

Pronouns

A **Pronoun** is a word used in place of a noun or of more than one noun.

Example: The high school graduate accepted the diploma proudly. **She** had worked hard for **it**.

-The pronoun *she* takes the place of the noun graduate. The pronoun *it* takes the place of the noun diploma.

Antecedent- The word whose place a pronoun takes is called its antecedent. In the above example, the noun graduate is the antecedent of *she*, and diploma is the antecedent of *it*.

Note: A pronoun may also take the place of another pronoun.

Example: **Some** of the students wore red sweaters. **They** were celebrating Valentine's Day.

-The pronoun *they* takes the place of the pronoun *some*.

There are several kinds of pronouns: *personal* (which includes the *possessive* and *reflexive* forms), *relative*, *interrogative*, *demonstrative*, and *indefinite*.

Personal Pronouns

Personal pronouns refer to 1st person (I), 2nd person (you), 3rd person (it, he).

Examples: I, me, he, him, it, they, them, you, she, her, we, us.

(Personal) **possessive pronouns**- imply ownership.

Examples: My, mine, his, its, their, theirs, your, yours, her, hers, our, ours.

Personal pronouns combined with –self, -selves may be used in two ways:

1. The may be used *reflexively*

Example: Jack burned himself during the experiment.

2. They may be used *intensively* for emphasis.

Example: Maria herself is directing the entire play.

Reflexive and Intensive forms

Example: Myself, himself, herself, ourselves, themselves, yourself, itself, yourselves

Relative Pronouns

Relative pronouns are used to introduce subordinate clauses (clauses that cannot stand alone as sentences).

Examples: Who, whose, that, whom, which.

Sentence Example 1: The book that you gave me was the one I wanted.

Sentence Example 2: The woman whose name is one the program is running for mayor.

Interrogative Pronouns

Interrogative pronouns are used in questions.

Examples: Who, which, whose, whom, what

Sentence Example 1: What will you give her now?

Demonstrative Pronouns

Demonstrative pronouns point out a particular person or thing. When used before nouns, however, they are considered adjectives (these books, those houses, that flag).

Example: This, these, that, those.

Sentence Example 1: These are her books.

Sentence Example 2: That is the road she took.

Indefinite Pronouns

Indefinite Pronouns refer generally, not specifically, to persons, places, or things.

Commonly used indefinite pronouns:

All, another, any, anybody, anyone, both, each, either, everybody, everyone, everything, few, many, more, much, neither, nobody, none, no one, one, several, some, somebody, someone, such.

Sentence Example: Nobody was there to welcome him.

POSSESSIVE PRONOUNS

Rewrite each sentence, using the correct possessive pronoun in parentheses.

1. Today (our, ours) school is sponsoring a book fair.
2. Has (your, yours) ever had such an event?
3. (Our, Ours) required a lot of preparation.
4. Actually (my, mine) teacher suggested the idea.
5. The idea of inviting famous authors was also (her, hers).
6. Peggy Parish and Steven Kellogg will talk about (their, theirs) works.
7. Peggy Parish will read from (her, hers) novel Key to the Treasure.
8. Pirate Island Adventure is also (her, hers).
9. After the fair, I will ask for (your, yours) comments.
10. Then I will give you (my, mine).

TWO KINDS OF POSSESSIVE PRONOUNS

A **possessive pronoun** shows ownership.

Use *my, your, his, her, its, our, and their* before nouns.

Use *mine, yours, his, hers, its, ours, and theirs* to replace nouns in a sentence.

TWO KINDS OF POSSESSIVE PRONOUNS

Possessive pronouns used with nouns

my **My** book is green.

your Clean **your** desk.

his **His** bike is blue.

her This is **her** house.

its **Its** coat is shaggy.

our Those are **our** pens.

your Take **your** sweaters.

their **Their** hats are red.

Possessive pronouns that stand alone

mine The green book is **mine**.

yours **Yours** is messy.

his The red bike is **his**.

hers **Hers** is the gray house.

its **Its** is the shaggy coat.

ours Those pens are **ours**.

yours Leave **yours** here.

theirs Those hats are **theirs**.

POSSESSIVE PRONOUNS

Choose the possessive pronoun that correctly completes the sentence.

4. Rosa read (her, hers) report about Carlsbad Caverns.

5. Was the report about the pioneer village (your, yours)?

6. (My, Mine) report was about our trip to the zoo.

7. Flo called (my, mine) the best.

7. (Her, Hers) was about a visit to the museum.

8. Tomorrow we will make covers for (our, ours) reports.

10. (My, Mine) is going to be a collage.

11. What will (your, yours) cover look like?

Pronouns

Pronouns are words that take the place of nouns.

Some **pronouns** take the place of nouns in the subject part of a sentence.

Example: **Louis** rode the skateboard. **He** rode the skateboard. (Louis is replaced by He)

Write the **pronoun** found in the box below that can take the place of each **noun**.

- | | | |
|-------|-----|--|
| _____ | 1. | Mrs. May walked down the street to catch the bus. |
| _____ | 2. | Mary and Paul are going to visit friends. |
| _____ | 3. | The turtles were glad to see Aaron. |
| _____ | 4. | Lucy drove the tractor on the farm. |
| _____ | 5. | The soup was delicious! |
| _____ | 6. | Mr. Wheat played the trumpet for the class. |
| _____ | 7. | The presentation was very interesting. |
| _____ | 8. | Brian rode the horse. |
| _____ | 9. | Gianna petted the puppy. |
| _____ | 10. | Kali and Susan performed in the talent show. |
| _____ | 11. | Timmy and I baked a cake for father. |
| _____ | 12. | Mark went skiing with Barry. |
| _____ | 13. | Mark and Joe did well on the science project. |
| _____ | 14. | Lois cleaned the house. |

he	it	she	they	we	you
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Name _____

Date _____

Pronoun Worksheet

Direction: Circle the correct pronouns given in the parentheses.

1. (I,me) will pick up the groceries.
2. (She,her) sent (I,me) a package in the mail.
3. Are you going to visit (he,him) this evening?
4. Wendy is somewhere around; have you seen (she,her)?
5. The commanding officer gave (him,he) and (me, I) a real bawling-out.
- 6 . They told (us,we) to meet (them,they) in the parking lot.
7. (They,them) invited (we,us) over for cocktails.
8. Our house is always open to (they,them).
9. Adrian chose (he,him) and (I,me) for teammates.
10. There were dozens of bees buzzing around (we,us).

Pronoun Practice Exercise

Choose an answer for each question. After completing the entire exercise, click on the **"Turn the Page"** button at the bottom of this page, to see the answers.

Identify the underlined part of speech

1. **Those** are Tom's.

- a. personal pronoun b. relative pronoun c. indefinite pronoun d. interrogative pronoun e. reflexive pronoun f. demonstrative pronoun

2. They didn't give **themselves** a chance to think before beginning the competition.

- a. personal pronoun b. relative pronoun c. indefinite pronoun d. interrogative pronoun e. reflexive pronoun f. demonstrative pronoun

3. The dog **that** bit her brother belongs to the man down the road.

- a. personal pronoun b. relative pronoun c. indefinite pronoun d. interrogative pronoun e. reflexive pronoun f. demonstrative pronoun

4. Do you know **when** the movie starts?

- a. personal pronoun b. relative pronoun c. indefinite pronoun d. interrogative pronoun e. reflexive pronoun f. demonstrative pronoun

5. They think **hers** is the most interesting submission.

- a. personal pronoun b. relative pronoun c. indefinite pronoun d. interrogative pronoun e. reflexive pronoun f. demonstrative pronoun

6. The audience sat transfixed as the woman **who** had just won the award fell down the stairs.

- a. personal pronoun b. relative pronoun c. indefinite pronoun d. interrogative pronoun e. reflexive pronoun f. demonstrative pronoun

7. **Someone** will need to finish doing the lunch dishes before Don fixes dinner.

- a. personal pronoun b. relative pronoun c. indefinite pronoun d. interrogative pronoun e. reflexive pronoun f. demonstrative pronoun

8. Have you been **there** before?

- a. personal pronoun b. relative pronoun c. indefinite pronoun d. interrogative pronoun e. reflexive pronoun f. demonstrative pronoun

9. The studio plans to give **them** each a fruit basket.

- a. personal pronoun b. relative pronoun c. indefinite pronoun d. interrogative pronoun e. reflexive pronoun f. demonstrative pronoun

10. Ted will choose where they going because **either** of the options works for Alicia.

- a. personal pronoun b. relative pronoun c. indefinite pronoun d. interrogative pronoun e. reflexive pronoun f. demonstrative pronoun

11. As hard as Margaret tries, **most** of her meal still ends up on her bib.

- a. personal pronoun b. relative pronoun c. indefinite pronoun d. interrogative pronoun e. reflexive pronoun f. demonstrative pronoun

12. **Who** will be leading the graduation procession this year?

- a. personal pronoun b. relative pronoun c. indefinite pronoun d. interrogative pronoun e. reflexive pronoun f. demonstrative pronoun

13. Clayton yelled to his sister, "Give me that!"

- a. personal pronoun b. relative pronoun c. indefinite pronoun d. interrogative pronoun e. reflexive pronoun f. demonstrative pronoun

14. Before leaving the theater, Benjamin asked himself, "Why did I waste money on this movie?"

- a. personal pronoun b. relative pronoun c. indefinite pronoun d. interrogative pronoun e. reflexive pronoun f. demonstrative pronoun

15. The Sears Tower, which is no longer the tallest building in the world, is still quite impressive.

- a. personal pronoun b. relative pronoun c. indefinite pronoun d. interrogative pronoun e. reflexive pronoun f. demonstrative pronoun

16. Would you slow down on that gallon of ice cream and leave the rest of us some?

- a. personal pronoun b. relative pronoun c. indefinite pronoun d. interrogative pronoun e. reflexive pronoun f. demonstrative pronoun

17. The team is going the restaurant that is closest to the stadium.

- a. personal pronoun b. relative pronoun c. indefinite pronoun d. interrogative pronoun e. reflexive pronoun f. demonstrative pronoun

18. Sarah wears high heels to work every day, but she doesn't like them.

- a. personal pronoun b. relative pronoun c. indefinite pronoun d. interrogative pronoun e. reflexive pronoun f. demonstrative pronoun

19. The whole thing makes a person wonder who would be foolish enough to jump from a cliff.

- a. personal pronoun b. relative pronoun c. indefinite pronoun d. interrogative pronoun e. reflexive pronoun f. demonstrative pronoun

20. You may want to eat sea cucumber, but Robin does not like it.

- a. personal pronoun b. relative pronoun c. indefinite pronoun d. interrogative pronoun e. reflexive pronoun f. demonstrative pronoun

Pronoun Practice Exercise Answers

Identify the underlined part of speech

1. Those are Tom's.

- a. personal pronoun b. relative pronoun c. indefinite pronoun d. interrogative pronoun e. reflexive

pronoun **f. demonstrative pronoun**

2. They didn't give **themselves** a chance to think before beginning the competition.

- a. personal pronoun b. relative pronoun c. indefinite pronoun d. interrogative pronoun **e. reflexive pronoun** f. demonstrative pronoun

3. The dog **that** bit her brother belongs to the man down the road.

- a. personal pronoun **b. relative pronoun** c. indefinite pronoun d. interrogative pronoun e. reflexive pronoun f. demonstrative pronoun

4. Do you know **when** the movie starts?

- a. personal pronoun b. relative pronoun c. indefinite pronoun **d. interrogative pronoun** e. reflexive pronoun f. demonstrative pronoun

5. They think **hers** is the most interesting submission.

- a. personal pronoun** b. relative pronoun c. indefinite pronoun d. interrogative pronoun e. reflexive pronoun f. demonstrative pronoun

6. The audience sat transfixed as the woman **who** had just won the award fell down the stairs.

- a. personal pronoun **b. relative pronoun** c. indefinite pronoun d. interrogative pronoun e. reflexive pronoun f. demonstrative pronoun

7. **Someone** will need to finish doing the lunch dishes before Don fixes dinner.

- a. personal pronoun b. relative pronoun **c. indefinite pronoun** d. interrogative pronoun e. reflexive pronoun f. demonstrative pronoun

8. Have you been **there** before?

- a. personal pronoun b. relative pronoun c. indefinite pronoun d. interrogative pronoun e. reflexive pronoun **f. demonstrative pronoun**

9. The studio plans to give **them** each a fruit basket.

- a. personal pronoun** b. relative pronoun c. indefinite pronoun d. interrogative pronoun e. reflexive pronoun f. demonstrative pronoun

10. Ted will choose where they going because **either** of the options works for Alicia.

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11. As hard as Margaret tries, **most** of her meal still ends up on her bib.

- a. personal pronoun b. relative pronoun **c. indefinite pronoun** d. interrogative pronoun e. reflexive pronoun f. demonstrative pronoun

12. **Who** will be leading the graduation procession this year?

- a. personal pronoun b. relative pronoun c. indefinite pronoun **d. interrogative pronoun** e. reflexive pronoun f. demonstrative pronoun

13. Clayton yelled to his sister, "Give me **that**!"

- a. personal pronoun b. relative pronoun c. indefinite pronoun d. interrogative pronoun e. reflexive pronoun **f. demonstrative pronoun**

14. Before leaving the theater, Benjamin asked himself, "Why did I waste money on this movie?"
a. personal pronoun b. relative pronoun c. indefinite pronoun d. interrogative pronoun e. **reflexive pronoun** f. demonstrative pronoun
15. The Sears Tower, which is no longer the tallest building in the world, is still quite impressive.
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16. Would you slow down on that gallon of ice cream and leave the rest of us some?
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17. The team is going the restaurant that is closest to the stadium.
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18. Sarah wears high heels to work every day, but she doesn't like them.
a. personal pronoun b. relative pronoun c. indefinite pronoun d. interrogative pronoun e. reflexive pronoun f. demonstrative pronoun
19. The whole thing makes a person wonder who would be foolish enough to jump from a cliff.
a. personal pronoun b. relative pronoun c. indefinite pronoun d. interrogative pronoun e. reflexive pronoun f. demonstrative pronoun
20. You may want to eat sea cucumber, but Robin does not like it.
a. personal pronoun b. relative pronoun c. indefinite pronoun d. interrogative pronoun e. reflexive pronoun f. demonstrative pronoun

Pronoun Worksheet

Pronouns are words that stand for nouns (names of persons, places, or things).

This worksheet will help you avoid the three most frequent kinds of pronoun mistakes: in pronoun agreement, in pronoun reference, and in pronoun point of view.

Underline the correct word or words in the parentheses in the sentences below.

1. If anybody here has a cell phone (they / he or she) should turn it off now.
2. Many high schools now require (its / their) students to take a computer course.
3. Each of the actresses who auditioned believes (she / they) should be chosen for the role.
4. Students complain that (they / the maintenance crew) keep(s) the library too hot.
5. While Eric was adding sugar to his coffee, he spilled (it / the sugar) all over the table.
6. Someone offered to show me a copy of next week's history test, but I said that I didn't believe in (this / cheating).
7. If high school juniors and seniors take a special class to prepare them for SAT's (you will / they will) probably have a higher score.

8. I know spring is really here when (I / you) see neighborhood kids playing baseball.
9. If you want to advance in this company, (we / you) must be willing to work overtime.

Pronoun Unit & Grading Sheet

Joyelle Audie , 8th grade World History and English

Pizitz Middle School, Vestavia Hills, AL

To be completed no later than Wed. 9-10-03

Objectives:

Students will

Develop an understanding of personal pronouns and employ them effectively in writing.

Identify pronoun antecedents and ensure that pronouns agree with their antecedents.

Learn about and demonstrate control over the use of subject and object pronouns.

Learn about and demonstrate control over the use of possessive pronouns.

Use correct forms of indefinite pronouns and ensure correct pronoun-verb agreement.

Identify reflexive and intensive pronouns and use each correctly in writing.

Identify interrogative and demonstrative pronouns and demonstrate control over their use.

Edit, critique, and evaluate peer's activities.

Requirements:

Pronouns must always be identified in any activity. Use a variety of pronouns in your writing, making sure that they refer to clearly and agree with their antecedents.

Activities must be completed by deadline listed for level. Work will be graded in class and during 4th and 6th period.

The amount of points you get for each activity depends on the rubric for that activity.

All exercises and worksheets must be corrected in red before I will grade them. We may grade some together in class, or a key might be provided for you to correct your own work.

All written activities must be submitted with a peer evaluation form completed and attached.

Mandatory (40 points):

1. Take notes on each of the four lectures in class. Notes may be in written, charted, or drawn form. (16 points)

Tentative dates for lectures:

§ 9/3 4 points

§ 9/4 4 points

§ 9/5 4 points

§ 9/8 4 points

2. Complete the following worksheets when assigned. (24 points)

§ The Pronoun Lineup (J) 8 points

§ Another Pronoun Lineup (K) 8 points

§ Final Test on Pronoun Worksheet (M) 8 points

Level C (30 points) Choose 30 points maximum from the following activities - to be completed and graded no later than Friday, September 5, 2003

1. Complete the following exercises from your book. Follow directions as given in the book. (15 points).

Ex. 4, page 436-437

Ex. 5, page 438-439

Ex. 6, page 441

2. You have just read a magazine article describing a boy's wild adventure while camping with his family. His story sparks your imagination. Write your own personal adventure story. In it, use a variety of pronouns. Illustrate the story and include a cover. You must submit your story to at least one peer for a peer evaluation. (30 points)

3. Write a brief summary of a book or a screenplay that you really enjoy. Use a variety of pronouns while describing the work and the author. Highlight each different type of pronoun a different color. Must submit with peer evaluation. (20 points)

4. Pair up with someone and compose written sentences with indefinite pronouns. One of you starts the sentence by writing an indefinite pronoun; the other adds a verb that agrees with the subject. (Ex. Student 1: "Most of us" Student 2: "like pizza.") Write at least five sentences then switch roles. Tie all of the sentences together to make a paragraph, some additional sentences might be necessary. Show each partner's contributions and include a peer evaluation of your paragraph. (10 points)

5. Write a paragraph about a city you would like to visit. Use reflexive and intensive pronouns. Design a brochure for the city, with pictures, comments from previous visitors, and any extras. Include a peer evaluation with paragraph. (15 points)

6. Work with a partner. Select a newspaper or magazine article. Highlight and label the various kinds of pronouns in the article, include a key for decoding. Underline the antecedent for each pronoun. (5 points)

7. Complete the following chart: (5 points)

Positive Negative

anybody nobody

anyone no one

everyone

either

anything

everybody

everything

someone

something

8. Read about Langston Hughes. Write two paragraphs about the poet or his poetry. Use pronouns and their antecedents in your sentences. Submit with a peer evaluation. (25 points)

9. Complete Review exercise B, page 444 in your textbook. (5 points)

10. Imagine you are at a soccer practice. Write ten sentences you might say or overhear said. Include in each of the sentences,

one or more of each of the following pronouns : she, her, they, it, its, them, their, your, he, his. (Ex. Did Tracy say whether she

was coming to practice? She'll come if her leg feels better.) Present as a cartoon. (10 points)

11. Make posters for all of the different types of pronouns. (10 points)

12. Complete pronoun worksheet packet. (20 points)

Level B (20 points) Choose 20 points maximum from the following activities - to be completed and graded no later than Tuesday, September 9, 2003

1. Write a paragraph about a well-known person from public life, the entertainment field, or sports. By using pronouns, describe

the person without revealing his or her name until the end of the paragraph. Read your paragraph to a group of at least 3 to 5 people and have them try to guess who it is. Record your findings, using at least five different indefinite pronouns. Paragraph must be submitted with peer evaluation. (15 points)

2. Try creating your own billboard ads. First, think up five products, services, or places to advertise on billboards (you can make

up items if you wish). Then write at least one sentence to advertise each one. In each ad, use an indefinite pronoun and underline it. Sketch the layout of the billboard and put your slogan on it. (15 points)

3. Edit and evaluate at least the work of two peers and correct pronoun/antecedent agreement. You must use different color ink

and submit a peer evaluation form for each. This activity can be used twice. (5 points)

4. Work in a group of four. Each of you should write five answers beginning with pronouns, such as: She was the

first woman to attempt a global flight. He was the first man to walk on the moon. Divide group in half. One half says the answers and see if the other half can guess the question, such as: Who was Amelia Earhart? Who is

Neil Armstrong? Record your answers and questions. Present on a poster. (15 points)

5. Write at least ten riddles containing personal pronouns, such as: One bite of an apple caused her to have one of the longest

nap in history (Sleeping Beauty). The Queen of Spain made it possible for him to discover the New World (Christopher Columbus). Display the riddles on a poster. (15 points)

6. Imagine you work in the public relations department of a cereal company. Your job is to write a jingle announcing a new kind

of cereal. Include at least five different possessive pronouns and three different contractions. Present your jingle complete with decorated cereal box. Have jingle written on paper as well. (10 point)

7. Write a letter to the person you most admire and ask questions about aspects of the person's life you want to know more about. Use each of the different type of interrogative and demonstrative pronouns. Submit with a peer evaluation. (10 points)

8. Write several questions you would like to ask a poet about a poem or poems. Use each if the different interrogative and demonstrative pronouns in your questions. Then, research your poet and provide answers to the questions. Provide a display of the information you gathered, included with your answers and questions. (20 points)

9. Make up a quiz on the use of pronouns. Write ten incomplete sentences that can be completed with a pronoun. Provide two

pronouns, one in the subject(nominative) case and the in the objective case, in parentheses after each one . (Ex. Tom gave Lori (her/she) jacket. Include a key with the quiz. (10 points)

Level A (10 points) Choose a maximum of 10 points from the following activities. If you choose the traditional test option, it will be given on Wednesday, September 10, 2003. You must make at least an 85 to get the full credit or you will have to retake the test to get half the points. All other A activities must be completed and graded no later than Thursday, September 11, 2003

1. Read the "Ransom of Red Chief" by O. Henry and analyze how the author's pronoun usage helps him set the tone and

language for the first person point of view in the story. Write at least two paragraphs and submit with peer evaluation.

2. Formulate some interview questions that use interrogative pronouns (at least ten). Survey a group of friends about music groups, food choices in the cafeteria, clothing styles, or other topics of interest. When you have completed at least five surveys, write your results in two informative paragraphs. You must use at least five

indefinite pronouns. Report your findings creatively.

3. Take pronoun test.

Pronoun Unit Grade Sheet

Name _____

My Goal A_____ **B**_____ **C**_____

Due Date: _____

Total Points Earned: _____

Mandatory (40 points):

1. Lecture - 4pts. each 9/3 _____ 9/4 _____ 9/5 _____ 9/8 _____

2. Worksheets - 8 pts. each (J) _____ (K) _____ (L) _____

Level C (30 points optional) 9-5-03

1. Review exercises 4-6 from textbook (15) _____

2. Boy's adventure story (30) _____

3. Summary of book or screen play (20) _____

4. Partner sentences with indefinite pronouns (10) _____

5. Paragraph of city you would like to visit (15) _____

6. Partner locating pronouns in articles (5) _____

7. Positive Negative Chart (5) _____

8. Langston Hughes (25) _____

9. Review exercise B from textbook (5) _____

10. Soccer practice (10) _____

11. Pronoun Posters (10) _____

12. Pronoun Worksheet Packet (20) _____

Level B (20 points optional) 9-9-03

1. Public person paragraph (15) _____
2. Billboard ads (15) _____
3. Peer evaluations (5) _____
4. Group answers and questions (15) _____
5. Riddles (15) _____
6. Cereal ad (10) _____
7. Letter to admired person (10) _____
8. Poet research (20) _____
9. Quiz (10) _____

Level A (10 points optional) 9-11-2003

1. "Ransom or Red Chief" _____
2. Interviews _____
3. Traditional Test Score: _____

Retake: _____

Pronoun/Antecedent Worksheet 1

Underline the antecedent for the underlined pronoun in each sentence. If the pronoun has no antecedent, write "no antecedent"; if the antecedent is not clear, write "not clear".

Example: The boy wore his yellow raincoat.

1. Everyone at the party enjoyed her evening.
2. The car has a leak in its transmission.
3. Wearing a hat when it snows is wise.
4. More and more physicians are beginning to look not just for illnesses but also for patients' habits with long-term health implications. This is definite progress.
5. The cow twitched its tail at the fly.

6. Someone from the circus led the injured horse out of the ring.
7. I go to Hockey Homeland every Tuesday to watch them practice.
8. My aunt asked me to catch her dog.
9. The audience clapped its hands.
10. The audience applauded her performance.
11. The student used her pen to write in her notebook; then she put it away.
12. The hostages have been free for months, but some have not yet recovered from the experience.
13. Ed Blaker promoted Bill this morning; he will go on the Washington trip next week.
14. During winter snowstorms, the sparrows depend on our feeder for their food.
15. The rain continued to fall, and the mud grew deeper until it finally stopped.

Pronoun Antecedent Worksheet 1 Key

Answers:

1. Everyone at the party enjoyed her evening.
Not clear
2. The car has a leak in its transmission.
3. Wearing a hat when it snows is wise.
No Antecedent
4. More and more physicians are beginning to look not just for illnesses but also for patients' habits with long-term health implications. This is definite progress.
5. The cow twitched its tail at the fly.
6. Someone from the circus led the injured horse out of the ring.
No antecedent
7. I go to Hockey Homeland every Tuesday to watch them practice.
No antecedent
8. My aunt asked me to catch her dog.
9. The audience clapped its hands.
10. The audience applauded her performance.
No antecedent
11. The student used her pen to write in her notebook; then she put it away.

Not clear

12. The hostages have been free for months, but some have not yet recovered from the experience.
13. Ed Blaker promoted Bill this morning; he will go on the Washington trip next week.
Not clear
14. During winter snowstorms, the sparrows depend on our feeder for their food.
15. The rain continued to fall, and the mud grew deeper until it finally stopped.
Not clear

MAKING THE PRONOUN AND ITS ANTECEDENT AGREE:

ANTECEDENT = a noun to which a pronoun refers

- The car *that* I want is on sale.
(car = antecedent that = relative pronoun)
- The man on the boat thinks *he* is safe without a life jacket.
(man = antecedent he = personal pronoun)
- Does anyone have *his* or *her* book.
(anyone = antecedent his/her = possessive pronoun)

WHO and WHOM: Refer to persons and members of a group who take on "human qualities"

- Please give the book to the student who has her hand raised.
- The police officers who stopped my car were polite.

WHOSE: Refers to persons, animals and sometimes to things.

- The student whose books were lost is mad.

WHICH: refers to things, animals and persons considered as a group.

- The UO basketball team, which played tonight, is undefeated.

THAT: May refer to inanimate objects, places, things, ideas and animals.

- The theory that the earth is round is accepted as fact.

TWO or more antecedent are joined by a conjunction take a plural pronoun.

- Jody and Jerry coached their (her and his) basketball players.

Singular antecedents joined by OR / NOR take a singular pronoun.

- Neither Tom nor Jerry will present his case to Judge Ito.

With one singular and one plural antecedent joined by OR / NOR the pronoun agrees with the nearest antecedent.

- Either you or your pals must leave their car keys.
- Either your pals or you must leave your car keys.

Singular indefinite pronouns take a singular pronoun.

- Could someone please give me her book? (to a group of all women))
- Could someone please give me his book? (to a group of all men))
- Could someone please give me his or her book? (to a group of men and women))
- Anyone with a family history of heart disease should have his or her cholesterol checked.

Agreement Practice Exercise

Choose an answer for each question. After completing the entire exercise, click on the "Turn the Page" button at the bottom of this page, to see the answers.

1. Scientists are concerned that a number of species of frogs a) seems b) seem to be mutating.
2. Neither the offensive linemen nor the quarterback a) want b) wants to run the drill again.
3. Will they announce whether that group of students a) boards b) board the plane ahead of everyone.
4. Kimberly is the only one of those executives a) who b) that believes her product will sell this year.
5. None of the animals in the shelter a) belong b) belongs to someone.
6. The number of mutated frogs a) is b) are increasing every year.
7. Curtis is sure that the news media a) is b) are not helping the situation.
8. Jennifer is one of those actresses who a) audition b) auditions for every role she can.
9. The school's alumni a) hope b) hopes to raise enough money to complete the new wing.
10. Finding other contestants a) has b) have been the responsibility of the show's producers.
11. Neither of the executives a) want b) wants to tell the boss that profits are down.
12. None of them a) knows b) know who has the map.
13. There a) has b) have been so many doctors in to see him, that we don't know who's in charge.

14. The governor is proud to announce that more than 2,000 pounds of cheese a) has b) have been collected.
15. Everyone at the park a) is b) are going to the concert, including you and me.
16. Does anyone have a) his b) her c) his or her d) their map of the city?
17. He is the only one of the senators who a) has b) have agreed to testify.
18. One-third of the village a) receives b) receive water from the river just north of here.
19. A group of the city's voters a) choose b) chooses to send in mail-in ballots rather than go to the polls.
20. Neither his sister nor her friend Sarah a) think b) thinks Benjamin should go to Milan this summer.

Agreement Practice Exercise Answers

1. Scientists are concerned that a number of species of frogs a) seems **b) seem** to be mutating.
2. Neither the offensive linemen nor the quarterback a) want **b) wants** to run the drill again.
3. Will they announce whether that group of students **a) boards** b) board the plane ahead of everyone.
4. Kimberly is the only one of those executives **a) who** b) that believes her product will sell this year.
5. None of the animals in the shelter a) belong **b) belongs** to someone.
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