



Learn English Through Stories

T Series

Upper - Intermediate

Adapted and modified by
Kulwant Singh Sandhu

<https://learn-by-reading.co.uk>

Banta Learning Demonstratives by K S Sandhu

Banta and Reeta stepped out of the bus and looked around in amazement. "Wow! We're here at last," said Banta. "So, this is the famous Grand Canyon!"

Reeta smiled. "It's amazing, isn't it? And this is a fantastic place to see it from. The view is incredible!"

They walked to the edge of the viewpoint. Banta pointed down. "Can you see that river at the bottom?"

"Yes, I can," Reeta replied.

"That is the Colorado River," Banta explained. "It's much wider than the River Thames in London."

Reeta laughed. "But that is impossible! It looks so tiny from here!"

Banta shook his head. "This is because it's so far away from us. The distance makes everything seem smaller."

Reeta turned her head. "Look at those rocks on the other side of the valley. Is that a cave over there?"

Banta looked carefully. "Yes, I think so. I read in the guidebook that the ancient people here lived in caves before the Europeans arrived. In those days, lots of people lived in this area. They used the caves for shelter and protection."

Reeta's eyes grew wide. "That's really interesting! The history of this place is so rich. Can we visit the caves?"

Banta checked the sign nearby. "I don't think it's allowed these days. Many of the caves are protected to keep them safe for the future. But we can learn more from the information boards."

They sat down on a bench. "These are very comfortable seats," Reeta said, relaxing. "After the long journey, it feels good to sit here."

Banta nodded. "This trip is my first time in the USA. I'm feeling a bit nervous, but excited too. This is my first day seeing such a spectacular natural wonder."

Reeta pointed up. "Can you see those beautiful birds flying above the canyon? They look so free!"

"Yes," Banta said. "Those birds probably live here all year. The Grand Canyon has its own special weather and many animals."

Later, they bought some souvenirs in the shop. Reeta held up two T-shirts. "Have you got any other colours? I don't like those ones – they're too bright."

The shop assistant showed her some more. "How about these? They have a picture of the canyon at sunset."

"Perfect!" Reeta said. "We'll take these."

As the sun began to set, they took photos. "Did you enjoy that lunch we had earlier?" Banta asked. "The sandwiches were delicious."

"Yes, very much," Reeta answered. "That meal was just what we needed."

Banta looked at his phone. "Hello, is that Mum?" he said, answering a call. "Yes, it's me. How are you? We're having an unforgettable time!"

Reeta smiled. "Let me say hello too. Hi, Aunty! This is Reeta speaking. The Grand Canyon is even more impressive than the photos!"

As night fell, they walked back to the bus. "This class about demonstratives helped us talk about everything we saw today," Banta joked. "This, that, these and those – we used them all!"

Reeta laughed. "True! And the view was magnificent. What an extraordinary adventure!"

They promised to return one day. The Grand Canyon, with its ancient rocks, hidden caves, and endless sky, had left them with memories they would never forget.

Questions:

Question 1: What is the name of the river that Banta and Reeta can see at the bottom of the Grand Canyon?

Question 2: Why does the Colorado River look tiny to Reeta?

Question 3: According to the guidebook, who lived in the caves in this area in the past?

Question 4: Why can't Banta and Reeta visit the caves now?

Question 5: What do Reeta and Banta say about the seats they sit on at the viewpoint?

Answers:

Answer 1: The Colorado River.

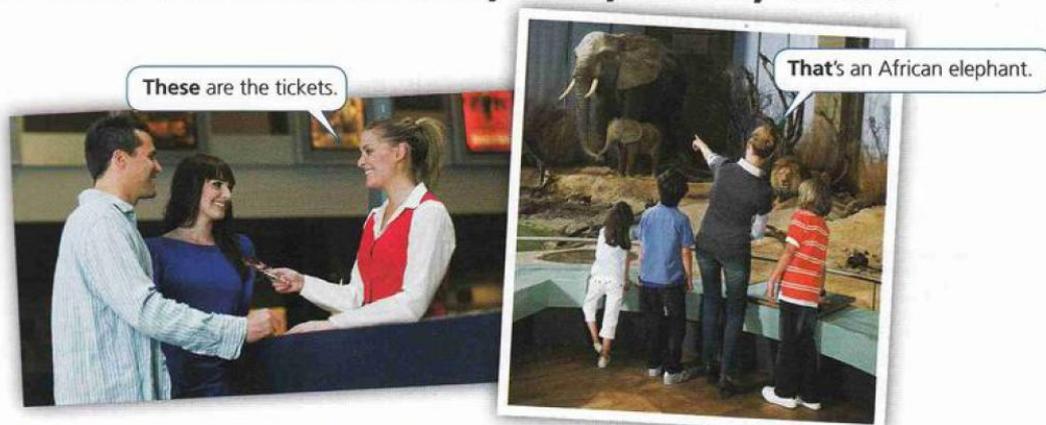
Answer 2: It looks tiny because it is so far away from them.

Answer 3: The ancient people (who lived there before the Europeans arrived).

Answer 4: It is not allowed these days - the caves are protected.

Answer 5: They say these are very comfortable seats.

5 Demonstratives *this, that, these, those*



1 Demonstrative adjectives and pronouns

| | ADJECTIVE (+ noun) | PRONOUN (without a noun) |
|----------|--|---|
| singular | <i>This museum is interesting.</i> <i>That sculpture is beautiful.</i> | <i>This is interesting.</i> <i>That is beautiful.</i> |
| plural | <i>These tickets are expensive.</i> <i>Those sculptures are very old.</i> | <i>These are expensive.</i> <i>Those are very old.</i> |

We often use *this/that one* or *those/these ones*:

*Which shirt do you prefer? **This one** or **that one**?* (= This shirt or that shirt?)

2 Near or far?

We use *this* and *these* to describe things that are near us:

*Excuse me. Is **this** seat free?* (the seat near me)

***These** are the tickets.* (the tickets I am holding)

We use *that* and *those* for things that are further away:

***That's** an African elephant.* (the one I am pointing at in the distance)

*Look at **those** mountains, **they're** huge.* (the ones in the distance)

3 Now or then?

We also use *this/these* to describe a time that is now or in the near future:

*I'm doing a lot of exercise **these** days.* (around now)

*What are you doing **this** weekend?* (the weekend that is coming/has just started)

We use *that/those* for a time in the past:

*There were no mobile phones in **those** days.*

*Do you remember **that** weekend at the seaside?* (a weekend in the past)

4 Describing a person, thing or idea

We use *this/that/these/those* to describe a person, thing or idea:

***This** lesson is interesting.* (the lesson we are in now)

*I hate **these** dark nights.* (the winter nights we are having now)

*I didn't know **that**! **That's** amazing!* (the information you've just given me)

***Those** people we met on holiday were really nice.* (people we met in the past)

We use *this is/these are* to introduce people:

*Mum, **these are** my friends from college. **This is** Jan and **this is** her sister, Frieda.*

On the phone we usually use *it's* to identify ourselves:

*'Hi! **It's** me/**It's** Sarah here.'*

We use *this is* when we don't know the person we are speaking to:

*'Hello. **This is** Sarah Smith. May I speak to the manager?'*

Practice



1 Choose the best answer, A or B.

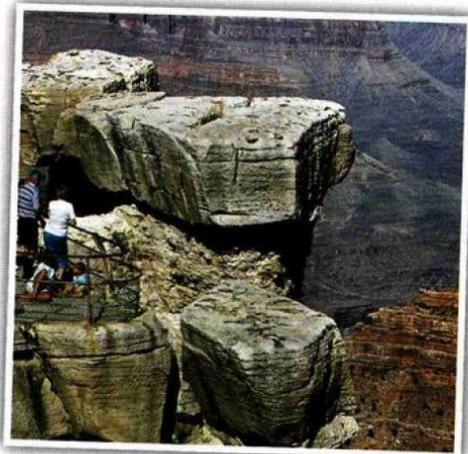
- 0 Do you like that dress?
(A) The dress in the shop window. B The dress I am wearing.
- 1 I don't like this very much.
A The food I am eating. B The food you are eating.
- 2 Are these your children?
A The children in the photograph I'm looking at. B The children playing in the garden.
- 3 That's very interesting.
A The book I'm reading. B The information you've just given me.
- 4 Are those the correct answers?
A The answers in my book. B The answers in your book.
- 5 I've already seen that one.
A The DVD I'm holding. B The DVD you're holding.
- 6 Can I have two of these, please?
A The pens on the counter here. B The pens on the top shelf.

2 Choose the correct words in *italics>. 2.10 Listen and check.*

- 0 These *is / are* very comfortable seats.
- 1 *This / These* class is for advanced students.
- 2 Have you got any other colours? I don't like those *one / ones*.
- 3 I'm feeling nervous. *This / That* is my first day here.
- 4 Can you see *these / those* beautiful birds on top of the roof?
- 5 Did you enjoy *this / that* Indian meal we had last week?
- 6 *These / Those* shoes are very tight. Do you mind if I take them off?
- 7 'Hello, is that Stephen?' 'Yes, *this is / it's* me. How are you?'
- 8 Let me introduce my boss. Alex, *this / it* is Hilary.

3 GRAMMAR IN USE Complete the conversation with *this, that, these* or *those* and a suitable form of the verbs in brackets, if necessary. 2.11 Listen and check.

- JAN Wow! We're here at last. So, (0) *this is*
(be) the famous Grand Canyon!
- ANA It's amazing, isn't it? And (1)
(be) a fantastic place to see it from.
- JAN Can you see (2) river down
at the bottom?
- ANA Yes, I can.
- JAN (3) (be) the Colorado River.
It's wider than the River Thames.
- ANA But (4) (be) impossible.
It looks tiny!
- JAN (5) (be) because it's so far
away from us.
- ANA Look at (6) rocks on the
other side of the valley. Is (7)
a cave over there?
- JAN Yes, I think so. I read in the guidebook that the
people here lived in caves before the Europeans arrived.
In (8) days lots of people lived in this area.
- ANA (9) (be) really interesting. Can we visit the caves?
- JAN I don't think it's allowed (10) days.



Answers

UNIT 5

1 1 A 2 A 3 B 4 B 5 B 6 A

2 1 This 2 ones 3 This 4 those 5 that
6 These 7 it's 8 this

3 1 this is 2 that 3 That's 4 that's 5 That's
6 those 7 that 8 those 9 That's 10 these