



Example Conversation



A: Who is that man? (Iza io lehilahy io?)
B: That man is a teacher. (Mpampianatra io lehilahy io.)
A: What are these things? (Inona ireto zavatra ireto?)
B: These things are books. (Boky ireny zavatra ireny.)
A: And who is that? (Ary iza iny?)
B: That is Fara. (I Fara iny.)
A: And what are those? (Ary inona irery?)
B: Those are geese. (Gisa ireo.)



Vocabulary

io lehilahy io (Tsm: **io lalahy io**) = that man
ireto zavatra ireto = these things
iza iny (Tsm: **zôvy iny**) = who is that?
inona irery (Tsm: **ino rôho**) = what are those?
inona ireto (Tsm: **ino ireto**) = what are these?
lehilahy (Tsm: **lalahy**) = man
mpampianatra = teacher
zavatra (Tsm: **raha**) = something
boky = book
gisa (Tsm: **gisy**) = goose

Grammar



1. Demonstratives

A demonstrative is an adjective or pronoun used to point out a person or object. The form changes based on number and distance.

Distance	Singular (Off)	Plural (Off)	Singular (Tsm)	Plural (Tsm)
Near	ity	ireto	tôho	ireto
Intermediate	io	ireo	io	ireo
Farther	itsy	iretsy	rôho	rôho
Farther still	irý	irerý	rôho	rôho
very far	iny	irenny	iny	irenny

Notes:

Ity/Ireto (this/these): Used for objects or people held in hand or pointed at.

Iny/Irenny (that/those): Used for distant objects or people or those held by another person.

Itsy/Iretsý/Irý/Irerý (that/those): Often answered with **io/ireo (that/those)** in questions.

Example:

Inona itsy? (What is that?) → **Kiraro io.** (That is a shoe.)

Iza irerý? (Who are those?) → **Mpampianatra ireo.** (They are teachers.)



2. Demonstrative Adjectives

Structure: Demonstrative + Noun + Demonstrative

Examples:

Io lehilahy io = That man

Ireto zavatra ireto = These things

Ireny zavatra ireny = Those things

Iza iny lehilahy iny? = Who is that man?



3. Demonstrative Pronouns

Structure: Noun + Demonstrative

Examples:

Iza iny? (Tsm: Zôvy iny?) = Who is that?

→ **Fara iny.** = That is Fara.

Inona irery? (Tsm: Ino irery?) = What are they/these?

→ **Gisa ireo.** = These are geese.

Inona ity? (Tsm: Ino rôho?) = What is this?

→ **Boky iny.** = That is a book.



Exercises

A. Listen and Translate (without looking at the answers)

- 1) Geda tôho, gisy tôho.
- 2) Ravoravo rôho, lalahy rôho.
- 3) Miasa ve ireo lalahy ireo?
- 4) Zôvy ireny?
- 5) Ino tôho?
- 6) Boky iny.
- 7) Malahelo io zaza io.
- 8) Mpianatra tôho.
- 9) Mpanao mofo ireo.
- 10) Dokotera iny.



Answers:

- 1) This goose is big.
- 2) The man there is happy.
- 3) Do these men work?
- 4) Who are they/those?
- 5) What is this?
- 6) That is a book.
- 7) That child is sad.
- 8) That is a student.
- 9) They are bakers.
- 10) That is a doctor.



B. Translate into Malagasy (without looking at the answers)

- 1) What is this? - It is a book.
- 2) And those? - These are also books.
- 3) Who is that man? - It's Paul.
- 4) And this child? - This is his son.



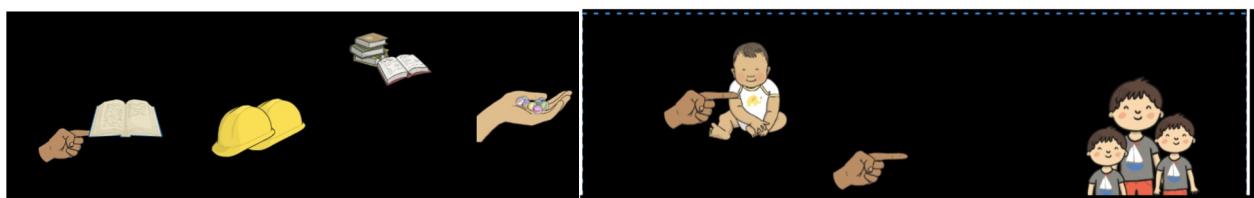
Answers:

- 1) Inona ity? - Boky ity.
- 2) Ary ireny? - Boky koa ireto.
- 3) Iza iny lehilahy iny? - Paoly iny.
- 4) Ary ity zaza ity? - Zanany ity.



Matching Demonstratives to Images

Match the sentences with images:



1

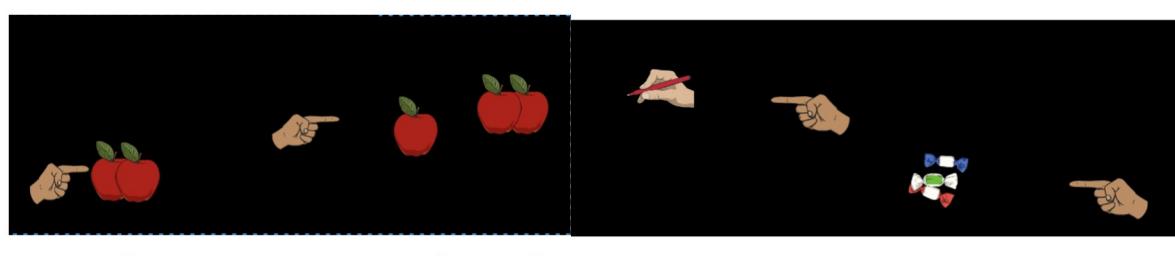
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11

- a) Iny penina iny
- b) Io paoma io
- c) Ireo vatomamy ireo
- d) Ity boky ity
- e) Ireny ankizy ireny
- f) Ireto paoma ireto
- g) Ireny vatomamy ireny
- h) Iretsy paoma iretsya
- i) Ity zaza ity
- j) Ireo satroka ireo
- k) Iretsy boky iretsya



Vocabulary

PENINA (*pen*)
VATOMAMY (*sweet*)
PAOMA (*apple*)
ZAZA (*baby*)
ANKIZY (*child*)
BOKY (*book*)
SATROKA (*hat*)

Answer: 1=j, 2=h, 3=k, 4=a, 5=f, 6=g, 7=d, 8=i, 9=e, 10=b, 11=3