

# ***PRONOUN***

## Part 1

# *Personal Pronouns*

- **Definition:**

A pronoun that refers to a particular person, group, or thing. These are the personal pronouns in English:

Pronouns in English can perform five different grammatical functions:

- subject
- predicate nominative,
- direct object,
- indirect object
- prepositional complement.

# *Personal Pronouns*

	SINGULAR	PLURAL
1 <sup>st</sup> person	I	we
2 <sup>nd</sup> person	you	you
3 <sup>d</sup> person	he, she, it	they

# Notes on application (1)

- **It**- for animals, “anonymous” babies, concrete things and abstract notions, it refers to **neuter nouns**

- **She** – for boats, motorcars, aircraft

Have a look at my new car, she is a beauty!

- **She** – for countries

France has made it plain that she will regret the proposal

## Notes on application (2)

- **You** –refer to no person in particular  
(indefinite-personal **you**)

You never know when he makes fun of you

- **They** -refer to people in general, everybody

They say, he rolls in money

# *Case of Personal Pronouns*

<b>NOMINATIVE CASE (subjects and predicatives)</b>	<b>OBJECTIVE CASE (direct/indirect objects, prepositional complements)</b>
I	me
you	you
he	him
she	her
it	it
we	us
you	you
they	them

## *For example:*

- **My puppy licked you.** (*you* functions as *direct object*)
- **The man bought her chocolate.** (*her* functions as *indirect object*)
- **Six packages arrived for us.** (*us* functions as *prepositional complement*)

# The use of It

Personal It/ personal-demonstrative it	Impersonal it	Introductory it
<p>Used instead of a noun or a preceding statement e.g. I tried the door, it would not open e.g. He tried to break the lock. It was not easy</p> <p>May be used to identify/introduce a person e.g. It is my sister. Stupid as usual.</p>	<p>Used as a formal subject in impersonal sentences about weather, time, distance, measurements, etc. e.g. It rains/snows e.g. It's five miles from here e.g. it's very cold in the room e.g. It's midnight e.g. It's three feet deep here</p>	<p>Used as a formal subject, introducing the real one, expressed by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-an infinitive phrase</li><li>- an -Ing-form phrase</li><li>- a clause</li></ul> <p>e.g. It is stupid to work so much e.g. It won't be easy finding our way home e.g. it was he who helped me</p>



# ***POSSESSIVE PRONOUNS***

<b>Person</b>	<b>“Noun”-Pronouns or ABSOLUTE POSSESSIVES</b>	<b>“Adjective”-Pronouns</b>
<b>1st singular</b>	mine	my
<b>2nd</b>	yours	your
<b>3rd (female)</b>	hers	her
<b>3rd (male)</b>	his	his
<b>3rd (neutral)</b>	its	its
<b>1st plural</b>	ours	our
<b>3rd plural</b>	theirs	their

# Using Possessives

- A possessive “noun –pronoun” or *absolute possessive* is used **instead of** a noun:

e.g. Julie's car is red. **Mine** is blue.

- A **possessive adjective-pronoun** is usually used to **describe** a noun, and it comes **before** it, like other adjectives:

e.g. **My** car is bigger than **her** car.

- **Remember:**

There are **no apostrophes** in possessive pronouns!!!

e.g. The dog wagged **its** tail.

“**It's**” is not a possessive pronoun — it means “**it is**”:

e.g. **It's** not my dog.

# *Reflexive Pronouns*

Personal Pronoun	Reflexive Pronoun
I	myself
you (singular)	yourself
you (plural)	yourselves
he	himself
she	herself
it	itself
we	ourselves
they	themselves

# *When to use a reflexive pronoun?*

- Reflexive pronouns are used when ***the subject and object are the same***.

e.g. I hurt **myself**.

The band call **themselves** “Dire Straits”.

He shot **himself**.

- They are used ***as a prepositional complement***, when the subject and the object are the same.

e.g. I bought a present for **myself**.

She did it by **herself**. (She did it alone.)

That man is talking to **himself**.

- They are used when you want ***to emphasize the subject***.

e.g. I'll do it **myself**. (No one else will help me.)

They ate all the food **themselves**. (No one else had any.)

# The collocation of reflexive pronouns with prepositions(1)

- a. by oneself      alone or automatically
- He lives *by himself*. (= alone)
- The machine works by itself
- b. of oneself      automatically
- Success will not come *of itself* to knock at your door.
- c. for oneself      in person, (after words like see, find, decide, etc.)
- If you don't believe me, you may go there and see *for yourself*
- d. to oneself      belong to
- How I wish to have a room *to myself*.
- e. in oneself      concerning with the nature of
- The invitation is *in itself* a friendship step.
- f. beside oneself      be wild with joy, etc or totally engaged
- He was *beside himself* with joy.
- g. between ourselves      a secret between two people
- This matter is *between ourselves*.
- h. among ourselves      similar to between ourselves but used only with three people or more
- They divided the apple *among themselves*.
- i. above oneself      happy or proud
- Hearing the news they were quite *above themselves*.
- j. in spite of oneself      cannot help doing sth
- When he heard the good news he laughed *in spite of himself*.
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# Collocations with RP (2)

- Some reflexive pronouns often collocate with verbs such as ***deport, behave, conduct, etc. to show good manners and bad manners.***

e.g. He *behaved himself* fairly well when he was at college.

She always *conducts herself* like a lady.

The boys were trained to *deport themselves* like gentlemen.

# Collocations with RP(3)

Sometimes the complement shows ***the result of a certain action to the subject, such as:***

- He *talked himself hoarse*.
- They *quarreled themselves red in the face*.
- The *sky has rained itself out*.
- He *drank himself under the table*.
- John had begun to *fret and worry himself out of spirit and appetite*.

# Collocations with RP(4)

Reflexive pronouns collocate with words like *find, hear, catch* to show that the subject does something **without realizing it**.

- The *enemy found themselves in a dilemma*.
- Mr. Jones *found himself thinking*.
- He *heard himself apologizing to her*.
- She *caught herself making the same grammatical mistake*



# Idioms with RP

- You must *pull yourself together*. (pluck up one's spirit)
- She *took herself away*. (went away)
- He often *puts himself forward*. (puts on airs)
- Carl played a joke on Bob and *gave himself away* (revealed his original purpose) by laughing.
- He has really *put himself out* (made efforts) to see that everybody is comfortable.
- He *made a nuisance of himself*. (annoyed others)
- I don't want to *make a show of myself* (become a laughing stock) before strangers.
- Don't *make a pig of yourself*. (eat a lot and in a bad manner)
- He could have *hugged himself for joy* (be happy and contented) at his success.
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