

**INFORMATION SHEET 5**  
Pronoun Review

	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Object</b>	<b>Possessive</b>		<b>Reflexive</b>	
<b>1</b>	I	me	my	mine	myself	<b>Singular</b> <b>1</b>
	you	you	your	yours	yourself	
	he	him	his	his	himself	
	she	her	her	hers	herself	
	it	it	its	its	itself	
<b>2+</b>	we	us	our	ours	ourselves	<b>Plural</b> <b>2+</b>
	you they	you them	your their	yours theirs	yourselves themselves	
	a) Doer b) After <u>being</u> verbs	a) After preps b) After <u>action</u> verbs	Ownership-- but NO apostrophes		Notice – NO <del>hissself, ourself,</del> <del>themself</del>	

**What Is a Pronoun?**

Pronouns take the place of nouns:	John saw John’s dream car. John wanted the car for John. John saw <u>his</u> dream car. <u>He</u> wanted <u>it</u> for <u>himself</u> .
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**Helpful Hints**

1. a) Use **subject** pronouns after being verbs (*is, am, are, was, were, be, being, been*).

The man in the car was **he**. It is **she** on the phone. That must have been **they**.

These sentences make sense backwards or as questions: He was the man in the car; Is she on the phone?  
(Being verbs are like = signs)

b) **Subject** (“doer”) pronouns start sentences. (**She** and **I** went to the store. **We** and **they** met there.)

2. a) Use **object** pronouns after prepositions (*of, on, in, for, to, with, between, etc.*--see Preps Info Sheet).

Just between **you** and **me**, Pat is getting a promotion.

Please bring the completed forms to **him** or **her**.

b) Use **object** pronouns after action verbs. (We called **them**. Do you know **him** and **her**?)

3. In **compounds** (with **and / or**), try each pronoun alone, and use the one that sounds right.

**WRONG:** They came to dinner with he and I. Try: They came...with he. (no) They came with I. (no)

Cross out *and I*: They came to dinner with **he and I**. (with **him**? Yes!)

Then cross out *he and*: They came to dinner with ~~he and~~ **I**? (with **me**? Yes!)

**RIGHT:** They came to dinner with **him and me**.

(Notice that **I** is **not** always correct after *and*. Be sure to check how the pronoun is used.) Also, I/me pronouns usually come last--it is polite to name the other person first. (*She and I, him or me, etc.*)

4. Use a **possessive** pronoun before a gerund (an *-ing* ending noun that names an activity).

They admired **our** singing.      We disagreed with **his** coaching.

5. Cross out words **between commas**. Pronouns match the noun that's left.

Chris, as well as ~~her assistants~~, is always in **her** office on time.

6. THE **WE/US** RULE: When a **pronoun** comes **next to a noun**, cross out the noun--it only repeats the same information.

Us <del>guys</del> went hunting? No--		B.J. asked us <del>neighbors</del> to help. Yes:
<b>We</b> went hunting.		B.J. asked <b>us</b> to help.

7. Subject words connected by **or, nor, but also**: Cross out the first part.

~~Either Mary or~~ her sons **are** washing **their** clothes. ?? Yes.  
~~Neither Lee nor~~ Joe **were** accepting **their** award. ?? No. Joe **was** accepting **his** award.

⇒ LOOK OUT FOR THE **either...or/neither...nor** **CONNECTORS** AND THE PRONOUNS **either of / neither of**. (See #10 below).\*

8. In comparisons using **than** or **as**, mentally fill in the missing words.

We like you better than **him**. (We like you better than we like him.)  
 She sings better than **I**. (She sings better than I do)

9. **Reflexive** pronouns can refer only to a person or thing previously mentioned in the sentence.

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<u>They</u> saw <b>themselves</b> on TV.	<u>He</u> gave <b>himself</b> a pat on the back.

RIGHT: Thanks for inviting her and me.      WRONG: Thanks for inviting her and ~~myself~~.

10. **Indefinite Pronouns**:

Always Singular	Always Plural	<i>Either Singular or Plural</i>
every <u>thing</u> every <u>body</u> every <u>one</u> some <u>thing</u> some <u>body</u> some <u>one</u> any <u>thing</u> any <u>body</u> any <u>one</u> no <u>thing</u> no <u>body</u> no <u>one</u>  no            one            (every) each            another * <b>neither</b> (of)    * <b>either</b> (of)    Don't confuse these pronouns with either/or, neither/nor (see hint # 7).	both many few several others	most            fractions any            per cents none            majority all part some
HELPFUL HINT !	HINT !	HELPFUL HINT !
Use <u>only his, her, its / he, she, it</u> to refer to the singular indefinite pronouns. Do NOT use plurals ( <del>they, them, their, or themselves</del> ) to refer to singular pronouns.	Use <u>they, them, their</u> to refer to these plural pronouns.	Same number as noun it refers to. <u>All</u> of the <u>book</u> ...it/its (singular) <u>None</u> of the <u>books</u> ...they/their (plural)