

# Demonstrative pronouns

Study the following sentences.

This is a gift from my brother.

Both watches are good; but **this** is better than **that**.

My views are in accordance with those of the Chairman.

These are mere excuses.

That is the Red Fort.

Mumbai mangoes are better than those of Bangalore.

You will have noticed that the pronouns in bold text are used to point out the objects to which they refer. They are, therefore, called demonstrative pronouns. There are four demonstrative pronouns in English: **this**, **that**, **these** and **those**.

Note that **this** and **that** are used with singular nouns. **These** and **those** are used with plural nouns.

**This** and **these** refer to object/objects close at hand. **That** and **those** refer to what is 'over there'.

**This** is better than **that**.

Demonstrative adjectives

**This**, **that**, **these** and **those** are demonstrative adjectives when they are used with nouns.

**That** book is mine.

What is **that** noise?

**These** flowers are very beautiful.

**Those** days were the best.

**This** horse is faster than **that** horse.

Special uses

**That** and **those** are often used to avoid the repetition of a preceding noun.

# Demonstrative pronouns

The streets of Mumbai are busier than those of Paris. (= The streets of Mumbai are busier than the streets of Paris.)

Here the demonstrative those is used to avoid the repetition of 'the streets'.