

How to use ci, ne and né

ci

We have already learned that we can use ci as follows:

There (singular) c'è [ci+è] or there is There (plural) ci sono or there are Us (1st person plural) ci aiutano or they help us

In the above examples it was used as an adverb "there" and a direct object pronoun "us". Now let's take a look at how <u>ci</u> can also replace certain prepositional phrases or places.

<u>Ci can replace certain prepositional phrases (translated as "it") that are introduced by "a"</u> such as;

Puoi credere alla sua storia? No, non ci posso credere. Pensi mai alla morte? Sì, tutti devono pensarci. Can you believe her story? No, I can not believe it. Do you ever think of death? Yes, everyone needs to think about it.

Notice the rules for placement are the same as the direct object pronoun.

<u>Ci can be used in place of expressing a place when that placed was introduced by a, in, su</u> <u>or da such as;</u>

Vai spesso a Parigi?	Do you go to Paris often?
Sì, ci vado sempre.	Yes, I always go there.
Andate da Pietro oggi?	Are y'all going to Peter's today?
No, non ci andiamo oggi.	No, we do not go there today.

Notice the rules for placement are the same as the direct object pronoun.

One more quick note is to remember is "ci" is followed by "ne" or a direct pronoun it becomes "ce".

ne

Ne is a very interesting a versatile word. It acts somewhat like a direct object pronoun in that it can replace a noun that is either introduced with some type of quantifying word (many, how many, etc) or a partitive. In this case it can translate into many English equivalents



Here are some examples;

Hai dei pomodori? No, non **ne** ho. Quante **ne** volevi? Ho pensato che tu non **ne** hai. Sì, hai ragione, non **ne** ho ma il mio amico ha Yes, y ventitre. Posso aver**ne** ?

Do you have some tomatoes? No, I do not have **any**. How many (**of them**) do you want? I thought you do not have **any**. Yes, you are right, I do not have **any** but my friend has twenty-three. Can I have **some**?

Notice once again the rules for placement are the same as the direct object pronoun.

Ne can also replace a noun or infinitive verb that is introduced by a verb+di clause. In this case, the translations can be even more varried.

Voi parlate di andare in Italia? Sì, **ne** parliamo. Non hai paura di volare? No, non **ne** ho paura. Ho bisogno di pagare? No, non **ne** hai bisogno. Are y'all talking about going to Italy? Yes, we are talking **about it**. Are you not afraid of flying? No, I'm afraid **of it**. I need to pay? No, you do not need **to**.

One more quick note to remember is if "ne" replaces a non that is a direct object pronoun of a verb tense using a past participle. The past participle must agree with the antecedent just like any other past participle used with a direct object pronoun.

né

And finally and introduction to né

Simply put, we will look at using né in a negative sentence as neither/nor.

Mangi il carne? No, non mangio **né** carne **né** pesce. Hai comprato una motocicletta? No, non ho comprato **né** motocicletta **né** motorino. Hai un fratello? No, non ho **né** fratello **né** sorella. Do you eat meat? No, I eat **neither** meat **nor** fish. You bought a motorcycle? No, I bought **neither** motorcycle **nor** moped. You have a brother? No, I have **neither** brother **nor** sister.