

14 *this, that, these, those*



1 Form

	ADJECTIVE (BEFORE A NOUN)	PRONOUN (WITHOUT A NOUN)
singular	<i>This coat is expensive. That building is beautiful.</i>	<i>This is expensive. That is beautiful.</i>
plural	<i>These coats are expensive. Those buildings are beautiful.</i>	<i>These are expensive. Those are beautiful.</i>

We use a singular verb after *this/that* and a plural verb after *these/those*.

2 Near or far?

We use *this* and *these* to talk about things that are near us:

*Excuse me. Is **this** seat free?* (the seat near us)

*I need some new glasses – **these** are broken.* (the glasses I am holding)

We use *that* and *those* for things that are not near us:

*Look at the sky – **that's** the North Star.*

*I'd like some pens – how much are **those** on the top shelf?*

3 Now or then?

We also use *this/these* to talk about now or a time that is near us:

***This** lesson is interesting.* (the lesson we are in now)

*I hate **these** cold winter days.* (the winter days we have now)

*I'm doing a lot of exercise **these** days.* (at the present time)

*What are you doing **this** evening?* (It's the morning or afternoon now.)

We use *that/those* to talk about a situation in the past:

*What did you think of **that** lesson yesterday?*

*There were no cars in **those** days.* (at a time in the past)

4 *this is/is that ... ?*

We use *this is ...* to introduce someone:

*Peter, **this is** Jane.*

We use *this is ...* and *is that ... ?* on the phone:

*'Hello, can I speak to Joan?' '**This is** Joan speaking.'*

*'Is **that** Angela?' 'No, she isn't here at the moment.'*

Practice

1 Look at the picture and tick (✓) the things which belong to Darren.



2 Match the sentences 1 and 2 with A and B in each group.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 0 1 What's your opinion of that film? | → A The film we are watching now. |
| 2 What do you think of this film? | → B The film we watched yesterday. |
| 1 1 I don't like this car. | A The car we are in now. |
| 2 I don't like that car. | B The car in the garage window. |
| 2 1 Do you like those flowers? | A The flowers in my hand. |
| 2 Do you like these flowers? | B The flowers in my neighbour's garden. |
| 3 1 Are these phones expensive? | A The phones we are looking at. |
| 2 Are those phones expensive? | B The phones we looked at last week. |

3 Complete the sentences. Use *this*, *that*, *these* or *those*.

- 0 *Those* phones in the window look really smart.
- 1 Do you like ring? My sister gave it to me.
- 2 What did you think of DVD we saw yesterday?
- 3 I'd like two of cakes – the ones on the top shelf.
- 4 Theatre tickets are very expensive days.
- 5 Could you help me? books are very heavy.
- 6 In days, children often worked in factories.

4 **GRAMMAR IN USE** Complete the conversations with *this*, *that*, *these* or *those* and the correct form of the verbs in brackets ().

- 1 A Let me introduce my colleagues. (0) *These are* (be) my assistants, Sue and Joe.
B Pleased to meet you.
A And (1) (be) our office manager, Mike.
B Hello, Mike. So, where is your boss?
A (2) (be) my boss, Eleanor, over there in the corner of the room.
- 2 A Hello. Can I speak to Mrs Hargreaves?
B (3) (be) Mrs Hargreaves speaking. Can I help you?
- 3 A Here are the two keys. (4) (open) the front and back doors.
B What about the keys for the balcony door and the car?
A Oh, (5) (be) in the cupboard in the kitchen.
B And where's the key for the garage?
A Oh, (6) (not have) a lock, so there's no key.