

## *A carpet of flowers*

RP Received Pronunciation 

Transcription taken from

### **Alex's phonetic thoughts**

<http://alex-ateachersthoughts.blogspot.it/2011/06/kpt-flaz.html> (visited 22-Aug-12)

### **Make a phonemic (broad) transcription of the following passage:**

1. Flowers are definitely one of nature's most beautiful creations. Equally as beautiful is what the people of Tarquinia ( I suppose we could anglicise it to ) can create with these flowers. I'm referring specifically to the "infiorata", the festival of flowers.
2. Much to my amazement, the term "infiorata" is not included in any of the Italian pronouncing dictionaries I have to hand, which is strange since this is quite a common word here in Italy (there are other famous "infiorate" throughout the peninsula: in Genzano, for example, near Rome, and in Spello, Umbria). Maybe this is because its pronunciation is quite obvious (for native speakers): .
3. The Devoto-Oli 2011, not a pronunciation dictionary, traces the origins of the word back to 1862 and describes the festival as a
4. "Profusione di fiori disposti come motivo di festoso ornamento; festa floreale. "
5. ('A profusion of flowers arranged in patters on the streets of towns; flower festival'.)
6. The "infiorata" is a festival which takes place every year on Corpus Christi Day, that is two weeks after Whit Sunday. Flower petals are used to create amazing works of art in the streets of towns. In some places the infiorata is a simple flower-petal design in front of the town's main church. At more elaborate "infiorate", several different tapestries are created, each with a different picture, but often centred around a single theme.
7. To create the picture, the design is first sketched in chalk on the pavement. Soil is usually used to outline the design, and then it's filled in with thousands of petals and seeds, much like the making of mosaics. The entire process takes a whole night to complete.



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8. On Sunday morning, the bells of churches will start chiming and the Bishop and his entourage will emerge from Mass amid music and singing to lead the faithful in procession through the streets of Tarquinia and over the stunning floral carpets, which soon turn to a mass of crushed petals and shredded paper. A fleeting moment of beauty, proof that nothing lasts, and encouraging us all to enjoy each moment as it pans out before our very eyes.
9. If you are somewhere in Italy this weekend, please make sure you come to Tarquinia: you won't regret it!
- 10.(if you want to see pictures of the town I live in, have a look at this website: the photos are excellent but the English translations are very bad!)



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### ə kɑ:pt ə flauəz

1. flauəz ə defənətli wʌn əv neɪtʃəz məʊs bju:təfl krieɪfɪŋz. ɪ:kwəli əz bju:təfl ɪz wɒ? ðə pi:pl əv Tarquinia (aɪ spəʊz wi kəd æŋglɪsaɪz ɪt tə tɑ:'kwɪniə) kəŋ kri:ɪt wɪð ði:z flauəz. aɪm rɪfɜ:rɪŋ spəsɪfɪkli tə ði ɪnfɪɔrətə, ðə festɪvl ə flauəz.
2. mʌtʃ tə maɪ əmeɪzmənt, ðə tɜ:m ɪnfɪɔrətə ɪz nɒt ɪŋklu:dəd ɪn eni əv ði ɪtəlɪən prənaʊntsɪŋ dɪkʃənɪz aɪ hæv tə hænd, wɪtʃ ɪz streɪndʒ sɪnts ðɪs ɪz kwaɪt ə kɒmən wɜ:d hɪər ɪn ɪtəli (ðerə lðə feɪməs "ɪnfɪɔrətə" θruaʊ? ðə pənɪntsʃulə: ɪn Genzano (dʒen'tsano), frɪgzɑ:mpɪ, nɪə rəʊm, ənd ɪn Spello ('spello), ʌmbriə). meɪbi, ðɪs ɪz bɪkɒz ɪts prənʌntsɪeɪfɪŋ ɪz kwaɪt ɒbvɪəs fə neɪtɪv spi:kəz: ɪnfjə'rətə.
3. ðə Devoto-oli 2011, nɒt ə prənʌntsɪeɪfɪŋ dɪkʃənɪ, treɪsəz ði θrədʒɪnz əv ðə wɜ:d bæ:k tə 1862 ən dæskraɪbz ðə festɪvl əz eɪ
4. "profusione di fiori disposti come motivo di festoso ornamento; festa floreale". (peɪdʒ 1407)
5. ('prəfju:zɪ ə flauəz əreɪndʒd ɪm pætənz θn ðə stri:ts əv taʊnz; flauə festɪvl'.)
6. ði ɪnfɪɔrətə ɪz ə festɪvl wɪtʃ teɪks pleɪs evri jɪə θŋ kɑ:pəs krɪsti deɪ, ðət ɪz tu: wɪks aɪftə wɪt slændeɪ. flauə peɪtʃ ə ju:zd tə kri:ɪt əmeɪzɪŋ wɜ:ks əv aɪt ɪn ðə stri:ts əv taʊnz. ɪn sʌm pleɪsəz, ði ɪnfɪɔrətə ɪz ə sɪmpɪ flauə-peɪtʃ dɪzəɪn ɪm frʌnt əv ðə taʊnz meɪn tʃɜ:tʃ. ə? mɑ:ɪr ɪləbərət "ɪnfɪɔrətə", sevrəl dɪfrənt tæpəstrɪz ə kri:ɪtəd, ɪ:tʃ wɪð ə dɪfrənt pɪktʃə, bət θftŋ sentəd əraʊnd ə sɪŋgl θi:m.
7. tə kri:ɪt ðə pɪktʃə, ðə dɪzəɪn ɪs fɜ:st sketʃt ɪn tʃɔ:k θn ðə peɪvmənt. sɔ:əl ɪz ju:zəli ju:zd tu aʊləɪn ðə dɪzəɪn, ən ðen ɪts fɪld ɪn wɪð θaʊzɪdʒ əv peɪtʃ ən sɪ:dʒ, mʌtʃ laɪk ðə meɪkɪŋ əv məʊzeɪks. ði ɪntaɪə prəʊses teɪks ə hʊl naɪt tə kəmplɪt.



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8. ʌn sʌndi mɔːniŋ, ðə belz əv tʃɜːtʃɪz wɪ stɑːʔ tʃaɪmɪŋ ən ðə bɪʃəp ənd ɪz ɒntʊrɑːz wəl ɪmɜːdʒ frəm mæs əmɪd mjuːzɪk ən sɪŋɪŋ tə liːd ðə feɪθfʊl ɪm prəsefŋ θru ðə striːts əv tɑːkwɪniə ənd əʊvə ðə stʌniŋ flɔːrəl kɑːpɪts, wɪtʃ suːn tɜːn tu ə mæs əv kɹʌʃt petʃlz ən ʃredəd peɪpə. ə flɪːtɪŋ məʊmənt əv bjuːti, prʊːf ðəʔ nʌθɪŋ lɑːsts, ənd ɪŋklʌrədʒɪŋ əs ɔːl tu ɪndʒɔː ɪːtʃ məʊmənt əz ɪʔ pænz aʊt bəfɔːr aː veri aɪz.
9. ɪf ʤɔː sʌmweər ɪn ɪtəli ðɪs wiːk, meɪk ʃɔː ju klʌm tə tɑːkwɪniə bətwiːn sætədeɪ ɪ sʌndeɪː ju wəʊnʔ rɪgret ɪt!
10. (ɪf ju wəʊnt tə siː pɪktʃəz əv ðə taʊn aɪ lɪv ɪn, hæv ə lʊk ət ðɪs websaɪtː ðə fəʊtəʊz ər ɛksələnt bət ði ɪŋglɪʃ trænʒleɪʃnz ə veri bæd!)

