# 04400 This One, That One, He, She, It; His, Her, Its Grammar Note: A Reference Material

Hindi has no way to say specifically 'he' or 'she'. Instead it says 'this one' and 'that one'. यह (pronounced 'ye') and वह (pronounced 'vo'. यह can be translated as 'he, she, it, this' or 'this one', but its literal meaning is 'this one'. Similarly वह can be translated as 'he, she, it, that' or 'that one', but its literal meaning is 'that one'. You have to figure out if the यह or वह is better translated as 'he', 'she', 'it', (as well as 'this' or 'this one', 'that' or 'that one') by context or by other places it shows up in the grammar.

Similarly, Hindi has no specific words for 'his' and 'her' (the 'possessive' forms of pronouns). Instead, Hindi says literally "this one's" or "that one's". To do this, the यह takes its oblique case form of इस and the वह takes its oblique case form of उस . (You'll learn more about the 'oblique case' later). They go into the oblique case because the adjectival partical का comes right after it. का is actually a post-position (like से) and a major rule of Hindi grammar is that whenever you have a post position, the noun or pronoun it follows (and modifies) has to be in the oblique case. Thus इसका नाम literally means 'this one's name' and might also be translated 'his name, her name' or 'it's name'. By the same token उसका नाम literally means 'that one's name' and might also be translated 'his name, her name' or 'it's name'.

When doing an exercise translating English to Hindi, the notes will say 'close' when a यह or इस is being asked for. They'll say 'distant' if वह or उस is the desired referent.