

# 4

## Pronouns

A **pronoun** is a word that takes the place of a common noun or a proper noun. There are different kinds of pronouns.

### Personal Pronouns

The words **I**, **you**, **he**, **she**, **it**, **we** and **they** are called **personal pronouns**. They take the place of nouns and are used as the **subject** of the verb in a sentence.

My name is **David**. **I** am the youngest in the family.

This is **my father**. **He** is a teacher.

This is **my mother**. **She** is a lawyer.

**I** have **a brother** and **two sisters**.

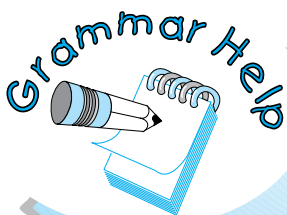
**They** are Peter, Sharon and Jenny.

**I** have **a dog**. **It** is called Lucky.

**Lucky**, **you** are a good dog.

Good morning, **children**! **You** may sit down now.

**My family and I** live in a big city. **We** have an apartment.



The **subject** of a sentence is the person, animal, place or thing that does the action shown by the verb.

The words **me**, **you**, **him**, **her**, **it**, **us** and **them** are also personal pronouns. They also take the place of nouns. These pronouns are used as the **object** of the verb in a sentence.

I am standing on my head. Look at **me**.

**My mother** is kind. Everybody likes **her**.

**Lisa**, I told **you** to tidy your bed!

**Sharon and Jenny!** Dad is waiting for **you**!

**Lucky and I** are playing in the park. Dad is watching **us**.

**You** must not play with **the knife**. Give **it** to **me**.

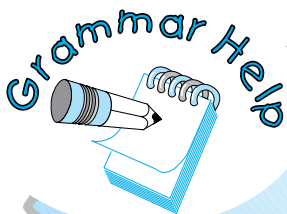
Pick up **your toys** and put **them** away.



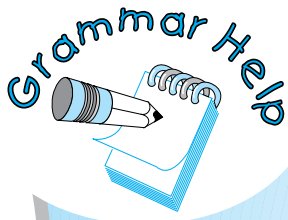
**Baby birds** cannot fly.  
Mother bird has to feed **them**.



**Tom** likes riding **my bicycle**.  
I sometimes lend **it** to **him**.



The **object** of a sentence is the person, animal, place or thing that receives the action shown by the verb.



There are three groups of pronouns: **first person**, **second person** and **third person**.

The **person speaking** is called the **first person**.

The first-person pronouns are **I** or **me** (in the singular) and **we** or **us** (in the plural).

The **person spoken to** is called the **second person**. The second-person pronoun is **you** (in both singular and plural).

The **person (or animal, or thing) spoken about** is called the **third person**. The third-person pronouns are **he** or **him**, **she** or **her**, and **it** (in the singular), and **they** or **them** (in the plural).

The word **I** is always spelled with a capital letter.

The pronoun **he** is used for men and boys, **she** for women and girls, and **it** for things and animals.

Here is a table to help you.

	Subject	Object
<b>First person singular</b>	I	me
<b>Second person singular</b>	you	you
<b>Third person singular</b>	he	him
	she	her
	it	it
<b>First person plural</b>	we	us
<b>Second person plural</b>	you	you
<b>Third person plural</b>	they	them

# Reflexive Pronouns

The words **myself**, **yourself**, **himself**, **herself**, **itself**, **ourselves**, **yourselves** and **themselves** are called **reflexive pronouns**.

They refer to the person or animal that is the subject of the verb.

I made this cake **myself**.

Be careful with the knife. **You**'ll cut **yourself**.

**Michael** is looking at **himself** in the mirror.

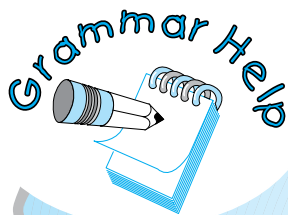
**Susan** has hurt **herself**.

Our **cat** washes **itself** after each meal.

**We** organized the party all by **ourselves**.

Come in, **children**, and find **yourselves** a seat.

**Baby birds** are too young to look after **themselves**.



Here is a table to remind you about reflexive pronouns.

	Singular	Plural
<b>First person</b>	(I, me) myself	(we, us) ourselves
<b>Second person</b>	(you) yourself	(you) yourselves
<b>Third person</b>	(he, him) himself (she, her) herself (it) itself	(they, them) themselves (they, them) themselves (they, them) themselves

# Interrogative Pronouns

The words **who**, **whom**, **whose**, **what** and **which** are called interrogative pronouns.

These pronouns are used to ask questions.

## Who

**Who** is he talking to?

**Who** are those people?

## Whom

**Whom** are you playing with?

**Whom** is he talking to?

## Which

**Which** of these bags is yours?

**Which** do you prefer?

## Whose

**Whose** is this umbrella?

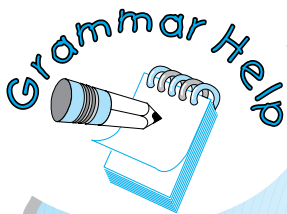
**Whose** are these gloves?

## What

**What** is your dog's name?

**What** are you talking about?

**What** is the time?



**Who** can be used as the **object** of a verb as well as the **subject**.

**Whom** is used only as the **object**. For example, you can say:

**Who** are you playing with?

or

**Whom** are you playing with?

# Demonstrative Pronouns

The words **this**, **these**, **that** and **those** are called **demonstrative pronouns**. They are showing words.



**Those** are goats.

**These** are sheep.

**This** is my house.

**This** is a hill.

**These** are donkeys.

What is **this**?

Did you drop **this**?

Hi, Jane! **This** is Michael!

**That** is John's house.

**That** is a mountain.

**Those** are horses.

What are **those**?

We can do better than **that**.

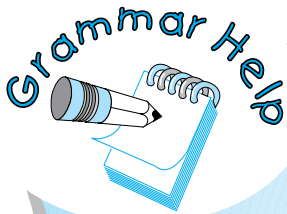
No, **that's** not mine.

You mean you won't?

**That's** amazing!

Hello, who is **that** speaking, please?

Hello, is **that** you, George?



You use **this** and **these** when you point to things **near** you.

You use **that** and **those** when you point to things **farther away**.

Demonstrative pronouns can be singular or plural:

**Singular**

this

that

**Plural**

these

those

## Exercise 1

Draw a line to join each of the *subject pronouns* to the *object pronoun* that matches.

I      he      it      she      they      you      we

us      her      you      them      me      him      it

## Exercise 2

Fill in the blanks with the correct pronouns.

- 1 Peter and I are brothers. \_\_\_\_\_ share a bedroom together.
- 2 Sue isn't well. Dad is taking \_\_\_\_\_ to see a doctor.
- 3 My brother is a teacher. \_\_\_\_\_ teaches English.
- 4 All his students like \_\_\_\_\_ very much.
- 5 Children, \_\_\_\_\_ are making too much noise!
- 6 Who are those people? Where are \_\_\_\_\_ from?
- 7 Mom is a doctor. \_\_\_\_\_ works in a hospital.
- 8 The sky is getting dark. \_\_\_\_\_ is going to rain.
- 9 John, we are all waiting for \_\_\_\_\_. Are you coming with \_\_\_\_\_?
- 10 May \_\_\_\_\_ borrow your pen?
- 11 Yes, of course. When can you return \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_?
- 12 What are \_\_\_\_\_ reading, Jenny?

### Exercise 3

Fill in the blanks with the correct *reflexive pronouns* from the box.

yourselves	themselves	itself	myself
himself	yourself	ourselves	herself

- 1 No one can help us. We have to help \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2 Jane always makes the bed by \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 They painted the wall all by \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4 I hurt \_\_\_\_\_ in the playground yesterday.
- 5 John, you must behave \_\_\_\_\_ before your friends.
- 6 Children, you must do the homework \_\_\_\_\_.
- 7 Tom defended \_\_\_\_\_ against the bullies.
- 8 The dog is scratching \_\_\_\_\_.

### Exercise 4

Write the correct *interrogative pronouns* in the blanks to complete the sentences:

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_ is the matter with you?
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_ invented the computer?
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_ of the twins is older?
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_ do you wish to speak to?
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_ is this car in front of our house?
- 6 \_\_\_\_\_ knows the answer?
- 7 \_\_\_\_\_ came first, the chicken or the egg?
- 8 \_\_\_\_\_ would you like to drink?
- 9 \_\_\_\_\_ of them do you think will win the race?
- 10 \_\_\_\_\_ is the word for a stamp collector?