Spanish 3 – Unit 2, Lesson 8
Patterns
Study Sheet

Introduction

You want a banana! Which one? This one or that one? Demonstrative adjectives and demonstrative pronouns help to clarify which one. In English, demonstrative adjectives and pronouns are identical. In Spanish, they also are identical with the exception of a written accent mark over demonstrative pronouns. And of course, in Spanish, they must agree in number and gender with the nouns they replace or modify, just like other adjectives in Spanish. The following table reviews English demonstratives.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ENGLISH</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Demonstrative Adjectives &amp; Pronouns</td>
<td>Singular</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proximity</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nearest to speaker</td>
<td>this (here)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Close to speaker</td>
<td>that (there)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farthest from speaker</td>
<td>that (over there)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Demonstrative Adjectives:
Example: I want this book.
Example: I need those scissors.

Demonstrative Pronouns:
Example: I want this one (book).
Example: I need those (scissors).

Demonstrative Adjectives

Adjectives modify nouns. So, what are demonstrative adjectives?

Demonstrative adjectives are used to "point out" objects or people and "demonstrate" the spatial relationship between the speaker and the object. That is, they identify how close something is to another noun or pronoun. For example, "This bread is as fresh as that bread."

The following chart lists the demonstrative adjectives in Spanish.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPANISH</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Demonstrative Adjectives</td>
<td>Singular</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>this, these</td>
<td>este</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>that, those</td>
<td>ese</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>that, those (farthest from speaker)</td>
<td>aquel</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In Spanish, don't forget that all adjectives must agree with the nouns that they modify in number (the number of objects a speaker is referring to, singular or plural,) and gender (feminine or masculine). "Este pan está tan fresco como ese pan (or aquel pan, if the bread is further away from the speaker). Note the following examples.

| THIS | ese durazno | esta fresa | THESE | estos duraznos | estas fresas |
| THAT | ese durazno | esa fresa | THOSE | esos duraznos | esas fresas |
| THAT | aquel durazno | aquella fresa | THOSE | aquellos duraznos | aquellas fresas |

Notice that it is este durazno and ese durazno and not esto durazno and eso durazno.

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Demonstrative Adjective Practice Exercise: Translate the word in quotes. Make sure it agrees with the noun.
1. “this” casa
2. “these” fresas
3. “this” teléfono
4. “that” libro
5. “those” hombres
6. “those” chicos
7. “those” manzanas (over there, or far away)
8. “that” señor (over there, or far away)

Now, scroll down and check your answers.
1. esta casa – notice that esta is feminine because casa is feminine
2. estas fresas – notice that estas is feminine and plural
3. este teléfono – notice that the masculine singular form ends in a “e” not “o”
4. ese libro – ese means that, still close to the speaker
5. esa chica – esa ends in an “a” because chica is feminine
6. esos chicos – notice that the noun is masculine and plural
7. aquellas manzanas – feminine & plural, the apples are farther from the speaker
8. aquel señor – the man is far from the speaker

Demonstrative Pronouns

Pronouns take the place of nouns. So, what are demonstrative pronouns?

Demonstrative pronouns look just like demonstrative adjectives except that they have a written accent mark on the first é. The accent replaces the noun.

—Yo quiero aquella pera grande.   I want that big pear.
—¿Cuál? ¿Ésta?   Which one? This one?
—No. Ésa. La verde a la izquierda.   No. That one. The green one on the left.

In the brief dialogue above between a customer and a produce merchant, the accent over ésta and esa replaced the word pera. There was no need to repeat “pera” because both speakers knew what item they were talking about. Notice that in English we typically use the word “one” instead of an accent mark.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spanish Demonstrative Pronouns</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Singular</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THIS (one), THESE (ones)</td>
<td>éste</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THAT (one), THOSE (ones)</td>
<td>ése</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THAT (one) over there, THOSE (ones) over there</td>
<td>aquél</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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You should note that you CANNOT use a demonstrative pronoun without having previously named the noun that it is replacing or unless it is clear in the context. Otherwise, no one will understand what object you are referring to.

Demonstrative Pronoun Practice Exercise: Answer with the appropriate pronoun.

1. --¿Quiere Ud. comprar esta falda? --No, gracias. Prefiero “that one.”
2. --¿Te gustan esos zapatos? --Sí, me gustan “those.”
3. --Prefieres este abrigo o ése? --Prefiero “this one.”
4. --¿Qué tienda te gusta más? --“This one,” la joyería, por supuesto.

Now, scroll down and check your answers.

1. ésa – that one, The accent replaces falda.
2. éses -- those, the accent replaces zapatos.
3. éste – this one, the accent replaces abrigo.
4. ésta – tienda is the understood noun so “this one” should be feminine.

NEUTER -- Each demonstrative pronoun also has a neuter or neutral form. It is used to refer to abstract ideas, a previously mentioned statement, or something vague like an unknown or unidentified object. The neuter pronouns do not change for number or gender, and they do not have a written accent.

- **esto** (this idea, this thing)
- **eso** (that idea, that thing)
- **aquello** (that idea/thing over there)

¡**Esto** es importante! This generic idea or concept is important!
¿**Qué es eso?** What is that? -- the object is unknown

Using Demonstrative Pronouns and Demonstrative Adjectives Together

Demonstrative pronouns and demonstrative adjectives can be used together in the same sentence. All you have to remember is that they must agree in person, number, and gender with the noun(s) they replace or modify, and that in order to use a demonstrative pronoun, you must have previously mentioned the noun that you are replacing. For example:

**Estas** ciruelas son grandes; **ésas** son pequeñas.
(These plums is large; that one there is small.)

and

**Aquella** fruta es amarga, pero **ésta** es dulce.
(That fruit over there is bitter, but this is sweet.)
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Practice Exercises

To check your understanding of demonstrative pronouns and demonstrative adjectives, complete the following exercises.

A. Sentence Completion: Demonstrative Adjectives

Write the appropriate form of the demonstrative pronoun in the space provided. The masculine singular form of the demonstrative is provided in parentheses. Pay careful attention to the gender and number of the noun it replaces.

1. ________ (Este) casa es hermosa.
2. ________ (Ese) bolígrafo escribe bien.
3. ________ (Aquel) libro contiene gramática española.
4. ________ (Este) tienda es de mi tío.
5. ________ (Ese) calles son estrechas (narrow).
6. ________ (Aquel) soldado es valiente.
7. ________ (Ese) mujer es inglesa.
8. ________ (Este) hombres son corteses.
9. ________ (Aquel) chico es portugués.
10. ________ (Ese) flores son raras.
11. ________ (Este) camisa es largísima.
12. ________ (Aquel) carnicería vende la mejor carne.
13. ________ (Este) reloj es un Rolex.
14. ________ (Aquel) computadora no funciona bien.
15. ________ (Ese) programas son buenos.  *remember the rule for words ending in -ama

B. Sentence Completion: Demonstrative Pronouns

Circle the appropriate demonstrative pronoun in the parenthesis. Pay careful attention to the noun it replaces.

1. Prefiero la corbata roja, no (ése, ésa, esa) que está allí.
2. Me gusta aquella casa blanca, pero (éste, ésta, éstas) amarilla, no tanto.
3. Esas manzanas ahí están deliciosas, pero (éste, éstas, éstos) no están tan buenas.
4. Me gusta aquel automóvil pero (ése, ésa, ésos) que está allí es padrísimo (super cool).
5. Este chaleco es chévere (cool) pero (aquel, aquél, aquélla) que lleva el señor allá es feo.
6. Las montañas detrás de la universidad son bonitas pero (aquél, aquéllas, aquéllos) son desoladas.
7. Prefiero las fresas del estado de Oregón no (éasas, ésa, ése) de California.
8. El equipo vestido de azul es más talentoso que (éste, ésta, este) en rojo.
9. Aquellos cuadros de Picasso me caen mucho mejor que (este, éstas, éstos) de Dalí.
10. Preferimos las uvas verdes, no (éstas, ésta, éstos) moradas.
11. La ropa hecha en Honduras es más barata que (aquél, aquélla, aquéllas) hecha en Nueva York.
12. Las zanahorias del supermercado son mejores que (éstos, éstas, éste).
C. Phrase Translation: Demonstrative Pronouns and Demonstrative Adjectives

Translate each of the following phrases. Do not translate the words that are in parenthesis – they are only there to help you identify the distance from the speaker. Make sure to add an accent to the demonstrative pronoun or the noun with the demonstrative adjective.

1. _______________ those flowers (nearby)
2. _______________ that drugstore (nearby)
3. _______________ this (apricot right here)
4. _______________ those (shoes way over there)
5. _______________ these books (right here)
6. _______________ those clothes (nearby)
7. _______________ these apples (right here)
8. _______________ this map of Spain (right here)
9. _______________ those rivers (way over there)
10. _______________ that (bread nearby)
11. _______________ these (foods right here)
12. _______________ that (backpack way over there)
13. _______________ these (trees right here)
14. _______________ this year
15. _______________ that thing (nearby)

D. Translation

Translate each of the following phrases.  
Example: I prefer this tie not that one (nearby).  
Prefiero esta corbata, no esa.

1. _______________ I need this price, not that one.
2. _______________ That class (over there) is bigger than this one.
3. _______________ I like this watch, not that one (nearby).
4. _______________
5. _______________ Those shoes (over there) are more expensive than these.
6. _______________ That is difficult. (unspecified idea)
7. _______________ These exercises are easier than those.
8. _______________ What is this? (unidentified object)

E. Writing Exercise

Write a dialogue in the store of your choice using at least six sentences. You and a friend are deciding between two or three different objects. Be sure to use words like this, these, that, those, and those over there.