talked-about fixture.

Back in the United States, Week 10 continues the same day : the Chiefs play the Falcons in Atlanta, the Vikings play the Packers at Lambeau Field, and the 49ers play the Cowboys in Arlington. The week began on Thursday, November 12, with the Commanders at the Giants, and ends on Monday, November 16, with the Chargers at the Ravens.

In Turin, Italy, tennis begins its season finale : the ATP Finals, from Sunday, November 15, to Sunday, November 22. The eight best singles players of the year play in two groups of four, and the final is on November 22. The field was settled on Monday, November 9, after the Paris Masters.

And in Madrid, football takes the stage : Spain play England in the Nations League on Sunday night, three days after England play Croatia at Wembley on Thursday, November 12. Scotland play North Macedonia at Hampden Park on Friday, November 13. One Sunday is not enough – good thing the week has seven days.

WHY MUNICH ? Perché Monaco?

The NFL plays games outside the United States every year, so new fans can see the sport live. Munich hosted NFL games in 2022 and 2024, and will host again in 2028. This year there are nine international games in all – a record.

How do you follow three sports in one day ? Choose one game to watch fully, and follow the others on your phone. That is the modern fan : one screen for the game, one screen for the scores.

The Allianz Arena holds 70,000 people – bigger than most NFL stadiums. And next week ? The Ashes begin : Australia against England in the first Test in Perth, from Saturday, November 21. Cricket's oldest rivalry, back in Australia. The weekend starts on Sunday – and it does not stop.

Nota — a fixture = una partita (del calendario) • a group = un girone • a finale = la finale • a star = una stella.

A COMPREHENSION

Leggi pagina 4, scegli la risposta giusta.

B1 46.
In Munich, the Lions play… A. the Patriots · B. the Falcons · C. Bayern Munich

B1 47.
The Munich game starts at… A. 9:30 a.m. Munich time · B. 7:45 p.m. · C. 3:30 p.m. local time

B1 48.
The ATP Finals are in… A. Paris · B. Turin · C. Madrid

B1 49.
England play Croatia on… A. Thursday, November 12 · B. Friday, November 13 · C. Sunday, November 15

B1 50.
Scotland play… A. Spain · B. Croatia · C. North Macedonia

B1 51.
Week 10 ends with… A. Commanders at Giants · B. Chargers at Ravens · C. 49ers at Cowboys

B SENTENCES

Completa le frasi con le parole.

B1 52. Completa
The Allianz Arena ___ the NFL on Sunday.

B1 53. Completa
The ATP Finals ___ on Sunday, November 15.

A2 54. Completa
The Allianz Arena is ___ than most NFL stadiums.

A2 55. Completa
___ singles players play in Turin.

C THE WORDS

B1 56–59. Abbina

56. a fixture
57. a group
58. a finale
59. a star

a. a famous player, loved by the fans
b. a game in a season's schedule
c. the last event of a season
d. a small set of players who play each other

D PAST SIMPLE

Riscrivi al Past Simple (per partite finite).

B1 60. Riscrivi
The Lions (play) in Munich on Sunday. → ___

B1 61. Riscrivi
She (watch) the tennis in Turin. → ___

B1 62. Riscrivi
They (follow) the scores on their phones. → ___

B1 63. Riscrivi
He (choose) one game to watch fully. → ___



American football in 1910 : Miami against Wittenberg. The helmets were leather, the fields were mud – but the game was already America's game. This week, the game goes to Munich.
Frank R. Snyder — public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15 Domenica

NFL : Patriots–Lions, Munich (Allianz Arena), 3:30 p.m. local time.

ATP Finals begin, Turin. Nations League : Spain–England, Madrid, 7:45 p.m.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12 : England–Croatia, Wembley. FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13 : Scotland–North Macedonia, Hampden.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16 : Chargers–Ravens close NFL Week 10.

ONE SCREEN, TWO SCREENS

The modern fan watches one game fully and follows the others on a phone. Try it in English : « The score is 14–10. » « Who scored ? » « Munich is winning ! » – short sentences, live English.

Inglese del calcio | punteggio, chi ha segnato, chi è in vantaggio: le frasi brevi sono l'inglese in diretta.

Friday, November 13 : Pudsey, 26 and Kindness

By The Lucerna newsroom Reading level : B1

On Friday, November 13, Britain turns yellow. It is the BBC Children in Need appeal show, live from Salford, on BBC One and iPlayer – a night of music, comedy and stories, to raise money for children and young people across the UK. The star is a yellow bear with a spotted bandage over one eye : Pudsey Bear.

This year's idea is simple : Challenge Yourself 2026. Take on a challenge inspired by the number 26 – 26 miles, 26 cakes, 26 songs. Run with Pudsey and Joe Wicks asks people to walk, run or roll two miles a day for two weeks, until they reach a marathon. Every mile, every pound, helps a child who needs someone by their side.

The presenters are Alex Jones, Sara Cox, Rylan and Mel Giedroyc, with Tyler West. Schools join in too : in the week of November 9, children run, bake and dress up, and the money goes to projects near their homes. One night, one bear, thousands of small challenges.

Friday, November 13, is also World Kindness Day. Kindness is the week's other word : a small act, a kind message, help for a stranger. On social media, young people post their 26 challenges with the same sentence : « Challenge yourself – and be kind. » That is the most repeated sentence of the week.

And the children ? They watch Pudsey, and they ask the best questions : « Why does Pudsey wear a bandage ? » « Can we do 26 too ? » « How much money will we raise ? » The answer to the last question is : we will know on Friday night. The total will still be there in the morning – and so will the kindness.

26, IN NUMBERS Il numero 26

26 miles is a marathon, more or less. Two miles a day adds up to 26 – that is why the number is 26. One challenge, one number, thousands of children helped.

If you want to practise Friday-night English, try this : watch ten minutes of the appeal show in English, and write down five sentences you hear. « Challenge yourself » will certainly be one of them. The other four are your homework.

Nota — an appeal = l'appello di beneficenza • a challenge = la sfida • to raise money = raccogliere fondi • kindness = la gentilezza.

A COMPREHENSION

Leggi pagina 5, scegli la risposta giusta.

B1 64.
The Children in Need appeal show is on... A. Wednesday, November 11 · B. Friday, November 13 · C. Sunday, November 15

B1 65.
Pudsey Bear is... A. a yellow bear · B. a red poppy · C. a footballer

B1 66.
Challenge Yourself 2026 is inspired by... A. 11 · B. 13 · C. 26

B1 67.
Run with Pudsey asks for... A. one mile a day · B. two miles a day · C. 26 miles a day

B1 68.
The appeal show is live from... A. Salford · B. Munich · C. Turin

B1 69.
Friday, November 13, is also... A. Veterans Day · B. Diwali · C. World Kindness Day

B SENTENCES

Completa le frasi con le parole.

B1 70. Completa
Take on a ___ inspired by 26.

B1 71. Completa
The show helps to ___ money for children.

A2 72. Completa
Be ___ : help a stranger today.

A2 73. Completa
The show is ___ from Salford.

C THE WORDS

B1 74–77. Abbina

74. an appeal
75. a challenge
76. kindness
77. a marathon

a. being kind to other people
b. a race of about 26 miles
c. a public call for help and money
d. a hard task you take on

D PRESENT CONTINUOUS

Riscrivi al Present Continuous (ciò che sta accadendo).

B1 78. Riscrivi
Children (run) two miles today. → ___

B1 79. Riscrivi
Schools (bake) 26 cakes this week. → ___

B1 80. Riscrivi
We (watch) Pudsey tonight. → ___

B1 81. Riscrivi
She (raise) money for children. → ___

FIVE SENTENCES Cinque frasi

Watch ten minutes of the appeal show in English. Write down five sentences you hear. « Challenge yourself » will be one of them.

FRIDAY-NIGHT PHRASES

« Challenge yourself ! » « Every mile helps. » « Be kind ! » – three sentences for one night. Learn them, and Friday night in English is yours.

« Every mile helps » means : each small step counts. After that sentence, the running begins – and the giving too.

Ogni miglio aiuta | Every mile helps = ogni passo conta.

MUNICH WEEKEND

After Friday, the weekend keeps going : the Lions' Fan Fest in Munich on Friday and Saturday, November 13–14, at Odeonsplatz, before Sunday's game. The weekend warms up for Munich.

After November 3 : Why the Results Take Time

By The Lucerna newsroom Reading level : B2

On Tuesday, November 3, Americans voted in the midterm election – all 435 seats in the House of Representatives, about a third of the Senate, and governorships in many states. This issue went to press on Monday, November 2, the day before the vote. That is why it prints no results. There were no results to print – and this paper invents none.

Some races are called on election night. A news organisation « calls » a race when the maths is clear : the candidate behind cannot catch up. But a call is not the official result. The official result comes later, when each state checks – the canvass – and certifies its count. States certify between November 10 and December 18, and in some states there is no fixed date at all.

Why does counting take days ? Mail ballots take time : every envelope must be opened, every signature checked. Some states count mail ballots that arrive after Election Day, if they were posted in time. In Alaska and Maine, ranked-choice voting can add rounds – and days. In Georgia and Mississippi, a Senate race with no majority winner goes to a runoff on December 1.

Leads can change as the count goes on. In some states, the votes cast on the day are counted first ; in others, mail votes come first. A candidate who leads at midnight can trail by Friday – and that is normal. It is not a sign of anything wrong. It is the system, working slowly, in public.

The last midterm, in 2022, tells the same story. The Senate was not decided until the Saturday after Election Day, and the House until the Wednesday after. Nobody knows whether this year will be faster or slower – and this paper will not guess.

A PRACTICE BALLOT Scheda

For Governor : ☐ Candidate A · ☐ Candidate B. For the House : ☐ Candidate C · ☐ Candidate D. Names are codes here – this ballot teaches how to mark, not whom to choose.

A note on numbers in this issue : this paper prints no poll figures and no predictions, and no results it cannot verify. When the verified results are in, VOL.4 will report them – who won, and what changes. Patience is part of the system, not a failure of it.

Nota — to call a race = proclamare il risultato • to certify = certificare • a runoff = il ballottaggio • patience = la pazienza.

READ THE CHART Leggi il grafico

How long did the last midterm take ? In 2022, the count ran past election night. The chart is history, not a prediction for 2026.

Senate decided : 4 days after Election Day (2022)

House decided : 8 days after Election Day (2022)

States certify : November 10 to December 18 (2026 calendar)

Runoff, if needed : December 1 (Georgia / Mississippi)

A CHART READING

Leggi il grafico storico qui sopra e scegli la risposta giusta.

B2 82.
In 2022, the Senate was decided... A. on election night · B. 4 days after Election Day · C. 18 days after

B2 83.
In 2022, the House was decided... A. 4 days after · B. 6 days after · C. 8 days after

B2 84.
States certify between... A. November 10 and December 18 · B. November 3 and 10 · C. December 1 and 31

B2 85.
A runoff, if needed, is on... A. November 10 · B. December 1 · C. December 18

B2 86.
This chart is... A. history, not a prediction · B. a prediction · C. a poll

B2 87.
The House took longer than the Senate by... A. 2 days · B. 12 days · C. 4 days

B COMPREHENSION

Leggi pagina 6, scegli la risposta giusta.

B2 88.
This issue went to press on... A. November 3 · B. November 2 · C. November 11

B2 89.
The official result comes when... A. the state certifies its count · B. TV calls the race · C. the first votes arrive

B2 90.
Counting takes time because... A. TV is slow · B. voters are late · C. mail ballots must be opened and checked

B2 91.
Ranked-choice voting is used in... A. Texas and Florida · B. Alaska and Maine · C. Ohio and Georgia

B2 92.
A lead that changes is... A. normal · B. a sign of fraud · C. impossible

B2 93.
The verified results will be reported in... A. VOL.2 · B. this issue · C. VOL.4

C SENTENCES

Completa le frasi con le parole.

B2 94. Completa
Each state must ___ its count.

B2 95. Completa
News organisations ___ a race when the maths is clear.

B2 96. Completa
___ is part of the system.

B1 97. Completa
Counting ___ time in every state.

B1 98. Completa
The rule ___ from state to state.

B1 99. Completa
A call is not the ___ result.



A voting booth in the Old State House, Hartford, Connecticut : one voter, one ballot, one private moment. On Tuesday, November 3, millions of Americans did the same.
Kenneth C. Zirkel — CC0, via Wikimedia Commons

HOW LONG ? Quanto dura?

House : 2 years, all 435 seats each midterm. Senate : 6 years, about a third each election. President : 4 years. Governor : usually 4 years.

FIFTY ELECTIONS

One country, fifty systems : that is why American election night is a map, not a single number. Learn the map, and the night makes sense.

Una mappa | Cinquanta stati, cinquanta regole: per questo la sera delle elezioni si guarda una mappa, non un numero.

LANGUAGE IN HAND La lingua in mano

LEVEL A2 Fondamenti

ELEVEN ELEVEN

« At eleven o'clock, we stop. » Eleven is the number of the week : the eleventh hour, the eleventh day, the eleventh month. Say it slowly : e-LEV-en. The silence starts at eleven – and the word is easy to remember, because the date is the word.

WILL + VERB

For a plan or a promise : « We will remember them. » will + the verb, with no change. It is the future of the week – use it for every promise of November 11.

THE EXAMPLE Esempio

« The silence will last two minutes. » – will + last (page 2).

LEVEL B1 Intermedio

COMPARATIVES

Short adjective + -er + than : « The Allianz Arena is bigger than most NFL stadiums. » Long adjective : more + adjective : « more convenient ». And good becomes better – never « more good ». The Allianz example is on page 4.

THE PAST SIMPLE

Regular verbs add -ed : remembered, watched. Irregular verbs change : write → wrote, go → went, choose → chose. Use it for what is already finished – Diwali, which was on November 8, and Bonfire Night, which was on November 5. The November 15 games are still to come at press time, so their results are not past yet.

THE EXAMPLE Esempio

« Dickens wrote the story in 1843. » – write → wrote (page 3).

LEVEL B2 Sfida

HEADLINE PRESENT

Headlines speak in the present : « Munich waits for the NFL. » The present simple makes news feel live. Read the front page again and find three present-tense verbs.

WHETHER = IF ?

« Nobody knows whether this year will be faster or slower. » Whether introduces an open question inside a sentence – more elegant than if, and safe everywhere. It is the word for counting-week uncertainty.

THE EXAMPLE Esempio

« Patience is part of the system, not a failure of it. » – part of = una parte di (page 6).

THE TOOLBOX Attrezzi

Three sentences to keep in your pocket, one for each level :

A2 – « At eleven o'clock – we stop. »

B1 – « Dickens wrote the story in 1843.»

B2 – « Nobody knows whether this year will be faster. »

And the newspaper reflex : every phrase of the week comes from an article of this issue. Re-read the article, and the phrase becomes easy.

Cassetta degli attrezzi | Tre frasi da tenere in tasca, una per livello; tutte le frasi della settimana vengono da questo numero: rileggi l'articolo e ti resteranno in mente.

PHRASES OF THE WEEK Frasi della settimana (tutte da questo numero)

Ogni frase: un punto di grammatica + un esercizio Risposte a pagina 8

« On Wednesday, November 11, at eleven o'clock in the morning, something quiet happens across the English-speaking world. » (page 1)

Grammatica | happen prende la -s alla terza persona.

A2 100.
Something quiet ___ across the world. (happen)

« At 11 a.m. on November 11, 1918, the guns of the First World War fell silent. » (page 1)

Grammatica | il passato di fall è fell.

B1 101.
The guns ___ silent in 1918. (fall)

« For two minutes, nobody speaks. » (page 2)

Grammatica | dopo nobody il verbo va al singolare.

A2 102.
For two minutes, nobody ___. (speak)

« Christmas is still six weeks away. » (page 3)

Grammatica | is = è; still = ancora.

B1 103.
Christmas ___ still six weeks away. (be)

« One Sunday is not enough – good thing the week has seven days. » (page 4)

Grammatica | has = ha; the week al singolare richiede has.

B1 104.
The week ___ seven days. (have)

« The total will still be there in the morning – and so will the kindness. » (page 5)

Grammatica | will still = continuerà a; still va dopo will.

B2 105.
The total ___ still be there. (will)

« Patience is part of the system, not a failure of it. » (page 6)

Grammatica | of = di; part of = una parte di.

B2 106.
Patience is part of the system, not a failure ___ it. (of)

« There were no results to print – and this paper invents none. » (page 6)

Grammatica | there were = passato di «there are».

A2 107.
There ___ no results to print. (be)

THE ERROR CLINIC Errori

Ogni frase contiene un errore: trovalo e correggi la frase.

A2 108. Correggi
✗ « He don't remember them. »

A2 109. Correggi
✗ « Yesterday the guns falled silent. »

B1 110. Correggi
✗ « This stadium is more bigger than most. »

B1 111. Correggi
✗ « She will watches the film on Friday. »

READERS' CORNER Angolo dei lettori

« I wore a poppy all week, and I stood still at eleven. Two minutes felt very long – and very short, at the same time. » – an editor's example : no real reader letters had arrived when this issue went to press, so the example stands, honestly labeled

Nota della redazione | VOL.2 aveva promesso di pubblicare vere lettere dei lettori in VOL.3, ma alla chiusura la redazione non aveva ricevuto nessuna lettera vera né alcun testo di VOL.2 — questo numero lo dice onestamente e non inventa lettere. Inviaci la tua lettera e il tuo testo; da VOL.4 pubblicheremo le lettere vere ricevute.

NEXT WEEK VOL.4 La prossima settimana

The verified midterm results – who won, and what changes. The Ashes begin in Perth on Saturday, November 21. « The Hunger Games : Sunrise on the Reaping » opens on Friday, November 20. And your real letters, if they arrive.

I risultati verificati delle elezioni di medio termine, il primo test delle Ashes il 21 novembre, il nuovo film di «Hunger Games» il 20 novembre — e le tue vere lettere.

A CLOZE Completa il testo

Maya is sixteen. On (112)__, November 11, she wears a red (113)__ to school. At eleven o'clock, the whole school stands in (114)__ for two minutes. « (115)__, eleven, eleven », says her teacher. On Friday, Maya bakes cakes for (116)__, the yellow bear. « When (117)__ we know the total ? » asks Maya. « On Friday night », says her mother. « On Sunday, Maya is (118)__ to watch the game from Munich – and the poppy will (119)__ be on her coat. »

Opzioni:

112. [A2] A. Monday • B. Wednesday • C. Friday

113. [A2] A. poppy • B. hat • C. ticket

114. [B1] A. noise • B. music • C. silence

115. [A2] A. Ten • B. Eleven • C. Twelve

116. [A2] A. Pudsey • B. Scrooge • C. Dickens

117. [A2] A. do • B. are • C. will

118. [B1] A. goes • B. going • C. go

119. [B1] A. still • B. never • C. soon

B MULTIPLE CHOICE Scelta

A2 120.
The silence begins at 11 a.m. In words : ... A. ten o'clock · B. eleven o'clock · C. twelve o'clock

A2 121.
On Wednesday, we __ a poppy. A. wear · B. wears · C. wearing

B1 122.
Dickens __ the story in 1843. A. writes · B. wrote · C. writing

B1 123.
The Allianz Arena is __ than most NFL stadiums. A. big · B. bigger · C. biggest

B2 124.
__ the rain, the ceremony went on all morning. A. Despite · B. Because · C. Unless

B2 125.
Nobody knows __ this year will be faster. A. whether · B. what · C. who

A2 126.
The film __ on Friday, November 13. A. will open · B. will opened · C. will opens

B1 127.
They are going to __ the game on Sunday. A. watch · B. watches · C. watched

B1 128.
« Challenge yourself » means... A. the show is over · B. voting is closed · C. take on a challenge

C READING Comprensione

On Wednesday morning, Tom, a teacher from Manchester, finished his breakfast and walked to school early. At eleven o'clock, the whole school stood still for two minutes. There was no sound in the hall. « We remember them », said Tom, quietly. In the afternoon, his class baked 26 cakes for Children in Need, and a poppy box stood by the door. On Friday night, Tom watched the appeal show with his family – and Pudsey was, as always, yellow and smiling.

A2 129.
Tom is... A. a nurse · B. a teacher · C. a driver

A2 130.
At eleven o'clock, the school... A. sang · B. stood still for two minutes · C. went home

B1 131.
His class baked... A. 26 cakes · B. 11 cakes · C. 13 cakes

B1 132.
On Friday night, Pudsey was... A. red · B. yellow and smiling · C. asleep

D SENTENCES Completa

A2 133.
Will future : « On Friday, they (watch) the appeal show. » → __

B1 134.
Past simple : « The guns (fall) silent in 1918. »

B1 135.
Comparative : « The arena is __ (big) than most stadiums. »

B2 136.
Whether : « __ this year will be faster, nobody knows yet. »

E TRANSLATION Traduzione

B2 137.
Translate : « Patience is part of the system, not a failure of it. »

A2 138.
Traduci: At 11 a.m. on Wednesday, November 11, Britain holds two minutes of silence.

B1 139.
Traduci: On Sunday, the NFL plays in Munich.

B1 140.
Translate : « Not every country calls it by the same name. »

F WORDS Abbina

B1 141–144. Abbina

141. a silence
142. an armistice
143. a runoff
144. a miser

a. the second vote, when no one wins a majority
b. a quiet time with no speaking
c. an agreement to stop fighting
d. a person who loves money and hates spending it

G DIALOGUE Dialogo

– Good morning ! Is this the way to the Allianz Arena ? – Yes, welcome. May I see your (145)__ ? – Here it is. Is the (146)__ long ? – No, five minutes only. It is my first NFL game. What do I do with the (147)__ ? – Wear it with pride, and cheer for the Lions. – And the famous (148)__ ? – Two anthems, one game. Enjoy Munich. – I will ! See you on (149)__ ! – Have a good day.

Levels : 145–148 [A2] • 149 [B1]

H WRITING Scrittura [B1]

Write a short text (80 to 100 words) : « My Wednesday, November 11 ». Tell us : did you stand still at eleven, what did you wear, what did you watch on Friday – and one sentence about the game in Munich on Sunday. The best texts will appear in VOL.4 (page 7, « Readers' Corner »).

Scrivi in inglese (80–100 parole): «Il mio mercoledì 11 novembre». Racconta se sei rimasto in piedi alle 11, che cosa indossavi, che cosa hai visto venerdì — e una frase sulla partita di Monaco di domenica.

MODEL Testo modello

On Wednesday, November 11, our school stopped for two minutes. At eleven o'clock, the hall went quiet, and I thought about the soldiers of the First World War. In the evening, we watched the news from London, and my mother wore her poppy at dinner. On Friday, we baked 26 cakes for Children in Need, and Pudsey smiled from the television. On Sunday, we watched the game from Munich. It was a week of silence, kindness and sport – and I slept well, because I had remembered.

ANSWERS Risposte e note (pagine 1–8)

— Pagina 1 —

1. armistice • 2. veteran • 3. November 11 • 4. poppy • 5. silent • 6. two • 7. B • 8. C (L'armistizio, nel 1918) • 9. A (La gente porta un papavero rosso) • 10. B

— Pagina 2 —

11. eleven • 12. November • 13. two • 14. poppy • 15. 1918 (L'anno dell'armistizio: 1918) • 16. They will remember them. • 17. She will wear a poppy. • 18. We will stand still. • 19. Will they watch the ceremony ? • 20. B • 21. C • 22. A • 23. B (Negli Stati Uniti si chiama Veterans Day) • 24. a • 25. b • 26. c • 27. d

— Pagina 3 —

28. B • 29. A • 30. C • 31. B (Tre fantasmi lo visitano in una notte) • 32. A (I rapinatori pubblicano i loro crimini online) • 33. C • 34. opens • 35. miser • 36. split • 37. ghost (ghost = il fantasma) • 38. b • 39. c (ghost = il fantasma c) • 40. d • 41. a • 42. Dickens wrote the story in 1843. • 43. The ghosts visited Scrooge in one night. • 44. Scrooge became warm again by morning. • 45. She chose the ghost story.

— Pagina 4 —

46. A • 47. C • 48. B (Le ATP Finals si giocano a Torino) • 49. A • 50. C (Scozia contro Macedonia del Nord) • 51. B • 52. hosts • 53. begin • 54. bigger • 55. eight (otto = eight) • 56. b • 57. d (group = il girone d) • 58. c • 59. a • 60. The Lions played in Munich on Sunday. • 61. She watched the tennis in Turin. • 62. They followed the scores on their phones. • 63. He chose one game to watch fully.

— Pagina 5 —

64. B • 65. A • 66. C • 67. B (Due miglia al giorno) • 68. A (La serata va in diretta da Salford) • 69. C • 70. challenge • 71. raise • 72. kind (kind = gentile) • 73. live • 74. c • 75. d • 76. a • 77. b • 78. Children are running two miles today. • 79. Schools are baking 26 cakes this week. • 80. We are watching Pudsey tonight. • 81. She is raising money for children.

— Pagina 6 —

82. B (Nel 2022 il Senato fu definito dopo 4 giorni) • 83. C (Nel 2022 la Camera fu definita solo dopo 8 giorni) • 84. A (Gli Stati certificano tra il 10 novembre e il 18 dicembre) • 85. B (Ballottaggio il 1° dicembre) • 86. A (Il grafico è storia, non una previsione per il 2026) • 87. C (La Camera fu definita 4 giorni dopo il Senato) • 88. B • 89. A (Il risultato ufficiale arriva con la certificazione degli Stati) • 90. C (Le schede per posta richiedono tempo per l'apertura e il controllo) • 91. B • 92. A (I cambi di testa sono normali) • 93. C • 94. certify • 95. call • 96. patience • 97. takes • 98. differs • 99. official

— Pagina 7 —

100. happens • 101. fell • 102. speaks • 103. is (is = è ancora) • 104. has (have → has) • 105. will • 106. of (of = di) • 107. were • 108. He doesn't remember them. (Terza persona: doesn't + forma base) • 109. Yesterday the guns fell silent. (Passato di fall: fell) • 110. This stadium is bigger than most. (bigger è già il comparativo: niente more davanti) • 111. She will watch the film on Friday. (Dopo will va la forma base del verbo)

— Pagina 8 —

112. B (L'11 novembre è mercoledì) • 113. A (poppy = il papavero) • 114. C (silence = il silenzio) • 115. B (eleven = undici) • 116. A (Pudsey, l'orsacchiotto giallo) • 117. C (will + forma base: know) • 118. B (be going to → is going) • 119. A (still = ancora) • 120. B (Le 11 = eleven o'clock) • 121. A (we → wear (forma base)) • 122. B (Per il passato si usa wrote) • 123. B (than → comparativo: bigger) • 124. A (despite + nome: nonostante la pioggia) • 125. A (whether = se) • 126. A (Futuro: will + forma base) • 127. A (be going to + forma base watch) • 128. C (challenge yourself = accetta la sfida) • 129. B (Nel testo: a teacher from Manchester) • 130. B (Tutta la scuola osserva due minuti di silenzio) • 131. A (La classe ha sfornato 26 torte) • 132. B (Pudsey è giallo come sempre) • 133. On Friday, they will watch the appeal show. (will + forma base) • 134. The guns fell silent in 1918. (fall → fell (irregolare)) • 135. bigger (big → bigger (comparativo)) • 136. Whether (whether introduce una frase con se) • 137. La pazienza fa parte del sistema, non è un fallimento del sistema. (part of = una parte di; not a failure = non un fallimento) • 138. Mercoledì 11 novembre, alle ore 11, il Regno Unito osserva due minuti di silenzio. (at 11 a.m.; two minutes of silence) • 139. Questa domenica la NFL gioca a Monaco. (on Sunday; in Munich) • 140. Non tutti i paesi lo chiamano allo stesso modo. (not every = non tutti; call = chiamare) • 141. b (silence = il silenzio b) • 142. c (armistice = l'armistizio c) • 143. a (runoff = il ballottaggio a) • 144. d (miser = l'avaro d) • 145. ticket (ticket = il biglietto) • 146. line (line = fila (inglese americano)) • 147. scarf (scarf = la sciarpa) • 148. anthem (anthem = l'inno) • 149. Sunday (La partita è domenica 15 novembre) • 150. Compito aperto — punti chiave nel riquadro di scrittura; testo modello nel riquadro a pagina 8 (Valutazione per punti chiave)