

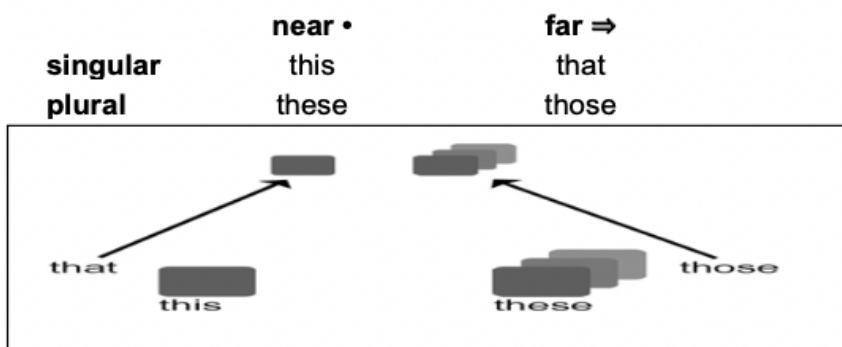
Help box

Pronouns replace nouns. A different pronoun is required depending on two elements: the noun being replaced and the function that noun has in the sentence. In English, pronouns only take the gender of the noun they replace in the 3rd person singular form. The 2nd person plural pronouns are identical to the 2nd person singular pronouns except for the reflexive pronoun.

	Subject Pronoun	Object Pronoun	Possessive Adjective (Determiner)	Possessive Pronoun	Reflexive Pronoun
1st person singular	I	me	my	mine	myself
2nd person singular	you	you	your	yours	yourself
3rd person singular, male	he	him	his	his	himself
3rd person singular, female	she	her	her	hers	herself
3rd person singular, neutral	it	it	its	/	itself
1st person plural	we	us	Our	ours	ourselves
2nd person plural	you	you	your	yours	yourselves
3rd person plural	they	them	their	Theirs	themselves

◆ **Demonstrative pronouns:** A demonstrative pronoun represents a thing or things:

- near in distance or time (**this, these**)
- far in distance or time (**that, those**)



Note: Do not confuse demonstrative pronouns with demonstrative adjectives. They are identical, but a demonstrative pronoun stands alone, while a demonstrative adjective qualifies a noun.

- **That** smells. (demonstrative pronoun)
- **That book** is good. (demonstrative adjective + noun)

Normally we use demonstrative pronouns for things only. But we can use them for people when the person is identified. Look at these examples:

- **This** is Josef speaking. Is **that** Mary?
- **That** sounds like John.

◆ There or It ?

We often use **there** when we mention something for the first time, like the picture in this example.

- **There** was a picture on the wall. **It** was an abstract painting.

We use **it** when we talk about the details.

◆ Relative pronouns

Relative Pronouns take the place of nouns or pronouns. They are called relative pronouns because they always relate back to something or someone else. They are used to join two sentences about the same person or thing.

Pronouns	Usage	Example
who	refers to people (subject)	A blogger is a person who keeps a web blog .
whom	refers to people (object of the verb)	They have found the man whom they want to interview.
whose	refers to possessions	This is my friend whose PC broke down last week.
which	refers to animals and objects	...a mouse which allows cursor movement and selection on the screen...
that	refers to people, objects and animals	...the hardware components that allow users to send information...
where	refers to place	This is the office where he works. (= at which)
when	refers to time	I'll never forget the day when I visited Silicon Valley. (=on which)

Note: We use relative pronouns to introduce **relative clauses**. Relative clauses tell us more about people and things.