

Pronouns

1. What is a pronoun?

2. What are some examples of pronouns?



Examples:

- They** are allowed to stay after school and study.
- Sue and **I** are not going shopping this weekend.

3. What are indefinite pronouns?

4. What are some examples of indefinite pronouns?

Examples:

- Someone** needs to move **her** bicycle.
- All** students can submit **their** artwork to the magazine.



5. What is a subjective pronoun?

6. What are some examples of subjective pronouns?



Examples of subjective pronouns:

- I went to the movies.
- We brought our pet parrots.
- She and I want to know if we can sell these books?
- They went to Miami on spring break.

Generally speaking, if the person, place, or thing referenced by the pronoun is doing the action of the sentence, the pronoun should be in the subject case. A subject case pronoun may replace a noun or a noun phrase.

Examples of subjective pronouns:

- Noun: **John** dances with his school's hip-hop group.
- Noun Phrase: **The boys' neighbor John** dances with his school's hip-hop group.
- Pronoun: **He** dances with his school's hip-hop group.



7. What is an objective pronoun?

8. What are some examples of objective pronouns?

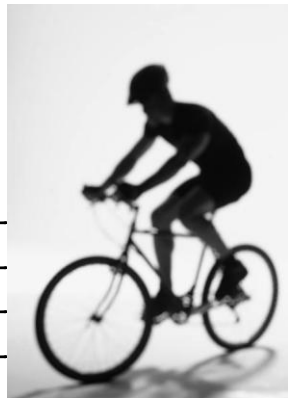
Examples:

-The man at the newsstand gave **me** fifty cents in change.

-Her parents helped **her** practice pitching.

-We will take **our** mountain bikes with us.

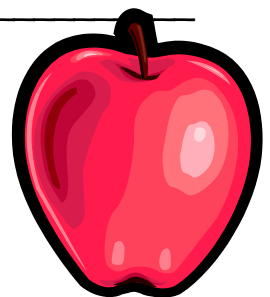
9. What is a singular pronoun?



10. What are some examples of singular pronouns?

Example:

-I had **an apple**, but I lost it.



11. What are plural pronouns?

12. What are some examples of plural pronouns?



Example:

-I had a **bunch of apples**, but I lost **them**.

13. What are intensive pronouns?

14. What are reflexive pronouns?

15. What are some examples of intensive and reflexive pronouns?

Examples of intensive pronouns:

- I washed the car **myself**.
- He stacked all his books **himself**.



Examples of reflexive pronouns:

- They watched **themselves** on TV.
- The girls taught **themselves** French during their trip to Paris.
- She helped **herself** to more juice.

16. What are possessive pronouns?

17. What are some examples of possessive pronouns?



Examples:

- My bag of marbles spilled all over the floor.
- Your parrot clearly cannot talk.
- She is going to change **her career** from computer programmer to scientist.

18. What are antecedents and ambiguous/unclear/vague pronouns?

Examples of pronouns and antecedents:

-**Tucker** chased the ball and then he grabbed it with his teeth.

-**Ginger** carried her toy around the house then dropped it.

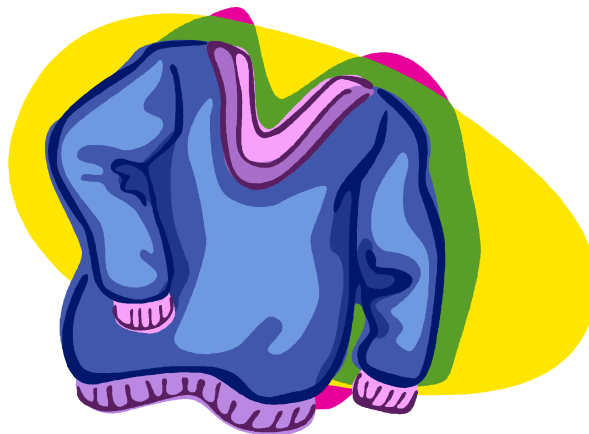


Examples of ambiguous pronouns:

-Lila told her mother that her sweater had a hole in it. (Whose sweater has the hole in it---Lila's or her mother's??)

*To fix unclear or ambiguous pronouns, rewrite the sentence to remove the pronoun or to clarify the antecedent.

-Lila told her mother, "Your sweater has a hole in it."



Pronouns

1. A pronoun is a word that stands in for a noun. A pronoun can also stand in for a noun phrase, which consists of a noun and the words that describe or modify it. A pronoun usually begins with a lowercase letter, unless it begins a sentence. The pronoun **I** is always capitalized.
2. Some examples of pronouns are all, another, any, anybody, anyone, anything, each, everybody, everyone, everything, he, her, hers, him, himself, his, I, it, its, itself, me, mine, myself, no one, nobody, one, one another, other, others, ours, ourselves, she, some, somebody, something, theirs, them, themselves, they, us, we, you, yours, yourself, and yourselves.

Examples of pronouns:

- They** are allowed to stay after school and study.
- Sue and **I** are not going shopping this weekend.

3. Indefinite pronouns refer to an unspecified or unknown person, place, or thing. We often use indefinite pronouns when we don't know what person, place, or thing is involved or how many. We also use indefinite pronouns if we want to speak in general terms.
4. Some examples of indefinite pronouns are another (all), anybody/anyone/anything (more), each (most), either/neither (some), everybody/everyone/everything (such, nobody, no one, somebody, and someone). Some pronouns to use with indefinite pronouns are he, him, his, her, hers, it, its, they, them and their.

Examples of indefinite pronouns:

- Someone** needs to move **her** bicycle.
- All** students can submit **their** artwork to the magazine.

5. Subjective pronouns appear in the subject of the sentence.

The subject is the part of the sentence that is doing the action of the verb.

6. Some examples of subjective pronouns are I (we), you (you), she/it/he (they).

Examples of subjective pronouns:

- I** went to the movies.
- We** brought our pet parrots.
- She and I** want to know if we can sell these books?
- They** went to Miami on spring break.

Generally speaking, if the person, place, or thing referenced by the pronoun is doing the action of the sentence, the pronoun should be in the subject case. A subject case pronoun may replace a noun or a noun phrase.

Examples of subjective pronouns:

- Noun: **John** dances with his school's hip-hop group.
- Noun Phrase: **The boys' neighbor John** dances with his school's hip-hop group.
- Pronoun: **He** dances with his school's hip-hop group.

7. Objective pronouns appear in the object of a sentence or after a preposition.
8. Some examples of objective pronouns are me (us), you (you), her/it/him (them).

Examples of objective pronouns:

- The man at the newsstand gave **me** fifty cents in change.
- Her parents helped **her** practice pitching.
- We will take **our** mountain bikes with us.

9. The number of a pronoun indicates how many persons, places, or things are described by the pronoun. A singular pronoun refers to one person, one place, or one thing.

10. Some examples of singular pronouns are I, you, he, she, me, it, him and her.

Example of a singular pronoun:

- I had **an apple**, but I lost **it**.

11. The number of a pronoun indicates how many persons, places, or things are described by the pronoun. A plural pronoun refers to more than one person, more than one place, or more than one thing.

12. Some examples of plural pronouns are we, you, they, us, them, our, ours, your, yours, their and theirs.

Example of a plural pronoun:

- I had a **bunch of apples**, but I lost **them**.

13. Intensive pronouns and reflexive pronouns are the same words, but they perform different functions. An intensive pronoun is used to add emphasis to a noun or a pronoun. Reflexive pronouns are used when the subject and the object of a sentence are the same. They are used to clarify the meaning of the sentence. To tell the difference between reflexive and intensive pronouns, remember that intensive pronouns and reflexive pronouns both end in -self or -selves, but only intensive pronouns can be removed from the sentence without changing the sentence's meaning because their only job is to add emphasis!!
14. Some examples of intensive and reflexive pronouns are myself (ourselves), yourself (yourselves), and himself/herself/itself (themselves).

Examples of intensive pronouns:

- I washed the car **myself**.
- He stacked all his books **himself**.

Examples of reflexive pronouns:

- They watched **themselves** on TV.
- The girls taught **themselves** French during their trip to Paris.
- She helped **herself** to more juice.

15. A possessive pronoun indicates that the person, place, or thing referenced by the pronoun possesses, or owns something.
16. Some examples of possessive pronouns are mine (ours) yours (yours), his/hers (theirs), my (our), your (your), and his/her/its (their).

Examples:

-**My** bag of marbles spilled all over the floor.

-**Your** parrot clearly cannot talk.

-She is going to change **her** career from computer programmer to scientist.

17. Every pronoun must have a clear antecedent, or word or group of words the pronoun refers to. Pronouns without clear antecedents are ambiguous pronouns, and they usually result in confusing, vague or unclear sentences.

Examples of pronouns and antecedents:

-**Tucker** chased the **ball** and then he grabbed it with his teeth.

-**Ginger** carried her **toy** around the house then dropped it.

Examples of ambiguous pronouns:

-Lila told her mother that her sweater had a hole in it. (Whose sweater has the hole in it---Lila's or her mother's??)

*To fix unclear or ambiguous pronouns, rewrite the sentence to remove the pronoun or to clarify the antecedent.

-Lila told her mother, "Your sweater has a hole in it."