

77 Personal pronouns

Personal pronouns are used to replace nouns in a sentence. They can refer to people or things and have different forms depending on whether they are a subject or an object.

See also:
Verb patterns with objects **53**
Possession **80** Contractions **R13**

77.1 SUBJECT PRONOUNS

Subject pronouns replace the subject of a sentence. They are used to avoid repetition, or where a name is not known. There are no formal or informal forms of pronouns in English.



Who's **he**?

The subject pronoun "he" is used because the speaker doesn't know the person's name.

The verbs "be" and "have" are often contracted with pronouns.

That's Andy. **He's** a policeman.

"He" refers to Andy to avoid repetition.



HOW TO FORM

The pronoun used depends on how many nouns it is replacing, and person (first, second, or third.)

	FIRST PERSON	SECOND PERSON	THIRD PERSON
SINGULAR	I	you	he she it
PLURAL	we	you	they

FURTHER EXAMPLES

I'm turning 25 next week.



Stuart and I are going climbing.



You are a great actor.



They complain every time.



He likes driving fast.



You make a great team.



77.2 OBJECT PRONOUNS


Object pronouns replace the object of a sentence. Most of them have a different form from the equivalent subject pronoun.

Animals love Lizzy.

Animals love **her**.

"Lizzy" is the object.

"Her" replaces "Lizzy."





There is no difference between direct and indirect object pronouns.

I gave **her** the puppy.

The puppy loves **her**.

"Her" is the indirect object.

"Her" is the direct object.



TIP

"You" is the same whether it is singular, plural, a subject, or an object.

HOW TO FORM

SUBJECT						
I	we	you	he	she	it	they
↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
me	us	you	him	her	it	them
OBJECT						

FURTHER EXAMPLES

I want to tell **you** that **I**'m sorry.



"All" can be used to show that "you" is plural.

Sam invited **you** all to the party.



Dave asked **me** to go with **him**.



We're sad that **he** won't come with **us**.



It was a very difficult time for **them**.



Georgia wanted **it** for Christmas.

