

## The pronoun *ci*

10 The pronoun **ci** is used to replace a noun denoting a place; it corresponds to the English 'there'. We have already seen this pronoun used with the verb **essere** in expressions like **c'è** and **ci sono** (Unit 4), but it can be used with other verbs, always preceding them:

<b>‘Quando vai in biblioteca?’ ‘Ci vado oggi pomeriggio.’</b>	<b>‘When are you going to the library?’ ‘I’m going (there) this afternoon.’</b>
<b>Conosco bene Bologna: ci ho passato due anni.</b>	<b>I know Bologna well: I spent two years there.</b>
<b>‘Ogni quanto va in palestra?’ ‘Non ci vado mai.’</b>	<b>‘How often do you go to the gym?’ ‘I never go (there).’</b>

As the examples suggest, **ci** is used more often in this kind of sentence than 'there' is in English.

11 **Ci** always comes before the verb. Like the other unstressed pronouns, though, it can be attached to the infinitive of a verb (usually after **dovere**, **potere**, **volere** or **sapere**):

<b>Dovevo andare a Fiesole, ma non sapevo andarci.</b>	} I had to go to Fiesole, but I didn't know how to get there.
<b>Dovevo andare a Fiesole, ma non ci sapevo andare.</b>	
<b>Vado al mercato, vuoi venirci anche tu?</b>	} I'm going to the market, would you like to come (as well)?
<b>Vado al mercato, ci vuoi venire anche tu?</b>	

## Exercise 1

Supply the pronoun **ne**, making sure that the past participle and the adjective or pronoun agree where necessary.

Examples: 'Quante lettere hai scritto?' '\_\_\_\_ ho scritt\_\_\_\_ alcun\_\_\_\_.': Ne ho scritte alcune; Mi piacciono i biscotti e \_\_\_\_ ho mangiat\_\_\_\_ molt\_\_\_\_: ne ho mangiat\_\_\_\_ molti; 'Quanti libri hai letto?' 'Non \_\_\_\_ ho lett\_\_\_\_ nessun\_\_\_\_.': Non ne ho letto nessuno.

- 1 'Quante cartoline hai mandato?' '\_\_\_\_ ho mandat\_\_\_\_ 12.'
- 2 'Hai comprato i biscotti?' 'Sì, \_\_\_\_ ho comprat\_\_\_\_ una scatola.'