

Determiners: Articles & Demonstratives



What is the difference in meaning between these sentences?

A girl was walking down a street.

The girl was walking down the street.



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What is the difference in meaning between these sentences?

A girl was walking down a street.

The girl was walking down the street.

In the first sentence, it could be any girl walking down any street.

In the second, it is a specific girl, and a specific street she is walking down.



Articles

The, a, an

The, a and an are articles.

They are used with nouns to tell us if it is a specific noun, or a general noun. An is used instead of a if the next word begins with a vowel (a,e,i,o,u).

Example: Give me a book.

Give me the book.

How are these
sentences different?



Articles

How many articles are in each of these lines.

I was walking down the street when I saw a huge bear.



Roaring with fury, it picked a bin and threw it at me!



The bin missed me by an inch! I was lucky.



The bear then growled at a little girl. The girl just



laughed and poked him on the nose.



Why does a change to the as we read through the passage?



Articles

How many articles are in each of these lines.

I was walking down the street when I saw a huge bear. 2

Roaring with fury, it picked a bin and threw it at me! 1

The bin missed me by an inch! I was lucky. 2

The bear then growled at a little girl. The girl just 3

laughed and poked him on the nose. 1

A changes to the as we know which bear we are talking about



Demonstratives

Like articles, demonstratives tell us which nouns we are talking about.

How are each of these sentences different?

This coat is dirty.

That coat is dirty.

These coats are dirty.

Those coats are dirty.





Demonstratives

Demonstratives tell us if the noun is near or far, and also if there is one or more.

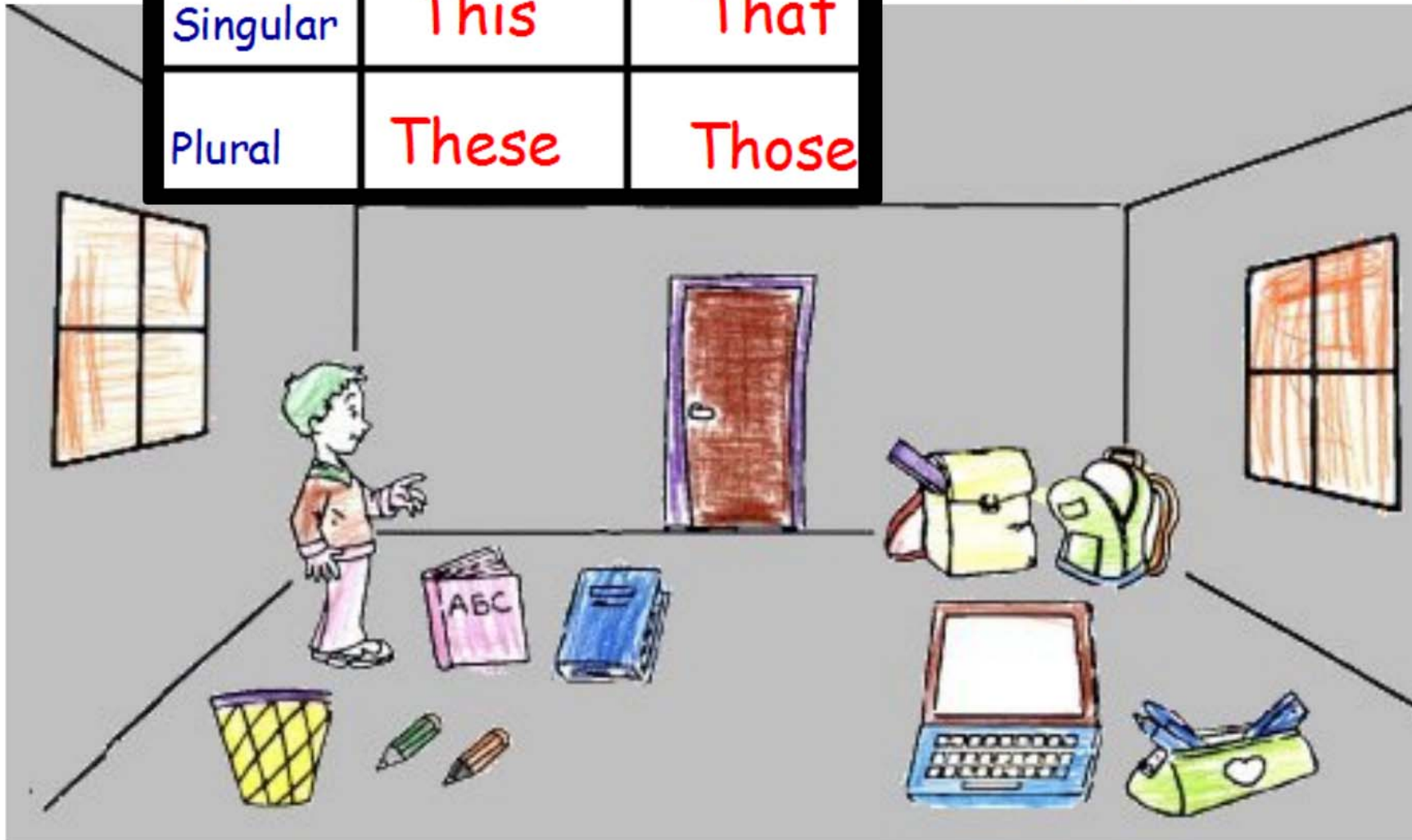
	Near	Far
Singular	This	That
Plural	These	Those



Demonstratives

	Near	Far
Singular	This	That
Plural	These	Those

With a partner, make sentences using the 4 demonstratives from the boy's points of view.



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Review:

Both articles and demonstratives determine which nouns we are talking about.

Use a/an if we are talking about a general or non specific noun.

Use the if we are talking about a specific noun.

Use this for a single noun near us.

Use that for a single noun further away from us.

Use these for plural nouns near us.

Use those for plural nouns further away from us.