

PERSONAL PRONOUNS

A **pronoun** is a word that takes the place of a noun in a sentence. For example, instead of saying, "When Tina walked in the house, Tina took off Tina's shoes," you could use the pronouns *her* and *she* to replace the noun Tina: "When Tina walked in the house, she took off her shoes." The noun that a pronoun replaces is called an **antecedent**.

SUBJECTIVE AND OBJECTIVE

Pronouns that refer to people are called personal pronouns.

When acting as the subject of a sentence or phrase, a **subjective** personal pronoun is used. When acting as the object of a sentence or phrase, an **objective** personal pronoun is used.

In the example below, the pronoun *they* is used as the subject, and the pronoun *us* is used as the object:

They won't spot us hiding behind this tree.

		Subjective	Objective
Singular	1st Person	I	Me
	2nd Person	You	You
	3rd Person	He, She, It	Him, Her, It
Plural	1st Person	We	Us
	2nd Person	You	You
	3rd Person	They	Them

POSSESSIVE

A **possessive** personal pronoun can help show a noun's ownership, or possession.

In the example below, the pronoun *yours* replaces the noun *notebook*:

It looks like this notebook is yours.

	Singular	Plural
1st Person	Mine	Ours
2nd Person	Yours	Yours
3rd Person	His, Hers, Its	Theirs

It is important to know the difference between possessive pronouns and possessive adjectives. A possessive pronoun takes the place of a noun, while a possessive adjective describes a noun. For example, the word *my* is a possessive adjective ("I'm reading my book"), but the word *mine* is a possessive pronoun ("The book is mine").

OTHER PRONOUNS

DEMONSTRATIVE PRONOUNS

Demonstrative pronouns are used to refer to things that are either near or far away.

	Singular	Plural
Near	This	These
Far	That	Those

This is my favorite pair of sandals.

Can you put those on Mark's desk?

Be careful to not confuse demonstrative pronouns with demonstrative adjectives. Remember, a demonstrative pronoun takes the place of a noun, while a demonstrative adjective describes a noun.

INTERROGATIVE PRONOUNS

Interrogative pronouns are used to refer to nouns in the form of a question.

what
which
who
whom
whose

What is the name of that desert?

Who invented the microwave oven?

Which one of you used my pencil?

I found a jacket. Whose is this?

Be careful to not confuse interrogative pronouns with interrogative adjectives. Remember, an interrogative pronoun takes the place of a noun, while an interrogative adjective describes a noun.

INDEFINITE PRONOUNS

Indefinite pronouns are used to refer to non-specific people, things, or amounts.

all	everyone
another	few
any	many
anyone	neither
anything	several
each	some

We can start the meeting now that everyone has arrived.

I keep telling Eve and Jeremy but neither believes me.