

## Demonstratives this – that – these – those

### Introduction

1) Demonstratives are words that show which person or thing is being referred to.

***This** is Hugh, and **that** is Kevin.*

2) Demonstratives show where an object, event, or person is in relation to the speaker. They can refer to a physical or a psychological closeness or distance.

|   | Near the speaker | Far from the speaker |
|---|------------------|----------------------|
| Adverbs   | <i>here</i>      | <i>there</i>         |
| Demonstrative with singular and uncountable nouns | <i>this</i>      | <i>that</i>          |
| Demonstrative with plural countable nouns         | <i>these</i>     | <i>those</i>         |

Demonstratives can be placed before the noun or the adjective that modifies the noun.

***That old man** stole my purse!*

***These oranges** are delicious!*

Demonstratives can also appear before a number by itself when the noun is understood from the context.

*I'll take **this one**, please. = I'll take *this watermelon*, please.*

Demonstratives can be used by themselves when the noun they modify is understood from the context.

***Those** aren't yours. Put them back. = *Those shoes* aren't yours. Put them back.*

When talking about events, the near demonstratives are often used to refer to the present while the far demonstratives often refer to the past.

***This situation** is quite unstable.*

***That event** made me realise how important my family is to me.*

### Short Story Dialogue

– Good morning! How can I help you?

– Hi! I'm looking for a formal dress. Could you help me find one?

– Yes, of course! Maybe we could try **this one**? We got **this dress** only a day ago. I'm sure that you'll be **the only one** wearing it.

– Honestly, I don't really like **this colour**. Maybe you could show me **that one over there**? I like the print a lot.

– Surely! And what about the shoes?

– I have a picture on my phone. I want **something like that**. I think **those ones** are quite similar.

– You have an excellent taste! Let me get **those** for you.

### Independent Practice - Demonstratives this – that – these – those

#### 1) Fill in the gaps with **this** or **these**.

- a. Hey, why are you scared? – ..... ! (pointing at a snake).
- b. Which bags are yours? – ..... ones. Could you help me with them?
- c. You are always late. – ..... is not true! I am right on time!
- d. Harry Potter? ..... movie is my absolute favourite!
- e. .... people are boring! I might leave the party early.
- f. Is ..... Mr. Jones? – No, ..... is Mr. Adams. Mr. Jones is over there.
- g. .... is for me? I'm so touched!
- h. .... tickets are so expensive! I don't know if I can afford them.
- i. .... is unbelievable. I can't understand why they did ..... to her.
- g. .... are the books you asked for.

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## Independent Practice: Answers - Demonstratives this – that – these – those

### 1) Fill in the gaps with *this* or *these*.

- a. Hey, why are you scared? – **This!** (pointing at a snake).
- b. Which bags are yours? – **These** ones. Could you help me with them?
- c. You are always late. – **This** is not true! I am right on time!
- d. Harry Potter? **This** movie is my absolute favourite!
- e. **These** people are boring! I might leave the party early.
- f. Is **this** Mr. Jones? – No, **this** is Mr. Adams. Mr. Jones is over there.
- g. **This** is for me? I'm so touched!
- h. **These** tickets are so expensive! I don't know if I can afford them.
- i. **This** is unbelievable. I can't understand why they did **this** to her.
- g. **These** are the books you asked for.