



# Referencing



## What is referencing?

- words like *he*, *this* and *there* do not have meaning themselves; they refer to other parts of the text
- they may point back to other items in a text or—less commonly—point ahead to a later part of the text

## What to note when identifying reference in the text?

- when a language unit (usually a pronoun) stands in for another unit (usually a noun or noun phrase), the two units must agree in number and meaning
- a figure of speech (e.g. heart) is used to refer to a particular concept (e.g. love), person or object

## Let's look closer!

You now have an opportunity to travel to the Amazon rainforest to take part in a reality show called *Surviving in the Wild*. You have to venture into the forest and outlast other participants. Remember to act calmly and objectively. Every decision you make is critical.

There will be moments when you come across problems that you can't solve. However, there are some hidden Wi-Fi hotspots. When you find them, you can seek solutions online. Before long you'll be having so much **fun** and you'll be sharing **it** on your Instagram.

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The noun preceding *it* is *fun*, which agrees with the pronoun in both number and meaning.

*it*: single pronoun → single reference

**DSE** 2020 Part B2 Q55 Short answer

e.g. What does 'it' (line 6) refer to?

fun (content / experience)

*Performers who need to memorise complicated lines* is a complex subject. *Performers* itself is too general to be the answer.

Theatre actresses Katherine and Ellie used to write lines on their hands. They said, 'Actors who easily forget their lines might find this method useful. When we have long monologues or challenging scenes, we might feel nervous and panicky. It will not be a problem for performers who need to memorise complicated lines if **they** have key words written on their hands.'

*they*: plural pronoun → plural reference

**DSE** 2022 Part B1 Q31 Short answer

e.g. Who does 'they' (line 4) refer to?

performers who need to memorise complicated lines

The question word *Who* indicates that *they* refers to people instead of objects.

## Let's practise!

I see improvised acting as an argument against the excessive attempts to act. As an actor, sometimes you put a lot of effort into character building and script interpretation. When you see actors go off-script, you may think that's unprofessional. It seems that they just think on their feet. However, it turns out this appeals to more audiences. They would consider your performances to be natural and are more likely to resonate with them.

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### DSE 2019 Part A Q7 Short answer

- 1 What does 'this' (line 4) refer to?

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Before the actors landed their roles in the superhero universe, they were not yet household names. Tom worked in the theatre and Chris played small roles in Hollywood.

As two of the leading actors of an unprecedented box-office success, they got along well and became good friends because of their mutual interests in acting. Today, fans have come to love the contrast between their on-screen prickly relationship and their off-screen friendship.

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### DSE 2018 Part B1 Q38 Short answer

- 2 Who does 'they' (line 3) refer to?

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## Exam Booster

The film crew set up cameras at more than twenty locations, including one on the ceiling of the studio. Setting up so many cameras may seem like an overkill for a local small-scale film production, but doing so not only increases the efficiency of shooting, but also allows rich images. With more than twenty cameras, viewers can look forward to a visual feast.

### DSE 2019 Part B1 Q37 Short answer

- 1 What is the 'visual feast' (line 4)?

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