

Essential grammar and vocabulary

A streamlined grammar and vocabulary presentation helps Italian culture come to life!



La grammatica

1 Ne

To download a podcast on The pronoun **ne**, go to academic.cengage.com/italian.

— Buon giorno, signora Filomena.
— Buon giorno, Antonio. Cosa Le do oggi?
— Vorrei delle pere, per favore.
— Quante ne vuole?
— Ne vorrei un chilo.
— Vuole anche delle banane?
— No, grazie, ne ho ancora tre o quattro.
— Arrivederci, Antonio, e buona giornata.
— Buona giornata anche a Lei, signora Filomena.

A. Ne is an invariable pronoun with several meanings: *some (of it, of them); any (of it, of them); about it, about them; of it, of them*. Ne can replace a noun used in a partitive sense or a noun introduced by a number or expression of quantity, such as **poco, molto, tanto, chilo, litro**, etc.

Hai del vino bianco?
Sì, **ne** ho.
No, non **ne** ho.
Quante stanze hai?
Ne ho tre.
Hai molti vestiti?
Sì, **ne** ho molti.

Do you have some white wine?
Yes, I have some (of it).
No, I don't have any (of it).
How many rooms do you have?
I have three (of them).
Do you have many outfits?
Yes, I have many (of them).

Drill students by asking additional questions. Be sure to include the **passato prossimo** and to show past participle agreement when **ne** replaces a direct object: *Tu, Luisa, mangi molta frutta? Quanta frutta hai mangiato ieri? Malta, poco? E tu, Giovanni, quanti bicchieri di acqua bevi al giorno? E quanto birra (quanto vino) hai bevuto sabato sera?*

Notice the following examples:
Compri le mele? Sì, **le** compro.
Compri delle mele? Sì, **ne** compro.
Compri alcune mele? Sì, **ne** compro.
Quante mele compri? **Ne** compro tre o quattro.

B. Like object pronouns, **ne** attaches to the end of the infinitive and the **tu, noi**, and **voi** forms of the imperative.

Desideri comprare **delle arance**?
Desidero comprarne quattro o cinque.
Comprane molte!

Do you want to buy some oranges?
I want to buy four or five (of them).
Buy many (of them)!

C. Ne replaces the noun or infinitive used after verbs such as **avere bisogno di, avere paura di, essere contento di, parlare di, and pensare di** (when asking for an opinion).

Hai bisogno di lavorare?
No, non **ne** ho bisogno.

Do you need to work?
No, I do not need to.

La grammatica ■ 195

La grammatica sections pair concise English explanations of grammatical points with visual illustrations such as cartoons, photographs, or a piece of realia related to the new concept. Complementary *Pratica* sections provide different types of skill-building grammar exercises, many of which require students to interact within a controlled linguistic framework.



Icons in the text indicate where students can turn to **Heinle iRadio** for MP3-ready mini-lessons on tricky grammar points and pronunciation to supplement their learning. With these downloadable audio lessons, students now have the freedom to choose when, where and how they practice.

Parole da ricordare
La casa e i mobili (*furniture*)

Point out the specks, meaning of *di* (= per) in *salò da pranzo, camera da letto*. Ask students to name other expressions where *di* has the same meaning (*caffè/di da sala, scarpe da tennis*), etc.

You may mention the difference between *armadio* (wardrobe) and *armadio a muro* (closet). Explain that in older apartments there are no built-in closets in bedrooms.






Una graziosa casetta per le vacanze. I proprietari, che di solito vivono in città, vi trascurano le vacanze o l'affittano per i mesi estivi.

L'alloggio housing
l'appartamento apartment
il palazzo building
la villetta small villa
il padrone di casa landlord
l'inquilino/inquilina tenant
l'affitto rent
affittare to rent
traslocare to move

il trasloco moving
il pianterreno ground floor
il primo (secondo, terzo) piano first (second, third) floor
l'ascensore elevator
la roba household goods
la chiave key
il monolocale studio apartment

Parole da ricordare sections contain all of the new words and expressions from the grammar and reading sections of the chapter in a thematically coherent manner. Supplemental *Vocabolario* lists contain all the new words and expressions that appear elsewhere in the chapter grammar sections or readings.



Salve!

Carla Larese Riga, Santa Clara University
384 pages. Casebound. 8-1/2 x 11. ©2009.
ISBN-10: 1-4130-1516-6 | ISBN-13: 978-1-4130-1516-4
Available February 2008!