

## Les adjectifs démonstratifs et les pronoms démonstratifs

### Les adjectifs démonstratifs

**Demonstrative adjectives** (*this / that, these / those*) are used to specify a particular person, object, or idea. They agree in gender and number with the nouns they modify.

	Singular = this, that	Plural = these, those
Masculine	<b>ce</b> livre	<b>ces</b> livres
	<b>cet</b> escargot	<b>ces</b> escargots
	<b>cet</b> homme	<b>ces</b> hommes
Feminine	<b>cette</b> voiture	<b>ces</b> voitures

Before masculine nouns beginning with a vowel or mute “h”, **ce** becomes **cet**.

### **Use of -ci and -là**

In English, *this / these* and *that / those* indicate the relative distance to the speaker. In French, the suffix **-ci** is added to indicate closeness, and **-là** to indicate greater distance. **Là-bas** is used for “over there.”

-Prenez-vous **ce** gâteau-**ci** ?      -Non, je préfère **cet** éclair-**là**.

### Les pronoms démonstratifs

**Demonstrative pronouns** (*this one, that one*) refer to a person, thing, or idea that has been mentioned previously. In French, they agree in gender and number with the nouns they replace.

	Singular = this one, that one, the one	Plural = these, those, the ones
Masculine	<b>celui</b>	<b>ceux</b>
Feminine	<b>celle</b>	<b>celles</b>

French demonstrative pronouns cannot stand alone. They must be used:

1. with the suffix **-ci** (to indicate someone or something located close to the speaker) or **-là** (for someone or something more distant from the speaker.)

Voici deux foulards. Préférez-vous **celui-ci** ou **celui-là** ?

2. followed by a prepositional phrase (often a construction with **de**)

Quelle époque t'intéresse, **celle du** Moyen Âge ou **celle de** la Renaissance ?

3. followed by a dependent clause introduced by a relative pronoun

On trouve des villages anciens dans plusieurs régions de la France : **ceux qui** sont en ruine(s) ; **ceux que** j'ai vus ont été restaurés.

### Les pronoms démonstratifs indéfinis

**Indefinite demonstrative pronouns** **ceci** (this), **cela** (that), and **ça** (that, informal) refer to an idea or thing with no definite antecedent (subject earlier named). They do not show gender or number.

**Cela (Ça)** n'est pas important.      That's not important.

Regarde **ceci** de près.      Look at this closely.

Qu'est-ce que c'est que **ça** ?      What's that?