

The Pronoun “Ne”

IL PRONOME OGGETTO DIRETTO “NE”

Ne is another direct object pronoun.

Ne remains unchanged. It has the same form in the singular, plural, masculine and feminine.

It is used in the following situations:

1. **Ne** replaces a direct object introduced by **di**+article (“some”).
2. **Ne** replaces a direct object that is used with an expression of quantity or with a number (**molto/a/i/e, poco/pochi/poca/poche, uno, due, tre**, etc.).
3. **Ne** replaces any part of speech introduced by the preposition **di** after expressions such as **avere bisogno di** (to need), **avere voglia di** (to feel like, to have a desire for) and **avere paura di** (to be afraid of).

Study these examples for points 1. and 2. above:

Hai del latte ? No, non ne ho.	<i>Do you have any milk?</i> <i>No, I don't have any.</i>
Quante uova hai? Ne ho solo due .	<i>How many eggs do you have?</i> <i>I only have two.</i>
Hai molti amici a Milano? No, non ne ho molti .	<i>Do you have many friends in Milan?</i> <i>No, I don't have many.</i>
Puoi portare delle aranciate alla festa? Sì, ne porto sei , va bene?	<i>Can you bring some orange sodas to the party?</i> <i>Yes, I am bringing six, ok?</i>
Quanto caffè bevi la mattina? - Ne bevo troppo !	<i>How much coffee do you drink in the morning?</i> <i>I drink too much.</i>

Study these examples for point 3. above:

Hai bisogno della moto oggi? - Sì, ne ho bisogno.	<i>Do you need the motorcycle today?</i> <i>- Yes, I need it.</i>
Hai voglia di andare in centro ? - No, non ne ho voglia.	<i>Do you feel like going downtown?</i> <i>- No, I don't feel like it.</i>
Hai paura degli esami di italiano ? - No, non ne ho paura!	<i>Are you afraid of Italian exams?</i> <i>- No, I am not afraid of them.</i>

In the **passato prossimo**, the past participle must agree with the gender and number of the noun that **ne** replaces. See the following examples:

Quanti film italiani hai visto? - Ne ho visti tre.	<i>How many Italian films have you seen?</i> <i>- I have seen three.</i>
Hai portato delle aranciate ? - Sì, ne ho portate sei.	<i>Did you bring any orange sodas?</i> <i>- Yes, I brought six.</i>
Quanta pasta hai mangiato? - Ne ho mangiata troppa!	<i>How much past did you eat?</i> <i>- I ate too much!</i>
Quanto vino hai ordinato? - Ne ho ordinato un litro.	<i>How much wine did you order?</i> <i>- I ordered one liter.</i>

The Pronoun “Ci”

IL PRONOME “CI”

CI is a pronoun used in the following situations:

1. **Ci** replaces any physical place (city, region, office, home, etc.) when the place is introduced by the prepositions **a**, **in** or **da**.
2. **Ci** replaces any part of speech introduced by the prepositions **a** and **su**, in expressions such as **contare su** (to count on), **credere a** (to believe in) and **pensare a** (to think about, to be preoccupied with).

Study these examples for point 1. above:

Vai in Italia quest'estate? - Sì, ci vado in agosto.	<i>Are you going to Italy this summer?</i> <i>- Yes, I am going [there] in August.</i>
Sei mai stata a San Marino ? - No, non ci sono mai stata.	<i>Have you ever been to San Marino?</i> <i>- No, I have never been there.</i>
Stai dai tuoi genitori in estate? - Credo di sì, ma non vorrei star ci più di un mese.	<i>Are you staying with your parents during the summer?</i> <i>- I believe so, but I wouldn't want to stay there for more than a month.</i>

Study these examples for point 2. above:

Posso contare sulla tua amicizia ? - Certo, lo sai che puoi contar ci sempre!	<i>Can I count on your friendship?</i> <i>- Of course, you know that you can always count on it.</i>
Credi all'oroscopo ? - No, non ci credo per niente!	<i>Do you believe in the horoscope?</i> <i>- No, I don't believe in it at all!</i>
Pensi al futuro ? - Qualche volta ci penso.	<i>Do you think about the future?</i> <i>- Sometimes I think about it.</i>

Notice that both **ne** and **ci**, like any other pronouns we have studied so far, can be placed at the end of any infinitives after the final “e” of the infinite is dropped:

UNIT 8.3 Grammatica

Quanti libri italiani vuoi comprare? - Voglio comprar ne tre. - Ne voglio comprare tre.	<i>How many Italian books do you want to buy?</i> - <i>I want to buy three.</i> <i>[same]</i>
Sei mai andato a Venezia? - No, ma voglio andar ci presto! - No, ma ci voglio andare presto.	<i>Have you ever gone to Venice?</i> - <i>No, but I want to go there soon.</i> <i>[same]</i>