

PRONOUNS

A word used in place of a Noun is called a Pronoun. It is used in order to avoid repetition of a noun in a sentence or to point at a specific object.

Repeating the same noun again and again

- **Example** - Sarah has always loved fashion. Sarah announced that Sarah wants to go to fashion school.
- Instead of using Sarah again and again in the given sentence, the pronoun, 'She' can be used.

Using a Pronoun

- Sarah has always loved fashion. She announced that she wants to go to fashion school.

Types of Pronouns

Personal Pronouns

- A personal pronoun as the name refers, is used to refer to a person, thing, or group in a sentence.
- The person's point of view (POV) can be shown in one of three grammatical "persons."
- First - person – This refers to the speaker. They are talking about themselves.
- Second - person - A second-person pronoun refers to the person being spoken to. This is when one person is talking to a second person.
- Third - person - This refers to the person being spoken of or spoken about. This is when one person is talking about another person.
- For these three grammatical persons, there is both a singular, and a plural form depending on whether the person is a subject or an object in the sentence.
- **Example:**
 1. I got a new job.
 2. She got a new job.
 3. I gave her today's newspaper.
- **Pronouns that stand for the three persons are: me, we, us, you, he, him, she, her, it, they, them.**

At a Glance: The Case of Personal Pronouns

	First Person (Speaker)		Second Person (Spoken to)	Third Person (Spoken of)	
	Singular	Plural	Singular/Plural	Singular	Plural
Subject	I	We	You	She, He, It	They
Object	Me	Us	You	Her, Him, It	Them
Possessive Adjectives	My	Our	Your	Her, His, Its	Their
Possessive Pronouns	Mine	Ours	Yours	Hers, His,	Theirs

Point to Remember

Personal Pronouns are chosen depending on whether it is a subject or an object. An easy way to get it right, is to remove the other person, and then try the sentence. Let's try a couple of sentences:

In the case of a Subject pronoun

1. _____ liked the book.

- A) Her and I
- B) Her and Me
- C) She and I
- D) She and Me

Explanation:

- Now, remove one person, and try the sentences with the pronoun.
- (Her liked the book) (I liked the book) (Her liked the book) (Me liked the book) (She liked the book) (I liked the book) (She liked the book) (Me liked the book)
- With this, you can see that, "Her liked the book" does not sound right. It's the same for "Me liked the book".
- However, "I liked the book" and "She liked the book" sounds right. Therefore, the answer is "She and I liked the book"

In the case of an Object pronoun

1. The teacher gave chocolates to_____.

- A) Her and I
- B) Her and Me
- C) She and I
- D) She and Me

Explanation:

- When you repeat the same, you are left with (The teacher gave chocolates to me.” And (The teacher gave chocolates to her.)
- Therefore, the answer is “The teacher gave chocolates to her and me”.

Possessive Pronouns

Possessive pronouns show that something belongs to someone.

The possessive nouns are: • My • Our • Your • Her • Its • Their • His	There's also an “independent” form of each of these pronouns: • Mine • Ours • Yours • Hers • Its • Theirs • His
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Example:

1. This is her pen.
2. This computer is not mine.
3. That house is ours.

Point to Remember

- Possessive pronouns are never spelled with apostrophes.
- Mine, ours, yours, his, hers, theirs

Demonstrative Pronouns

- Words used for Nouns to point at something/ someone. For example – This, These, That, Those.
- When describing things, these pronouns can be either near or far in terms of distance or time.
- Near in time or distance: This, These.
- Far in time or distance: That, Those.

Distributive Pronouns

- Words used for individuals or objects referring to them as one at a time.
- A distributive pronoun considers members of a group separately, rather than collectively.
- It is always singular and as such it should be followed by a singular noun and verb.
- Few examples of distributive pronouns: Each, Either, Any, None, Neither, Every.

Example:

1. Each of us think the same.
2. None of these pieces match.

Reciprocal Pronouns

- The term, 'reciprocate' means to give in return.
- Therefore, reciprocal pronouns are used when expressing a mutual relationship between two or more people, who are doing the same thing at that time. For example: Each Other, One another.

Example:

1. They really love each other a lot.
2. The students shared the notes with one another.

Point to Remember

- Each other is used when there are two people.
- One another is used when there are more than two people.

Reflexive Pronouns

The subject and object of a sentence are the same.

• Myself	• Yourself
• Ourselves	• Yourselves
• Himself	• Herself
• Oneself	• Itself
	• Themselves

Example:

1. I hurt myself.
2. The boys hid themselves.

Emphatic or Emphasizing Pronouns

Such pronouns are used to lay stress on the subject.

• Myself	• Yourself
• Ourselves	• Yourselves
• Himself	• Herself
• Oneself	• Itself
	• Themselves

Example:

1. You, yourself, are responsible for your problems.

Point to Remember

- An emphatic pronoun can be removed from the sentence without affecting its core meaning.
- A reflexive pronoun, on the other hand, is vital. The sentence wouldn't make complete sense on removing the reflexive pronoun.

Indefinite Pronouns

Words used for nouns in vague or general meaning.

• everybody	• nobody	• little
• no one	• everything	• nothing
• all	• somebody	• anybody
• someone	• anyone	• something
• anything	• some	• any
• both	• another	• much
• few		

Example:

1. Many are called, but few are chosen.
2. Somebody ate my sandwich!
3. Everyone says she is beautiful inside and out.

Relative Pronouns

Words used to show relations between objects or actions. They give more information about a specified object or action.

• Who	• Which
• That	• Whom
• Whose	

Example:

1. We use that for people or things.
2. Have you seen those people who we met on holiday?
3. Isn't that the woman who lives across the road from you?

Interrogative Pronouns

Words used for nouns to ask questions.

• Who	• Which
• Whose	• Whom

Example:

1. What do you want for dinner?
2. What is your friend's name?
3. What time are we supposed to be there?

Practice Questions:

Directions: In the given question, some part of the sentence may have errors. Find out which part of the sentence has an error and select the appropriate option. If a sentence is free from error, select 'No Error'.

1. His speech was very thought provoking and (A) well appreciated by them who attended (B) the World Economic Forum held in (C) the capital of Japan. (D) No Error (E)

- 1) A
- 2) B
- 3) C
- 4) D
- 5) E

Correct Option: 2

Explanation:

- We need to replace THEM with THOSE for making the sentence grammatically and contextually correct.
- Because WHO is a subjective case used for the antecedent before it. If it is a subjective case, the antecedent should also be a subjective case.
- As we know THEM is objective and the subjective case of it is THOSE. This change will make the sentence correct.
- The correct sentence will be - *His speech was very thought-provoking and well appreciated by those who attended the World Economic Forum held in the capital of Japan.*

2. The pleura that cover the exterior part of the (A) lungs and the inner walls of the chest (B) cavity is a thin elastic membrane (C) made of phospholipids and proteins. (D) No Error (E)

- 1) A
- 2) B
- 3) C
- 4) D
- 5) E

Correct Option: 1

Explanation:

- As THAT used in part A of the sentence which is used for THE PLEURA and it is singular.
- THAT is also singular so verb used for THAT should be singular.
- We need to change COVER into COVERS to make the sentence correct as cover is a verb used for the pleura.
- The correct sentence will be - *The pleura that covers the exterior part of the lungs and the inner walls of the chest cavity is a thin elastic membrane made of phospholipids and proteins.*

3. She does not understand that how (A) one can be employed as a stenographer (B) in such a huge company without (C) the necessary qualification. (D) No Error (E)

- 1) A
- 2) B
- 3) C
- 4) D
- 5) E

Correct Answer: 1

Explanation:

- We need to remove THAT from part A of the sentence for making the sentence grammatically and contextually correct.
- Because that doesn't come before wh-word as it works as both pronoun and conjunction.
- The correct sentence will be - *She does not understand how one can be employed as a stenographer in such a huge company without the necessary qualification.*

4. They forced the person who was coming (A) to the party to empty his pockets and (B) asked him that why he had (C) not obtained the entry pass. (D) No Error (E)

- 1) A
- 2) B
- 3) C
- 4) D
- 5) E

Correct option: 3

Explanation:

- We need to remove That for making the sentence correct.
- Before the Wh- pronoun we don't use that because it also works as conjunction.
- The correct sentence will be - *They forced the person who was coming to the party to empty his pockets and asked him why he had not obtained the entry pass.*

5. The Norwegian Nobel Committee's decision to award this year's Peace Prize (A) to Abiy Ahmed, the Prime Minister of Ethiopia, is both a (B) recognition of their efforts for peace in (C) East Africa and a reminder of the challenges ahead for him. (D) No Error (E)

- 1) A
- 2) B
- 3) C
- 4) D
- 5) E

Correct Option: 3

Explanation:

- The error lies in Part C of the sentence because of the wrong use of the possessive case.
- We need to replace THEIR with HIS for making the sentence grammatically and contextually correct.
- As this possessive case is used for Abiy Ahemad we need to use "his "as its possessive case.
- The correct sentence will be - *The Norwegian Nobel Committee's decision to award this year's Peace Prize to Abiy Ahmed, the Prime Minister of Ethiopia, is both a recognition of his efforts for peace in East Africa and a reminder of the challenges ahead for him.*

6. Jammu and Kashmir was emptied (A)/ of their tourists and the Amarnath (B)/ pilgrims at the peak of the season (C)/ on the pretext of terror threats. (D)/ No error (E)

- 1) A
- 2) B
- 3) C
- 4) D
- 5) E

Correct Option: 2

Explanation:

- In Part B, the error lies in the wrong usage of the pronoun 'their' which is used when mentioning the plural nouns.

- The correct pronoun to be used here is 'its' which is used to describe something that belongs to. Here the tourists of Jammu Kashmir were emptied.

7. Jammu Kashmir government has withdrawn (A)/ an advisory its issued on August 2 forcing tourists (B)/ to leave the Valley is to be welcomed, but it would (C)/ be naive to expect any significant inflow of visitors immediately.

- 1) A
- 2) B
- 3) C
- 4) D
- 5) E

Correct Option: 2

Explanation:

- The error lies in the wrong usage of the preposition. Replace 'its' with 'it'.
- 'Its' is a determiner which means 'belonging to or associated with a thing previously mentioned or easily identified.'
- The pronoun 'it' in the sentence refers to the Jammu Kashmir government.

