

PRONOUNS

CASE

Case refers to the form a noun takes, whether subject, object, possessive, or reflexive, within a sentence.

Subject: We are going to the store.

Object: Nan is going with us.

Possessive: Our car is green.

Reflexive: We painted the room ourselves.

PRONOUN CHART				
	Subjects	Objects	Possessives	Reflexive
Singular	I you he she it	me you him her it	my, mine you, yours his her its	myself yourself himself herself itself
Plural	we you they	us you them	our, ours your, yours their, theirs	ourselves yourselves themselves
Singular or Plural	who	whom	whose	

Choose the pronoun based on how it is being used in the sentence.

Compound Constructions:

If a sentence has a compound subject or compound object, choosing the correct pronoun is easier if you read the sentence with one part of the compound at a time.

Example: Yesterday, she and (I, me) bought tickets to the concert.

So,

Yesterday, she bought tickets to the concert. (This is correct.)

Yesterday, I bought tickets to the concert. (This is correct.)

Yesterday, me bought tickets to the concert. (This is NOT correct.)

Therefore . . .

Yesterday, she and I bought tickets to the concert.

Quick Test on Compound Constructions

Circle the correct pronoun.

1. Mark and (she, her) went to the movies over the weekend.
1. Jennifer wrote down the instructions for (she and me, she and I, her and me).
2. Brandy (her, herself, herselfes) saw the accident.
 1. She
 2. Her and me
 3. Herself

Who/Whom

Always use who when it is in the subject position of the sentence or clause.

Who is moving that chair every day?
That man is the one who is moving the chair.

Always use whom when it is in the object position of the sentence or clause.

To whom am I speaking?
The woman whom I am speaking to is Marge.
Whom did the director choose for the part?

AGREEMENT

The Basic Rules:

1. A pronoun must agree in number (singular or plural) with any other word to which it refers. The word that is referred to by the pronoun is called the antecedent. The main problem area is the indefinite pronoun (see chart below).
2. A pronoun must agree with its antecedent in person.
3. The antecedent of a pronoun should not be missing, ambiguous, or repetitious.

Examples:

1. Everyone must correct his or her own paper.
The dog tried to get out of its collar.
The woman was locked out of her car.
2. The woman was locked out of her car.
When driving, one must maintain one's concentration.

3. Missing: ~~In~~ New York City, ~~they~~ have many tall buildings.
New York City has many tall buildings. (correct)

Ambiguous: Sam told Mike that he was taking a job in Atlanta.
(Who's taking the job? Sam or Mike?)
Sam told Mike, "I am taking a job in Atlanta." (correct)
Mike told Sam, "I am taking a job in Atlanta." (correct)
Sam told Mike that Sam was taking a job in Atlanta. (correct)

Repetitious: The brochure, ~~it~~ describes the swamp tours you can take.
The brochure describes the swamp tours you can take. (correct)

Indefinite Pronouns			
Singular (verbs and other pronouns)			
everyone	someone	anyone	no one
everybody	somebody	anybody	nobody
everything	something	anything	nothing
each	another	either (of)	neither (of)
one (of)	much	such (a)	
Plural (verbs and other pronouns)			
both	few	many	several
Singular or Plural depending on sentence			
all	any	more	most
none	some		

Everybody should bring his or her own book. (Singular subject – everyone – with singular verb – should bring – with singular pronouns – his or her.)

Both have their own textbooks. (Plural subject – both – with plural verb – have – with plural pronoun – their.)

The books are on the table. All of them are popular. (Plural pronoun – all – which refers back to the plural subject – books – in the first sentence with plural verb – are – with plural pronoun – them.)

The sugar is gone. All of it was spilled. (Singular pronoun – all – which refers back to the singular subject – sugar – in the first sentence with singular verbs – is and was – with singular pronoun – it.)