## Ministere dell'Istruzione, dell'Università e della Ricerea

## prova scritta valida per la scuola primaria

## **QUESITO 4**

1) Read the text and summarize it in your own words. Use between 60 and 90 words. Information about the brain can lead us to better ways to reach our students, and to make our time with them more effective. The study of the brain and intensive work in cognitive psychology have resulted in a significant shift in orientation away from the behaviourist principles that once dominated educational thought and practice. Rote learning, habit formation, and observable outcomes are being replaced by an emphasis on meaningfulness, metacognition, and process. For the behavioural psychologist, the student is considered to be a relatively passive subject, to be manipulated through reinforcement techniques and drill. The cognitive psychologist, by contrast, sees students as active participants in the learning situation, controlling and shaping their own learning processes. In the behaviourist classroom, the students respond to stimuli and reinforcement, whereas in the classroom based on cognitive psychology, the student's own internal motivation drives the learning process. One of the most important principles of cognitive psychology for the early language teacher is that information is best learnt and retained if it is made meaningful to students.