



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO

CONCORSO PUBBLICO, PER TITOLI ED ESAMI, A N. 1 POSTO DI CATEGORIA EP - AREA AMMINISTRATIVA-GESTIONALE, CON RAPPORTO DI LAVORO SUBORDINATO A TEMPO INDETERMINATO PRESSO L'UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO - CENTRO LINGUISTICO D'ATENEO SLAM - CODICE 21853

La Commissione giudicatrice del concorso, nominata con Determina Direttoriale n. 150 del 13.1.2022, composta da:

Prof.ssa Maci Stefania	Presidente
Prof.ssa Costa Marcella	Componente
Dott.ssa Dellavalle Emanuela	Componente
Dott.ssa Alberti Michela	Segretaria

comunica i quesiti relativi alla prova orale:

GRUPPO DI QUESITI N. 1

- 1) il/la candidato/a illustri l'organizzazione di un centro linguistico, riferito alle sue funzioni principali;
- 2) il/la candidato/a descriva le caratteristiche e gli obiettivi del CEFR alla luce delle novità apportate dal Companion (2018);

BRANO DA TRADURRE:

Italy's rare, surprisingly bitter honey (By Amy Bizzarri 1st March 2022)

Obtained from the autumnal flowering of the strawberry tree on the island of Sardinia, corbezzolo honey isn't sweet and has a history that dates back more than 2,000 years.

Corbezzolo honey tricks the palate. Instead of the sweetness one would expect, this extremely rare honey, born in the mountains of the Italian island of Sardinia, is surprisingly bitter, with notes of leather, liquorice and smoke. Nomadic beekeepers have been setting up beehives in the region to collect this aromatic treat - derived from the white, bell-shaped flowers of the wild strawberry tree - for more than 2,000 years.

Statesman, lawyer and philosopher Marcus Tullius Cicero (106-43 BCE) mentioned the honey in his defence of a Roman citizen accused of murder in Nora, Sardinia. "Omne quod Sardinia fert, homines et res, mala est! Etiam mel quod ea insula abundat, amarum est! (Everything that the island of Sardinia produces, men and things, is bad!)," he exclaimed. "Even the honey, abundant on that island, is bitter!"

Perhaps Cicero didn't know that beyond its bitterness, corbezzolo honey is packed with nutrients. Vitamin and mineral-rich, with anti-inflammatory properties, it's been prized by generations upon generations on an island known for the notably long lifespans of its inhabitants, many of whom live to more than 100 years old.

Used in traditional medicine as a sleep inducer, cough sedative and anti-diarrheal, thanks to its astringent and anti-inflammatory properties, it could also be anti-tumoral: A 2019 study conducted by researchers at the Polytechnic University of the Marche and the Universities of Vigo and Granada in Spain, published in the Journal of Functional Foods, concluded that corbezzolo honey reduces growth and division of colon cancer cells grown in the lab.

The legend of the broadleaf corbezzolo shrub, known in English as the strawberry tree for its reddish-orange, strawberry-sized fruits, first appear in The Book of Days, Ovid's exploration of the ancient Roman calendar, written in the early 1st Century CE. According to Ovid, the Dea Carna, Roman goddess and protector of health, vitality and door hinges, saved the newborn heir of the ancient Latin city of Alba Longa by tapping the door of the child's house three times with the twig of a strawberry tree.

Corbezzolo honey production was well established on the island by the Middle Ages. Eleanor of Arborea (1347-1404 CE), one of the era's most powerful judges, mandated heavy fines and, in worst-case scenarios, ear amputation for the theft of corbezzolo-collecting beehives, in her legal code Carta de Logu, which she wrote in the Sardinian language in 1392 CE.

GRUPPO DI QUESITI N. 2

- 1) Il/la candidato/a indichi la differenza tra certificazione linguistica, attestato di livello e accertamento linguistico;
- 2) il/la candidato/a spieghi la differenza tra CFU e ECTS;



BRANO DA TRADURRE:

Forty years since the death of the sci-fi author - whose stories have inspired films like Blade Runner and Minority Report - Adam Scovell explores how prophetic his work has been. (By Adam Scovell, 2nd March 2022)

I am in passport control. I can see my face on a screen. The technology recognises me and lets me through. I scan codes showing my vaccination status and recent Covid test results. The machines assess the data regarding my health and microbiology. Through into the waiting room, people are staring into little screens. A strangely large number have the camera flipped, and are capturing their faces at different angles, as if they've forgotten what they look like. I open my laptop and join in. I give my details to a company to enter the digital realm. Adverts tailored to my personality pop up. They know me better than I know myself. This is 2022. And 2022 is a Philip K Dick novel.

Writers of science fiction often feel more prescient than others. Whether it's the threat to women's rights in the work of Margaret Atwood, the architectural and social dystopias of JG Ballard's novels, or the internet-predicting world of E M Forster's *The Machine Stops* (1909), the genre is replete with prophetic writers dealing with ever more familiar issues.

Out of all such writers, few seem a more unlikely seer of our times than the US author Philip K Dick, who died 40 years ago today at the age of 53. In a remarkably prolific 30-year period of work, Dick authored 44 novels and countless short stories, adaptations of which went on to redefine science fiction on screen - in particular Ridley Scott's *Blade Runner* (1982), which was based on Dick's story *Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?* and Paul Verhoeven's *Total Recall* (1990). More recently Dick's novel *The Man in the High Castle* (1962) has been turned into a hit Amazon series.

Dick was not simply an effective writer of strange fictions, but an unusual person in his own right. Burdened by deteriorating mental health, visions, and what he alleged were all manner of paranormal experiences - many of which were woven into his expansive oeuvre - Dick had a troubled and fragmented relationship with reality. In the 1970s, the author began to experience two parallel timelines of his own life, his thoughts invaded in 1974 by what he told interviewer Charles Platt was a "transcendentally rational mind", something he had many names for, but chiefly VALIS; an acronym for Vast Active Living Intelligence System. It became the subject of one of his late semi-autobiographical works, the 1981 novel VALIS, published not long before his death.

Whether his visions were medical or supernatural, one thing is clear: Dick had a startling ability to foreshadow the modern world.

GRUPPO DI QUESITI N. 3

- 1) Il/la candidato/a descriva il funzionamento dei test e dei corsi per Accertamenti linguistici;
- 2) il/la candidato/a descriva gli obiettivi formativi per la realizzazione di corsi di lingua classica (ad esempio, latino);

BRANO DA TRADURRE:

What is the best age to learn to read? (By Melissa Hogenboom, 2nd March 2022)

In some countries, kids as young as four learn to read and write. In others, they don't start until seven. What's the best formula for lasting success? Melissa Hogenboom investigates.

I was seven years old when I started to learn to read, as is typical of the alternative Steiner school I attended. My own daughter attends a standard English school, and started at four, as is typical in most British schools. Watching her memorise letters and sound out words, at an age when my idea of education was climbing trees and jumping through puddles, has made me wonder how our different experiences shape us. Is she getting a crucial head-start that will give her lifelong benefits? Or is she exposed to undue amounts of potential stress and pressure, at a time when she should be enjoying her freedom? Or am I simply worrying too much, and it doesn't matter at what age we start reading and writing?

There's no doubt that language in all its richness - written, spoken, sung or read aloud - plays a crucial role in our early development. Babies already respond better to the language they were exposed to in the womb. Parents are encouraged to read to their children before they are even born, and when they are babies. Evidence shows that how much or how little we are talked to as children can have lasting effects on future educational achievement. Books are a particularly important aspect of that rich linguistic exposure, since written language often includes a wider and more nuanced and detailed vocabulary than everyday spoken language. This can in turn help children increase their range and depth of expression.

Since a child's early experience of language is considered so fundamental to their later success, it has become increasingly common for preschools to begin teaching children basic literacy skills even before formal education starts. When children begin school, literacy is invariably a major focus. This goal of



ensuring that all children learn to read and write has become even more pressing as researchers warn that the pandemic has caused a widening achievement gap between wealthier and poorer families, increasing academic inequality.

In many countries, formal education starts at four. The thinking often goes that starting early gives children more time to learn and excel. The result, however, can be an "education arms race", with parents trying to give their child early advantages at school through private coaching and teaching, and some parents even paying for children as young as four to have additional private tutoring. However, many studies show little benefit from an early overly-academic environment.

GRUPPO DI QUESITI N. 4

- 1) Il/la candidato/a elenchi le principali certificazioni linguistiche (inglese, francese, spagnolo, tedesco), delineando obiettivi e funzionamento degli esami di certificazione;
- 2) Il/la candidato/a dia una definizione di OFA;

BRANO DA TRADURRE:

The innovative technology that powered the Inca (By Shafik Meghji, 13th December 2021)

A deceptively simple feat of agricultural engineering helped the Inca to build the largest empire in South American history.

In the 15th and early 16th Centuries, a small island in Lake Titicaca was one of South America's most important religious sites. Revered as the birthplace of the Sun, the Moon and the Inca dynasty, Isla del Sol ("Island of the Sun") drew pilgrims from across the Andes.

A few years ago, I followed in their footsteps, catching a boat from the Bolivian town of Copacabana across the choppy, gunboat-grey lake, which sits an altitude of 3,812m, making it the only place on the planet a traveller can "suffer from sea-sickness and mountain-sickness at the same time", according to British explorer Percy Harrison Fawcett, who visited in the early 1900s.

After docking on Isla del Sol's north-east coast, I followed a centuries-old trail past a host of Inca and pre-Inca ruins - tambos (waystations), shrines, temples, plazas, altars and a ceremonial complex that includes Titikala, a slab of sandstone from which Andean creator god Viracocha is said to have brought forth the Sun and the Moon.

These deceptively simple feats of agricultural engineering helped the Inca to build the largest empire in South American history

Captivated by the ancient sites and the views of the snow-streaked Cordillera Real in the distance, I paid little attention to the terraced fields snaking along the hillsides of the island. Yet these deceptively simple feats of agricultural engineering helped the Inca to build the largest empire in South American history.

Known as andenes (Spanish for "platforms"), these terraced fields are scattered across the central Andes. First constructed around 4,500 years ago by ancient cultures across the region, they were perfected by the Inca, who emerged in the 12th Century and were masters of adopting and adapting techniques, strategies and belief systems from other societies. Andenes, says Cecilia Pardo Grau, curator of the British Museum's current Peru: a journey in time exhibition, were "a creative way of defying the terrain... that allows for an efficient way of growing [crops]".

They allowed Andean communities to overcome challenging environments, including steep slopes, thin soils, extreme and sharply fluctuating temperatures, and scant or seasonal rainfall. Fed by artificial pools and elaborate irrigation systems, andenes significantly expanded the area of cultivable land. They also conserved water, reduced soil erosion and - thanks to stone walls that absorbed heat during the day and then released it at night - protected plants from severe frosts.

Milano, 7 marzo 2022

La Commissione

Prof.ssa Maci Stefania - Presidente

Prof.ssa Costa Marcella - Componente

Dott.ssa Dellavalle Emanuela - Componente

Dott.ssa Alberti Michela - Segretaria