



That's the one: let me demonstrate

CAPS Statement

Language structures and conventions

Working with words and sentences:

Builds on use of demonstrative pronouns (e.g. this, that, those, these).

Note

Demonstrative pronouns are pronouns that point to the nouns. They demonstrate which one(s) it is.

There are only four demonstrative pronouns: **This**, **That**, **These** and **Those**.

The word 'demonstrate' is a synonym for 'show'.

Singular demonstrative pronouns point to one noun:

Example

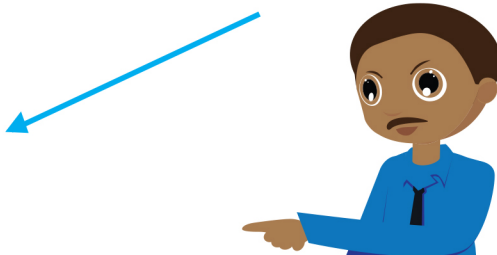
NEAR

This is a flower.



FAR

That is a flower.

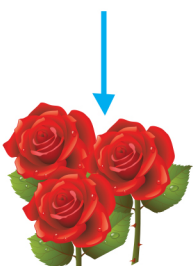


Plural demonstrative pronouns point to many – they show which nouns we are talking about:

Example

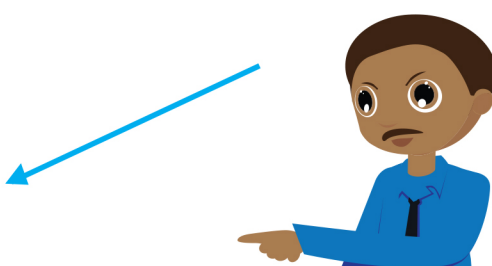
NEAR

These are the flowers.



FAR

Those are the flowers.





As you have seen, demonstrative pronouns come before the verb. However, in a question they stand on their own just before the question mark.

Example

How do you do **this**?

Do you want **that**?

Would you like to see **those**?

How about **these**?

Activity 1

Help Themba fill in the correct demonstrative pronouns from the word well below to complete the sentences.

Example

These are the pencils you must use – the ones in this pencil bag.

Those

This

That

These

- ① _____ are the soccer players in the field over there.
- ② _____ is my ball lying over there.
- ③ _____ is my pen I am using.
- ④ _____ over here are your books.



Activity 2

Themba and his mom are tidying up his room. They are recycling some things, they are giving other things to charity and they are neatening up the things that Themba is still using. Read the dialogue between Themba and his mom. Fill in the correct demonstrative pronouns so their conversation makes sense.

Themba's mom (showing him a plastic model he created): What about

_____? Themba: _____ is an old project. It can be recycled.

Themba's mom (pointing to a pair of shoes under the bed): _____ are shoes that can go to charity!

Themba (picking up the shoes): But mo-om ... _____ are my favourite shoes. **Themba's mom:** OK. You can keep them, but the jeans have to go... they are full of holes.

Themba: But _____ is the fashion, mom.

Themba's mom: Fashion or no fashion, _____ is not a debate. It is simple: (picking up the jeans with disgust) _____ are trousers that you cannot wear anymore. They must go ... but you can keep your favourite shoes.

Teacher Tip

There are only four demonstrative pronouns, so learners should remember them easily. However, you need to make sure that they don't use the pronouns as adjectives, for example: 'These flowers are beautiful.' The demonstrative pronouns are found on their own, before a verb or at the end of a question – NOT before a noun. You can point to objects in the class and ask: 'What is that?' 'What are these?' Emphasise that 'this' and 'these' are used for objects which are close by, and 'that' and 'those' are used for objects that are farther away.

