

ENGLISH GRAMMAR – PERSONAL PRONOUNS

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Personal Pronouns

Reteaching

A **pronoun** is a word used in place of a noun or another pronoun. The word that a pronoun stands for is called its **antecedent**.

The player smiled as he waved to the crowd.

ANTECEDENT PRONOUN

Personal pronouns change form.

	Singular	Plural
First Person	I, me (my, mine)	we, us (our, ours)
Second Person	you (your, yours)	you (your, yours)
Third Person	he, him, she, her, it (his, her, hers, its)	they, them (their, theirs)

Possessive pronouns show ownership or relationship. The possessive pronouns are in parentheses in the chart above.

A. Finding Pronouns

Underline the pronouns in the following sentences.

EXAMPLE She is working on her backhand for the upcoming tennis match.

1. The batter holds his bat near the handle.
2. He never takes his eye off the ball as he swings for the fence.
3. The fans show their appreciation for the home run by standing and applauding.
4. The local team never wins the championship, but they are our team and we support them anyway.
5. If you could choose your favorite sport, what would it be?
6. If I knew its rules better, I would probably choose soccer.

B. Finding Pronouns and Antecedents

Underline all the pronouns in the following sentences. Underline their antecedents twice.

EXAMPLE The squirrels hid their food supply for winter in the hollow tree.

1. When dinosaurs walked the earth, they were impressive indeed.
2. Experts on dinosaurs say that they were the largest land animals ever.
3. Scientists gained much of their knowledge about dinosaurs during the 1800s.
4. In 1822, Mary Ann Mantell found a large dinosaur tooth and showed it to her husband, a fossil collector.
5. Other searchers found more dinosaur remains, and they pooled their knowledge.
6. Soon scientists were using the term *dinosaur* every time they referred to the huge lizard-like animals.
7. Imagine the excitement a scientist would feel when he or she found dinosaur bones!
8. The quest might keep a paleontologist interested throughout his or her whole life.

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More Practice

A. Finding Pronouns and Antecedents

Underline each personal or possessive pronoun once and its antecedent twice.

EXAMPLE The player tipped his cap while walking toward the dugout.

1. The ref asked the players to watch as he tossed the coin.
2. As soon as the game began, the fans began the chant they have made famous.
3. The vendor sent a snack down the row, and then he waited for the money.
4. When the wave reached her section, Lorna stood up and raised her arms.
5. The players listened to their coach when time was called.
6. The coach explained the play and emphasized its importance by raising his voice.
7. When the cheerleaders made a human pyramid, the crowd shouted its approval.
8. The head cheerleader received applause when she did a series of cartwheels.
9. As the fans made their way out of the stadium, they celebrated the win.
10. Football deserves its reputation as one of America's favorite sports.

B. Using Pronouns

Complete each sentence with an appropriate personal pronoun. Write it on the line.

EXAMPLE Maura knows what she will order for lunch.

1. The principal makes _____ announcements over the public address system every day during homeroom.
2. All bus riders should pick up _____ passes at the office by 3:00 P.M.
3. When the clouds moved in, the day lost _____ appeal for me.
4. When we go for an all-day hike, we always take along _____ lunches.
5. When my aunt greets me, she always gives _____ a big hug.
6. I can't believe I forgot _____ homework today!
7. If you want to compete in this show, you and _____ dog should get into line.
8. If _____ memory serves me correctly, you prefer chocolate cake.
9. When band practice runs late, Sharon's mother usually drives _____ home.
10. I admire ants because _____ are so industrious.

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Application

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Write sentences following the directions for each item. Underline the required pronouns in your sentences.

1. Use a personal pronoun in the third-person singular as the subject of a sentence.

2. Use a personal pronoun in the first-person plural as the subject of a sentence.

3. Use a possessive pronoun in the second-person plural anywhere in the sentence.

4. Use a possessive pronoun in the first-person singular anywhere in the sentence.

5. Use a possessive pronoun in the third-person plural anywhere in the sentence.

B. Writing with Pronouns

Write a short paragraph about a typical day in your life. Use a variety of personal pronouns. Underline each pronoun once and draw an arrow from it to its antecedent.

