

ASK ABOUT AND IDENTIFY EVERYDAY ITEMS

We often want to know the name of something we see.

How to ask

- What's this? (singular) ¿Qué es esto? Or "What are these?" (plural)
- What's that? (singular) ¿Qué es eso? Or "What are those? (plural)
- What is it? ¿Qué es?

These questions help us point to or hold something and ask for its name.

For example:



"What's this?" (singular)
"It's a pen." (singular)



"What are these?" (plural)
"They're pens" (plural)



"What's that?" (singular)
"That's a chalkboard." (singular)



"What are those?" (plural)
"Those are chalkboards" (plural)

These short questions are powerful tools to help you learn vocabulary and communicate about your environment.

How to Answer

We answer with a very simple structure:

- It's a (object).

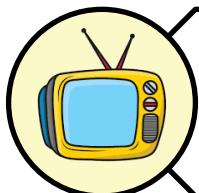
For example:



It's a door



It's an umbrella



That's a television

Vocabulary Tip: Articles “a” and “an”

We say:

- “a” before consonant sounds → a book, a chair, a phone.
- “an” before vowel sounds → an eraser, an umbrella, an apple.

It's not about the letter; it's about the sound that comes after.

For Example:



This is **a** student



This is **a** jacket



This is **an** orange



This is **an** helicopter



This is **an** apple



This is **a** table

If the object is plural (more than one), we say:

- They're (plural noun).

For example:



They're students



They're jackets



They're oranges



They're helicopters



They're apples



They're tables

Try to look around your house, classroom, or bag and name the things you see in English.

If you don't know the word, you can always ask:

"What's this called in English?"

Reference:

Editorial from Cambridge Dictionary. (s.f.). This, that, these, those. Cambridge Dictionary. Recovered from:
<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/grammar/british-grammar/this-that-these-those>