

6. PRONOUNS AND CORRESPONDING ADJECTIVES

A. Demonstratives

1. Demonstrative adjectives

a) *CE*

ce is often used to point out a particular person or thing, or persons or things. It is followed by the noun to which it refers and agrees in number and gender with that noun:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| □ with a masculine singular noun: | ce (cet) | this/that |
| □ with a feminine singular noun: | cette | this/that |
| □ with a plural noun (masc or fem): | ces | these/those |

ce roman m'a beaucoup plu **il a neigé ce matin**
I really liked this novel it snowed this morning

cette chanson m'énerve **cette fois, c'est fini!**
that song gets on my nerves this time, it's over!

tu trouves que ces lunettes me vont bien?
do you think these glasses suit me?

cet is used instead of **ce** in front of a masculine singular word that begins with a vowel or a silent **h**:

cet été
this summer

cet hôtel
that hotel

b) *-CI and -LÀ*

French does not have separate words to distinguish between 'this' and 'that'. However, when a particular emphasis is being placed on a person or object, or when a contrast is being made between persons or objects, **-ci** and **-là** are added to the noun:

-ci translates the idea of	this/these
-là translates the idea of	that/those

je suis très occupé ces jours-ci
I'm very busy these days

que faisiez-vous ce soir-là?
what were you doing that evening?

tu préfères cette robe-ci ou cette robe-là?
do you prefer this dress or that dress?

2. Demonstrative pronouns

Demonstrative pronouns are used instead of a noun with **ce/cette/ces**. They are:

celui, celle, ceux, celles
ce
ceci, cela, ça

a) CELUI

celui agrees in number and gender with the noun it refers to. It has four different forms:

	MASCULINE	FEMININE
SINGULAR	celui	celle
PLURAL	ceux	celles

celui, celle, ceux and **celles** cannot be used on their own. They are used:

□ with **-ci** or **-là**, for emphasis or for contrast:

celui-ci	celle-ci	this (one)
celui-là	celle-là	that (one)
ceux-ci	celles-ci	these (ones)
ceux-là	celles-là	those (ones)

j'aime bien ce maillot mais celui-là est moins cher
I like this swimsuit, but that one is cheaper

je voudrais ces fleurs – lesquelles? celles-ci ou celles-là?
I'd like these flowers – which ones? these or those?

□ with **de** + noun, to express possession:

je préfère mon ordinateur à celui de Jean-Claude
I prefer my computer to Jean-Claude's