これ、それ、あれ、どれ

These are demonstrative pronouns. The Japanese equivalents to the English “this” “that” and “which one” are これ、それ、あれ and どれ. When referring to people, don’t use demonstrative pronouns.

・これ indicates a thing near the speaker.
・それ indicates a thing near the listener.
・あれ indicates a thing away from both.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>This</th>
<th>That</th>
<th>That</th>
<th>Which one...?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>これ</td>
<td>それ</td>
<td>あれ</td>
<td>どれ</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

この、その、あの、どの

These are demonstrative adjectives. You can refer to a specific item without using a proper name by adding a demonstrative adjective to a common noun.

・この is used if the item is located near the speaker but not near the listener.
・その is used if it is near the listener but not near the speaker.
・あの is used if it is far from both of them.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>This + Noun</th>
<th>That + Noun</th>
<th>That + Noun</th>
<th>Which + Noun...?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>この + Noun</td>
<td>その + Noun</td>
<td>あの + Noun</td>
<td>どの + Noun</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

-Note-

Don’t confuse これ、それ、あれ, and どれ with この、その, and あの.

これら、それら、あれら and どれら are always followed by nouns.

〇 これじゃ 〇 それじゃ 〇 あれじゃ

〇 これじゃ 〇 それじゃ 〇 あれじゃ 〇 どれじゃ
Complete the following sentences.

1. _______ は _________ です。
   This is a hospital.

2. _______ _______ _______ です。
   That is a pencil.

3. _______ は _________ ____________________。
   That (over there) is not a school.

4. わたしのじしょ は ____________？
   Which one is my dictionary?

5. _______ _______ は おもしろい ですか?
   Is this book interesting?

6. _______ _______ _______ です。
   It is that university (over there).

7. _______ _______ は ________________？
   Is that person a teacher?

8. _______ _______ じしょ ________________?
   Which dictionary?

Translate the following sentences into Japanese.

1. What is that (over there)?

2. This person (he) is Spanish.

3. This country is France.

4. That student is Takeshi.

5. This dictionary is expensive. *expensive...たかい

6. Which one is it?

7. Which book is more interesting? *interesting...おもしろい

8. Which person is Sarah?
We have seen that the particle は (wa) indicates the subject of a sentence but the particle が (ga) also indicates it. The particle は (wa) cannot be marked interrogative pronouns such as だれ (dare) who, なに (nani) what, どれ (dore) which one, etc. You have to need the particle が and don’t forget repeat it to indicate the subject when answering.

A: だれが がくせいですか?   B: わたしが がくせいです。
A: dare ga gakuseidesu ka   B: watashi ga gakusi desu
A: Who is the student?    B: I am the student.

A: なにが むずかしいですか?   B: ぶんぽうが むずかしいです。
A: Nani ga muzukashii desu ka   B: bunpou ga muzukashii desu
A: What is difficult?    B: THE GRAMMAR is difficult.

A: どれが おもしろいですか?  B: これが おもしろいです。
A: dore ga omoshiroi desu ka  B: kore ga omoshiroi desu
A: Which one is more interesting?  B: THIS is more interesting.

-Note-
If it doesn’t start with an interrogative pronoun as the subject of a sentence, you can use the particle は.

せんせいは だれですか?     Who is A teacher?
but
だれが せんせいですか? Who is THE teacher?

かれは にほんじんです。   He is Japanese.
ニコラは フランスじんです。 Nicolas is French.
わたしは にほんごを はなします。 I speak Japanese (language).
あのひとは えいごが わかります。 That person (over there) understands English (language).
Complete the following sentences.

1. A: なに ____ たいへん__________?  
   B: にほんごのべんきょう__ たいへんです。  

2. A: だれ ____ にほんごのせんせい _________?  
   B: かれ___ にほんごのせんせいです。  
   A: Who is the teacher?   B: He is the Japanese teacher.

3. A: どれ ____ にほんのえいが_________？  
   B: あれ____ にほんのえいがです。  
   A: Which one is the Japanese movie?   B: That one is the Japanese movie.

4. カルロス は ________________。  
   Carlos is Spanish.

5. かれ は ________________  ________________。  
   He is not Japanese.

6. サラ ________________。  
   Sarah is an American.

7. ニック ________________です。  
   Nick is British.

Translate the following sentences into Japanese.

1. Who is Chinese?  
   A: ちゅうごくじじんですか？  
   B: はい、彼女は中国人です。

2. She is not German.  
   A: 彼女はドイツ人ではありません。  
   B: はい、彼女はドイツ人ではありません。

3. Which one is more interesting?   - This one is more interesting.  
   A: どれがもっとおもしろいですか？   B: これの方がもっとおもしろいです。

4. Who is the teacher?   - She is the teacher.  
   A: せんせいは誰ですか？   B: 彼女はせんせいです。

5. What is difficult?   - Kanji is difficult.  
   A: 難しいことはですか？   B: かんじは難しいです。

6. Sarah is not British. She is an American.  
   A: サラはイギリス人ではありません。彼女はアメリカ人です。

7. It is not English (language). It is German.  
   A: これは英語（言語）ではありません。これはドイツ語です。

8. Who is Sarah?   - That person (over there) is Sarah.  
   A: サラは誰ですか？   B: その人（ミドル）はSarahです。
### Personal pronouns

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I</th>
<th>We</th>
<th>I</th>
<th>We</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>わたし</td>
<td>わたしたち</td>
<td>Watashi</td>
<td>Watashitachi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>あなた</td>
<td>あなたたち</td>
<td>Anata</td>
<td>Anata tachi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ケレ</td>
<td>ケレたち</td>
<td>Kare</td>
<td>Kare tachi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>かのじょ</td>
<td>かのじょたち</td>
<td>Kanojo</td>
<td>Kanojo tachi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Personal pronouns are usually omitted. The Japanese rarely use pronouns such as it, I, you, and he. Instead, you can say the name of the person you are talking to or about. The singular/plural distinction is also not usually clarified.

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**Note**

In Japan ケレ and かのじょ are not used much to say “he” and “she” because these mean colloquially “boyfriend” and “girlfriend”. このひと (this person), そのひと (that person) and あのひと (that person) correspond to “he” and “she” in English. These are used to indicate people who we don’t know well and to whom we need to show respect.

あのひとは がくせいですか? He (She) is a student. (That person)

Is the person you are talking about a student?

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### Particle の: Noun² の Noun¹ / Noun¹ of Noun²

In general the particle の puts between two nouns. You need to add the particle の at the end of the added noun to indicate that it is a modifier. “Noun¹ of Noun²” is expressed as “Noun² の Noun¹”

Yet this の can be used more widely than the English “of”. It also makes adjectivals, indicates positions and makes possessive adjectives or pronouns, etc.

1) Possession
   - わたしの ほんです。 It is my book.
   - それが たなかさんの ペンです。 It is Mr. Tanaka’s pen.
   - このかさは だれの ですか? Whose umbrella is this?
   - たなかさんの です。 It is Mr. Tanaka’s.
   - だれの ですか? Whose is it?

2) Location
   - とうきょうの かいしゃです。 It is a company in Tokyo / It is a company which is based in Tokyo.

3) Time
   - それは きのうの しんぶんです。 That is yesterday’s newspaper.
   - あしたの あさです。 It is tomorrow morning. (lit: the morning of tomorrow)

4) Nature, state
   - にほんごの ほんです。 It is a Japanese book.

5) Material
   - きの いすです。 It is a wooden chair (a chair made of wood).
Complete the following sentences.

1. _____は ________ です。
   I am an office worker.

2. _____は ________ です。
   Are you a student?

3. _____は わたしの ____________ではありません。
   He is not my older brother.

4. _____は わたしの ____________ です。
   She is my older sister.

5. ________は ____________ です。
   We are engineers.

6. ________は ____________ _______。
   Are you teachers?

7. ________は ____________ です。
   They (men) are Japanese.

8. ________は ____________ ____________。
   They (women) are not Americans.

9. トム _______ です。
   It is Tom’s (pocket) diary.

10. ________は ____________ の ____________です?
    This is my umbrella.

11. ________は あなた _______ですか?
    Is this your watch?

12. ________は ____________ です。
    That is his PC.

13. ________は わたしの _______ くるま________________。
    That (over there) is not our car.

14. ________の ____________ です。
    It is a Japanese company.

15. ________は _______ _______ ____________?
    That is the yesterday’s newspaper?

Translate the following sentences into Japanese.

1. Sarah is a student of Japanese.

2. My camera is expensive.

3. This coffee is mine.

4. Which one is your car?

5. This fruit is delicious.

6. This is my father’s watch.