

Demonstrative adjectives and comparisons

In English Demonstrative adjectives point out people and things. They must agree in number with the nouns they refer to. We use **this** and **these** for things that are nearby, and **that** and **those** for things that are further away.

SINGULAR

this I like **this** shirt.
that I need **that** book.

PLURAL

these Do you like **these** shirts?
those He wants **those** notebooks.

The following formulas are used to make comparisons with adjectives:

<i>adjective</i> + -er than	She is taller than me.
more + <i>adjective</i> + than	He is more intelligent than Gunther.
less + <i>adjective</i> + than	Roberta is less careful than Monica.
as + <i>adjective</i> + as	That tree is as tall as our house.

The *adjective* + **-er than** formula is generally used when the adjective is only one syllable long. (**quicker than, lighter than, stronger than**).

A Circle the demonstrative adjective and indicate whether it is singular or plural. Also underline the phrase that expresses the comparison.

1. This movie is longer than Ben-Hur.
2. That shirt is more expensive than mine.
3. Those men are as rich as the Vanderbilts.
4. That kid is smarter than Einstein!
5. My backpack is as heavy as those dumbbells.
6. This dress is less stylish than that skirt.
7. You're as crazy as that March hare.

Singular	Plural
✓	

In Spanish Demonstrative adjectives also point out people and things. They must agree in number *and* gender with the nouns they describe. We use forms of **este** for things that are nearby, and forms of **ese** for things that are further away.

SINGULAR

este/esta *this*
ese/esa *that*

PLURAL

estos/estas *these*
esos/esas *those*

¿Te gustan **estos** zapatos, o prefieres **esas** sandalias?

Use these expressions to **compare** things with adjectives. The adjective agrees in gender and number with the first noun in the comparison.

más + <i>adjective</i> + que	Ella es más lista que yo.
menos + <i>adjective</i> + que	Pedro es menos fuerte que Sansón.
tan + <i>adjective</i> + como	Esas chicas son tan altas como tú.

DEMONSTRATIVE ADJECTIVES AND COMPARISONS

B Circle the demonstrative adjective and indicate whether it is singular (S) or plural (P), masculine (M) or feminine (F). Underline the phrase expressing comparison.

1. Esa blusa es más pequeña que mi camisa. S, F
2. Estos calcetines son tan largos como esos calcetines. _____
3. Mi vestido es menos bonito que ese vestido azul. _____
4. Tu chaqueta de cuero es más cara que esa chaqueta. _____
5. Esos pantalones cortos son más feos que tus pantalones cortos. _____
6. Ese sombrero está menos pasado de moda que otros. _____
7. Esta falda de algodón es menos corta que una minifalda. _____

C Make sentences with these words and using all of the different comparison formulas. Be sure that the demonstrative adjectives agree with the nouns.

1. Este / profesora joven / estricto / ese / profesor mayor
Esta profesora joven es más estricta que ese profesor mayor.
2. Ese / profesores / serio / este / estudiantes

3. Este / clase / divertido / ese / fiesta

4. Este / camisa blanca / bonito / ese / camisa de rayas

5. Esé / aretes / barato / este / collar

6. Este / diccionario / interesante / ese / novela

7. Ese / calcetines de seda / caro / este / bufanda de lana

D 1. Explain the difference in meaning between the following sentences:

Este zapato es de cuero. _____

Ese zapato es de cuero. _____

2. Do you have trouble telling the demonstratives apart? This saying might help:

This and these have Ts; this este these estos
that and those don't. that ese those esos