

APSU Writing Center

Then and Than

Word	Then	Than
Definition	is used to refer to a specific time, talk about sequences of events, or describe a previous state.	is used when comparing clauses or expressions, introducing a preference, and signaling an exception or contrasting conditions.

Then can be a noun, an adverb, and an adjective.

- It is used to refer to a specific time, talk about sequences of events, or describe a previous state.
 - Example: If you don't study for the test, **then** you might not pass.
 - Example: She told me that she would meet me at the park, but **then** realized she had a doctor's appointment.
 - Example: He unlocked his car, got inside, and **then** started the engine.

Than can be a conjunction and a preposition.

- It is used when comparing clauses or expressions, introducing a preference, and signaling an exception or contrasting conditions.
 - Example: Winter is taller **than** he is.
 - Example: The book is more interesting **than** the movie.
 - Example: I would rather dance **than** swim.

This and These

Word	This	These
Definition	used to identify a specific person or thing close at hand or being indicated or experienced	used to identify specific persons or things close at hand or being indicated or experienced

This is singular and is placed before or refers to one noun.

- Example: **This** is our home.
- Example: Is it always like **this**?
- Example: But **this** wasn't just any trip.

These is plural and is placed before or refers to multiple nouns.

- Example: **These** are beautiful, Kiera.
- Example: How is your mother doing **these** days?
- Example: Nobody could answer **these** questions.

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References

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