65 "This / that / these / those"

"This," "that," "these," and "those" can be used as determiners before a noun to specify which noun is being talked about. They can also be used as pronouns to replace a noun in a sentence.

See also:

Singular and plural nouns 69 Personal pronouns 77 Possession 80

"THIS" AND "THAT" AS DETERMINERS

"This" and "that" are only used with singular nouns. "This" is used for something close, and "that" for something farther away.



This house is too big.

The house is close to you.



That house is too small.

The house is farther away from you.

"This" can also be used for something current or present, and "that" can be used for something absent or in the past.



This job is great.

"This" refers to the job that the speaker is currently doing.



That job was boring.

"That" refers to a job in the past that isn't being done anymore.

'Was" is in the past tense.

FURTHER EXAMPLES



This essay is proving to be really difficult.



I like this rabbit so much I want to take it home.



When I eat out I always order this rice dish.

> Uncountable nouns are only used with "this" and "that," never "these" and "those."



That cake in the window looks incredible.



I'd like to see that play this weekend



This show is great, but I didn't like that other show as much.

> "Other" can be used after "that" to stress that it is different to the first noun.

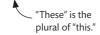
"THESE" AND "THOSE" AS DETERMINERS

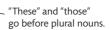
"These" and "those" are only used with plural nouns. "These" is used for things close by or current. "Those" is used for things farther away or in the past.

This cake is delicious.



These cakes are delicious.







That sandwich tastes bad.



Those sandwiches look better.





These new shoes are hurting my feet.



I hope these exams go well.



I don't think these vegetables are very fresh.



These books are so heavy! I can't carry them.



These books are so heavy! I can't carry them.



Those sunglasses look great on you!



I like the look of those Caribbean cruises...



I'll take those apples and these bananas, please.



65.3 "THIS" AND "THAT" AS PRONOUNS

"This" and "that" can replace singular nouns in a sentence. They point out a specific thing. "This" is used for something close, and "that" is used for something farther away.



This is my dog.



That is my dog.



"This" can also be used for something current or present, and "that" can be used for something absent or in the past.



This is a great party.



hat" means the party has already happened.

The dog is farther away from you.



That was such a fun party yesterday.

FURTHER EXAMPLES

This is a great honor. Thank you everyone for coming.



That was so exciting.



This has always been the most beautiful park.



If you could do a blow-dry, that would be great.



This is the perfect laptop for creative work.



That sounded out of tune. I'd get the piano fixed.



This is the best soup I've ever tasted.



That looks great. Is the car new?





FURTHER EXAMPLES

These are the best kind of shoes to wear when running.



I think those will probably taste better with sauce.



These are the only clothes I own.



Those aren't very good for you. Try these instead.



SUBSTITUTING WITH "THAT" AND "THOSE"

"That" and "those" can be used in place of a noun phrase to mean "the one" or "the ones."

That" refers to "policy."



The new policy is better than that of before.

'Those who" means

I disapprove of those who don't recycle.

