

English pronouns

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What Is a Pronoun?

One of the nine parts of speech in the English language is the pronoun. A pronoun is a word that substitutes for a noun or noun phrase. Pronouns help keep our writing varied.

- I asked <u>her</u> to bring <u>it</u>.
- I has a whale of a time.
- She cought us unawares.

English pronouns types

are a miscellaneous (but not very large) group. By, pronouns are usually divided into the following groups: Personal pronouns Possessive pronouns 1 part ☐ Reflexive pronouns ☐ Demonstrative pronouns ☐ Interrogative pronouns 2 part ☐ Relative pronouns ☐ Indefinite pronouns



Personal pronouns (Subject)

singular	plural
I (я)	we (мы)
you (ты)	уои (вы - группа)
he (он)	they (они)
she (она)	
it (неодушевленный предмет, животное,)	You (Вы)

Personal pronouns (Subject)

- <u>I</u>get up at at 6 o'clock
- Can you give your pen, please?
- <u>He</u> bought a new three days ago.
- She draws nice pictures.
- <u>It</u> plays with its ball.
- We have got two dogs and three cats.
- You are my friends now.
- They are my aunt's children.
- You are so beautiful!

Personal pronouns (Object)



Personal pronouns (Object)

- He will bring me his books tomorrow.
- My friend saw <u>you</u> yesterday.
- You can't buy <u>him</u> strawberries, he's allergic.
- My brother gave <u>her</u> a huge bouquet.
- The jury presented them with certificates yesterday.
- She showed <u>you</u> these tables!
- Yesterday my uncle took them to the zoo.

Possessive pronouns

A possessive pronoun is a pronoun that is used to express ownership or possession. For example, the word *hers* is a possessive pronoun in the sentence *Charlotte noticed that Seth's dog was bigger than hers*. The word *hers* indicates that "Charlotte's dog" (the noun phrase being replaced by the word *hers*) belongs to Charlotte.

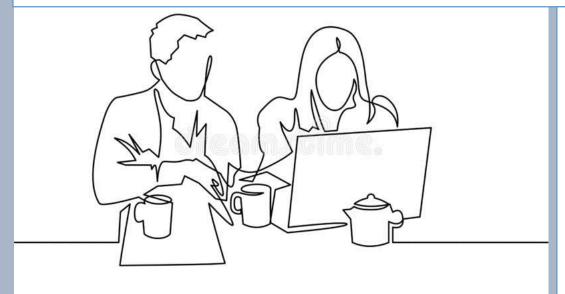
Possessive pronouns (w/n)

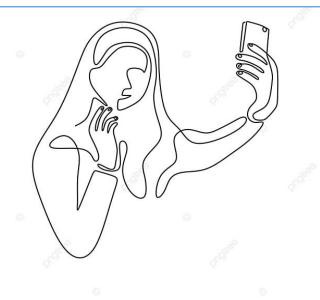
singular	plural	
ту (мой, моя, мои, моё)	our (наш, наша, наше, наши)	
your (твой, твоя, твоё, твои)	your (ваш, ваша, ваше, ваши)	
his (его)		
her (eë)	their (их)	
its (его, её)— с неодушевленными предметами, животными и т.д.		

Possessive pronouns

singular	plural
mine (мой, моя, мои, моё)	ours (наш, наша, наше, наши)
yours (твой, твоя, твоё, твои)	yours (ваш, ваша, ваше, ваши)
his (его)	
hers (eë)	theirs (их)
its (его, её)— с неодушевленными предметами, животными и т.д.	

□ A reflexive pronoun is a specific type of pronoun that is used for the object of a verb when it refers to the same noun as the subject of that verb. In English, these are the pronouns that end with "self" or "selves": e.g., "himself," "myself," "ourselves," etc.





Subject	Reflexive	Subject	Reflexive
pronoun (S)	pronoun	pronoun (P)	pronoun
I	mysel <u>f</u>	we	oursel <u>ves</u>
you	yoursel <u>f</u>	you	yoursel <u>ves</u>
he	himsel <u>f</u>	they	themsel <u>ves</u>
she	hersel <u>f</u>		
it	itsel <u>f</u>		

- Reflexive pronouns for same subject and object
 We often use reflexive pronouns when the subject and the object of the verb refer
 to the same person or thing:
- He cut himself on the broken glass.
- She made herself a cup of tea and sat down in front of the television.
- Parents often blame themselves for the way their children behave.

We use a reflexive pronoun to make it clear who or what is being referred to.

Agnes looked at herself in the mirror.

The subject and the object are the same.

- Agnes looked at her in the mirror.
- •The subject and the object are different. Agnes is looking at someone else in the mirror.

- ☐ Reflexive pronouns for emphasis We can use reflexive pronouns for emphasis:
- The director of the company wrote to us himself to apologise for the dreadful service. (or The director of the company himself wrote to us to apologise for the dreadful service.)
- ☐ Reflexive pronouns + by meaning alone We often use reflexive pronouns with by to mean 'alone' or 'without any help':
- Why don't you go by yourself?
- The children made the entire meal by themselves.

- ☐ Reflexive pronouns for politeness
- We sometimes use reflexive pronouns instead of personal pronouns for politeness, but not as the subject of a clause:
- The National Trust is a charity depending on the support of people like yourself. (or ... people like you.)

□Warning:

We don't use reflexive pronouns with verbs of everyday actions unless we want to emphasise something:

- She washed and dressed and had breakfast in the tiny kitchen.
- Not: She washed herself and dressed herself ...



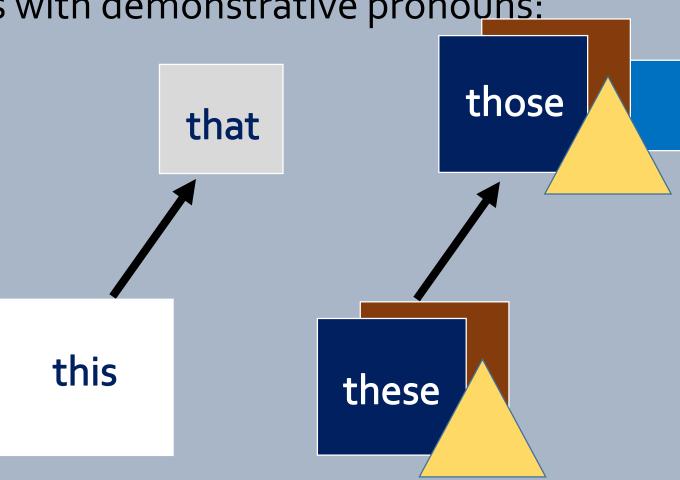
Demonstrative pronouns

- ☐ A demonstrative pronoun represents a thing or things:
- near in distance or time (this, these)
- far in distance or time (that, those)

	near	far
singular	this	that
plural	these	those

Demonstrative pronouns

- Here are some examples with demonstrative pronouns:
- This tastes good.
- Have you seen <u>this</u>?
- These are bad times.
- Do you like <u>these</u>?
- That is beautiful.
- Look at that!
- Those were the days!
- Can you see <u>those</u>?



Interrogative pronouns

- An <u>interrogative pronoun</u> is a pronoun used to ask a question. For example, the word *who* is an interrogative pronoun in the sentence *Who are you?* Like most other pronouns, interrogative pronouns replace nouns in sentences. In the case of interrogative pronouns, they typically replace whatever or whoever the answer to the question is.
- What is a pineapple? A pineapple is a fruit.
- Who built this shed? Carl built this shed.

Interrogative pronouns

	subject	object
person	who	whom
thing	what	
person/thing	which	
person	whose	

Interrogative pronouns

question	answer	
Who told you?	John told me.	subject
Whom did you tell?	I told Mary.	object
What's happened?	An accident's happened.	subject
What do you want?	I want coffee.	object
Which came first?	The Porsche 911 came first.	subject
Which will the doctor see first?	The doctor will see the patient in blue first.	object
There's one car missing. Whose hasn't arrived?	John's (car) hasn't arrived.	subject
We've found everyone's keys. Whose did you find?	I found John's (keys).	object

Relative pronouns

	subject	object
person	who	whom
thing	what	
person/thing	which	
person	whose	

Relative pronouns

- A relative pronoun is a pronoun that introduces a relative clause. It is called a "relative" pronoun because it "relates" to the word that its relative clause modifies.
- <u>defining relative clauses:</u>
- The person who phoned me last night is my teacher.
- The person that phoned me last night is my teacher.
- The car which hit me was yellow.
- The person whom I phoned last night is my teacher.
- The person that I phoned last night is my teacher.

Relative pronouns

- non-defining relative clauses:
- Mrs Pratt, who is very kind, is my teacher.
- The car, which was a taxi, exploded.
- The cars, which were taxis, exploded.
- Mrs Pratt, whom I like very much, is my teacher.
 - Mrs Pratt, who I like very much, is my teacher.
- The car, whose driver jumped out just before the accident, was completely destroyed.
- - The car, the driver of which jumped out just before the accident, was completely destroyed.

Indefinite pronouns

☐An indefinite pronoun does not refer to any specific person, thing or amount. It is vague and "not definite". Some typical indefinite pronouns are:

all, another, any, anybody/anyone, anything, each, everybody/everyone, everything, few, many, nobody, none, one, several, some, somebody/someone

Indefinite pronouns

- That ice-cream was good. Can I have <u>another</u>?
- Can <u>anyone</u> answer this question?
- The doctor needs to know if you have eaten **anything** in the last two hours.
- <u>Each</u> has his own thoughts.
- Do you want tea or coffee? / I don't mind. Either is good for me.
- We can start the meeting because everybody has arrived.
- Little is known about his early life.
- I phoned many times but <u>nobody</u> answered.

Sources

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