

Demonstrate!

Using Demonstrative Pronouns

You might call **demonstrative pronouns** the pointing pronoun. They point to a specific person, place, or thing. Like adjectives, they point to a certain one:

- **that** ball
- **spoon**
- **those** boots

But, don't be fooled! Even though demonstrative pronouns and demonstrative adjectives use the same pronouns, they don't do the same job in a sentence. A demonstrative adjective will come right before a noun. Demonstrative pronouns stand alone and take the place of a noun. There are only four **demonstrative pronouns** to learn: **that, this, those, these**. Here are some examples:

- **That** is the best way to ride a bike.
- Are **those** the right shoes?
- **This** is the perfect place to spend a snowy weekend.
- **These** are my favorite candies.

In each sentence, the demonstrative pronoun is used to refer to a specific noun – the best **way**, the right **shoes**, the perfect **place**, and the favorite **candy**.

Sometimes, a pronoun can be used in more than one way **That** can be used as a **demonstrative pronoun** or a **relative pronoun**. You will need to look at how the pronoun is used in a sentence to determine which category it belongs in.

- **That** is the cake I want to buy.

That is used as a demonstrative pronoun in this sentence. It points to a specific cake. Which cake? **That** cake.

- The cake **that** has the yellow roses is the one I want to buy.

That is used here as a relative pronoun. **That** introduces an adjective clause to describe cake. Which cake? The cake **that** has the yellow roses. Here are two important facts to remember when using demonstrative pronouns:

1. If you want to point out something **near**, use **this** as a singular pronoun or **these** as a plural pronoun.
2. If you want to point out something **far** away, use **that** as a singular pronoun or **those** as a plural pronoun.

Name _____

Date _____

Activities

Activity A: Let's Review demonstrative pronouns.

1. Demonstrative pronouns point to a _____ person, place, thing.
2. How many demonstrative pronouns are there? _____
3. Name them. _____
4. Which pronoun can be used as either a demonstrative pronoun or a relative pronoun? _____
5. If you want to point out something near, you would use this singular demonstrative pronoun. _____
6. If you want to point out something far away, you would use this singular demonstrative pronoun. _____
7. Name the two plural demonstrative pronouns. _____

Activity B: Underline the demonstrative pronouns in the following sentences.

1. That is the biggest pumpkin in our field.
2. This is the tent we slept in last summer.
3. These are the shoes I've wanted all year.
4. Are those the ones you want?

Name _____

Date _____

Answer Key

Activity A

1. Demonstrative pronouns point to a specific person, place, thing.
2. How many demonstrative pronouns are there? Four
3. Name them. **this, these, that, and those.**
4. Which pronoun can be used as either a demonstrative pronoun or a relative pronoun? that
5. If you want to point out something near, you would use this singular demonstrative pronoun. this
6. If you want to point out something far away, you would use this singular demonstrative pronoun. that
7. Name the two plural demonstrative pronouns. **these and those.**

Activity B

1. That is the biggest pumpkin in our field.
2. This is the tent we slept in last summer.
3. These are the shoes I've wanted all year.
4. Are those the ones you want?