

44. Demonstrative adjectives

1 Definitions

Demonstrative adjectives are adjectives used to point out a particular thing or things:

Cette voiture est italienne

This car is Italian

2 Use

2.1 Forms

	<i>Masc sing</i>	<i>Fem sing</i>	<i>Plural</i>
<i>before consonant</i>	ce	cette	ces
<i>before vowel</i>	cet	cette	ces

Important note: the word **cettes* does not exist.

Ce musée est fermé le mardi

This museum is closed on Tuesdays

Cette région est très connue pour son vin

This region is very well known for its wine

Ces oiseaux se font de plus en plus rares

These birds are becoming more and more rare

2.2 Words beginning with *h*

Cet is used with masculine nouns beginning with an unaspirated *h* (i.e. where *h* is treated like a vowel): **cet** hiver. But *ce* is used with masculine nouns beginning with an aspirated *h* (where *h* is treated like a consonant): **ce** handicap.

2.3 In order to emphasize a noun, *-ci* is added to the end of the noun to convey the idea of *this*, and *-là* is added to the end of the noun to convey the idea of *that*:

C'est par **cette** porte-**ci** et non **cette** porte-**là** qu'on est entrés

We entered by this door (here) and not by that door (there)

2.4 Unlike in English, demonstrative adjectives normally come before each noun they apply to:

A qui sont **ces** chapeaux, **ces** pardessus et **ces** parapluies?

Whose are these hats, overcoats and umbrellas?