

Demonstrative-relative pronouns

Demonstrative pronouns

Definition: To demonstrate is to show something. **Demonstrative pronouns** show or point to objects or people.

Demonstrative Pronouns		
	Close to Speaker	Far from Speaker
Singular	This	That
Plural	These	Those

This and *that* refer to singular objects or people.

This is an expensive store.

That is a very tall building.

These and *those* refer to plural objects or people.

These are very expensive shoes.

Those are the tallest skyscrapers in the city.

In addition to providing information about whether something is singular or plural, demonstrative pronouns indicate whether something is close to or far from the speaker.

Comparison 1: This vs. That

Example	Context
<i><u>This</u> is my best friend.</i>	The friend is close to the speaker. The speaker is likely introducing the friend to another person.
<i><u>That</u> is my best friend.</i>	The friend is far away from the speaker (across the room, for example). The speaker is probably talking about the friend, not introducing him or her.

Comparison 2: These vs. Those

Example	Context
<i><u>These</u> are amazing cookies!</i>	The speaker is holding or eating the cookies, or the cookies are close by.
<i><u>Those</u> are amazing cookies!</i>	Someone other than the speaker is holding the cookies, or the cookies are not near the speaker.

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Relative Pronouns

Definition: A relative is someone who has a relationship with you. **Relative pronouns** show a relationship between a noun and a clause. The clause provides describing information about the noun. You can also use relative pronouns to combine two sentences into one.

Relative Pronouns				
That	Which	Who	Whom	Whose

Who, whom, and whose relate to people (or pets if you refer to them by name). *Which* is used with objects. *That* is preferably used only with objects, but you will see it used with people. Try to get in the habit of using *who* with people instead of *that*.

Examples of Relative Pronouns

*I like roller coasters **that** have lots of loops.*
(*that* = roller coasters)

*Ice cream, **which** is my favorite dessert, tastes very refreshing on a hot summer day.*
(*which* = ice cream)

*Teachers **who** have a sense of humor are easy to get along with.*
(*who* = teachers)

*My cousin, **who** is from Illinois, visits me every year.*
(*who* = my cousin)

*The friend **whom** you saw yesterday wants to go out again tonight.*
(*whom* = friend)

*The man **whose** shirt was stained rushed home for a change of clothes.*
(*whose* = the man's)

In each of these sentences, you can see that the relative pronoun introduces additional information about the noun.

You can also use relative pronouns to combine two sentences. This feature makes relative pronouns an excellent tool for improving your writing. Take a look at the following two sentences:

The team won the championship. The team went to Disneyland to celebrate.

by using the relative pronoun *that* to replace the noun *team* in the second sentence.

*The team **that** won the championship went to Disneyland to celebrate.*