

Why *that* isn't a complementizer

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Kayne has recently argued that English *that* appears to be used as a complementizer just because it actually is a demonstrative which can also be used as a “relative pronoun”, like the West Germanic *d*-words. From this perspective, the impossibility of using Norwegian *det* as a complementizer correlates with the impossibility of using it as a “relative pronoun”. But why cannot *det* be used as a relative pronoun? In order to move towards an answer to this, I will explore the internal structure of *det* and other demonstratives in Norwegian. This investigation will also turn out to shed some light on a second question arising from Kayne's analysis: What is the status of the Norwegian complementizer *at* ?