

PRONOUNS (4)

Personal Pronouns, Object Pronouns, Reflexive Pronouns (02)

In context

3 min

What is a personal pronoun?



Laura is happy

She is happy



This fish is yellow

It is yellow



The boy sells lemonade

He sells ***it***

Personal Pronouns

17 min

A personal pronoun represents a person, an animal, a place, an object or an idea. It replaces a noun.

There are 2 types of personal pronouns: subjective pronouns and objective pronouns.

A subjective pronoun is the subject in the sentence.

Subjective Pronoun	Example
I	<i>I</i> am nice
you (singular or plural)	<i>you</i> are nice
he (male)	<i>he</i> is nice
she (female)	<i>she</i> is nice
it (neuter)	<i>it</i> is nice
we	<i>we</i> are nice
they	<i>they</i> are nice

An objective pronoun is the object in the sentence.

Objective Pronoun	Example
me	Tom likes <i>me</i>
you (singular or plural)	Tom likes <i>you</i>
him (male)	Tom likes <i>him</i>
her (female)	Tom likes <i>her</i>
it (neuter)	Tom likes <i>it</i>
us	Tom likes <i>us</i>
them	Tom likes <i>them</i>

'it' is used in the neuter, that is to say for animals, places, objects or ideas. But there are exceptions. Ships are often referred to as females. Sometimes, we say 'he/him' or 'she/her' for a pet or an object, if we have feelings for them.

Examples:

Max is our dog, *he* is part of the family.

I would love to go on The Queen Mary II, *she* is such an amazing ship.

I am crazy crazy about my car, I treat *her* like my wife.

When the object pronoun is the same as the subject pronoun, we use a reflexive pronoun.

Reflexive Pronoun	Example
myself	I hurt <i>myself</i>
yourself (singular)	You hurt <i>yourself</i>
yourselves (plural)	You hurt <i>yourselves</i>
himself (male)	He hurt <i>himself</i>
herself (female)	She hurt <i>herself</i>
itself (neuter)	It hurt <i>itself</i>
ourselves	We hurt <i>ourselves</i>
themselves	They hurt <i>themselves</i>

Reflexive pronouns can be used to insist. In this case, they are called 'intensive pronouns'.

Examples:

He did it (all by) himself!

I cooked this dish myself. = I myself cooked this dish.

Language Tips on the Choice of Personal Pronouns

5 min

The choice between the subjective and the objective pronoun has evolved.

Example:

Nowadays, we say "It's *me*" (not "It's I").

However, the form depends on the role in the sentence.

Example:

My brother and *I* will help you (not "my brother and me will help you")

Writing Exercise

5 min

Put the words in the correct order.

1. book / a / have / I

2. call / I / him / evening / every

3. year / her / visits / every / he

4. they / cinema / go / the / to / us / with

5. you / like / would / to / we / see

6. Bob / sure / them / knows / is / he

7. it / can / you / repair

8. are / them / love / I / dogs / great

9. apartment / live / lives / we / with / in / an / she / and / us

10. I / her / she / me / like / likes / and

Writing Exercise

5 min

Match the 2 columns.

1. I eat a sandwich.	a. Franck is speaking to <i>him</i> .
2. I eat 2 apples.	b. Franck is speaking to <i>her</i> .
3. Franck is speaking to John.	c. I eat <i>it</i> .
4. Franck is speaking to Anna.	d. Franck is speaking to <i>us</i> .
5. Franck is speaking to you and me.	e. I eat <i>them</i> .

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Writing Exercise

5 min

Complete the sentences with the correct personal pronoun.

1. She can be proud, she did it all by _____. (her/herself)
2. Listen, Sonia is speaking to _____. (you/myself)
3. Nick is listening to his mother, he always listens to _____. (her/him)
4. Please take some cookies, help _____. (yourself/you)
5. We are late, Joe is waiting for _____. (we/us)
6. They should behave _____. (them/themselves)
7. Where are my parents? I need to speak to _____. (they/them)
8. Come in and make _____ at home! (myself/yourselves)
9. He should listen to _____, what he is saying is ridiculous. (himself/myself)
10. Look at this cat, _____ looks hungry. (it/him)

Speaking Exercise with your Teacher

5 min

Read the sentences and reformulate them using as many pronouns as you can.

Example:

The birds are singing melodies in my garden.

They are singing them in it.

1. The papers are on the table.
2. David has a computer and a printer at home.
3. My mother and I are visiting family members.
4. This coffee is cold.
5. Carla is writing the report for Mr. Heinz.

Watch the Video!

5 min

With this video lesson, you will practice personal pronouns.

Watch the video:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VIUvnt3uTLI&feature=related>

Watch the video again and answer the questions:

1. Complete the girl's question at the beginning of the video:
Have you ever wondered when to use _____ or _____? Have you ever had anyone correct you? It's all about _____.
2. In the sentence "The boy gave the girl a present", what is the subject?
a. the boy
b. the girl
3. In the sentence "The boy gave the girl a present", what is the object?
a. the boy
b. the girl

4. Rephrase the sentence "The boy gave the girl a present" using pronouns instead of "boy" and "girl":

5. Using what you have learned in the video, complete the sentences with 'me' or 'I':

- a. Jack and _____ are traveling together.
- b. He wants to know if this bag belongs to you or _____.
- c. It isn't easy for _____ to understand his accent.
- d. Do you really think _____ would do such a thing?

Watch the Video!

5 min

This video lesson will help you to better understand when to use reflexive pronouns.

Watch the video:

<http://www.youtube.com/user/EnglishChannelOnline>

Watch it again and choose the correct answer.

1. We use a reflexive pronoun when the subject and the object in the sentence are:
 - a. different.
 - b. the same.
 - c. the same as the verb.
2. The correct sentence is:
 - a. She sees her.
 - b. She sees herself.
 - c. She sees herself.
3. The correct choice is:
 - a. He can't hear herself. What about them, can they hear themselves?
 - b. He can't hear himself. What about them, can they hear themselves?
 - c. He can't hear himself. What about themselves, can they hear themselves?

Quiz

10 min

True or False?

- | | | |
|--|------|-------|
| 1. A pronoun is after the noun it represents. | true | false |
| 2. A pronoun replaces a noun. | true | false |
| 3. A subject pronoun is the object in a sentence. | true | false |
| 4. A personal pronoun represents a person, an animal, a place, an object or an idea. | true | false |

Complete the sentence with the correct pronoun:

1. Fiona wants to know if her dress fits, she is looking at _____ in the mirror.
2. I often ask _____ what I want to do with my life.
3. Sandy and I are best friends, you'll always see _____ together.
4. I am not going to help you, you'll have to do it all by _____.
5. Look at our parents, can you see _____?

Replace the underlined words by an object pronoun:

1. You call your mother frequently. → _____
2. She drives mynew Mercedes. → _____
3. We are selling our tv and our bed. → _____
4. I am speaking to Ted's girlfriend. → _____
5. Ben is listening to you and me. → _____