

THE PRONOUN

CLASSIFICATION OF PRONOUNS

- Personal (личные): I, he, she, it, you, we, they.
- Possessive (притяжательные): my, his, her, its, our, your, their; mine, his, hers, ours, yours, theirs.
- Reflexive (возвратные): myself, himself, herself, itself, ourselves, yourself (yourselves), themselves.
- Reciprocal (взаимные): each other, one another.
- Demonstrative (указательные): this (these), that (those), such, (the) same.
- Interrogative (вопросительные): who, whose, what, which.
- Relative (относительные): who, whose, which, that, as.
- Conjunctive (соединительные): who, whose, which, what.
- Defining (определяющие): each, every, everybody, everyone, everything, all, either, both, other, another
- Indefinite (неопределенные): some, any, somebody, anybody, something, anything, someone, anyone, one.
- Negative (отрицательные): no, none, nether, nobody, no one, nothing.

Personal pronouns

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SWnc1HSCvRY>

Personal pronouns

Grammar categories

Case	Nominative: I, he, she, it, we, you, they objective (объектный): me, him, her, it, us, you, them
Number	Singular: I, he, she, it, plural: we, they <i>NOTE: the pronoun you have both numbers</i>
Gender	Masculine: he (male beings) Feminine: she (female beings) Neutral: it (inanimate things)
Functions in the sentence	
Subject	I was not ready to resume the interrupted chain of my reflections till bed-time...
Object	He arranged to meet her at the 96 th Street station
Predicative Именная часть сказуемого	But I think that was him I spoke to./”Who’s there?” “It’s me ”

Special applications of the personal pronouns

- It is tradition to use **we** instead of **I** in newspaper articles, specific prose, etc. as it is believed to be less assertive.
e.g. We are convinced that the Government has made a grave mistake in imposing this tax.
- **She** is sometimes used for inanimate objects, especially ships, motor cars, aircraft, etc.
e.g. Come along and have a look at my new car. She is a beauty.
- **She** is also used for countries, and even cities, especially in rather formal and rhetoric speech.
e.g. France has made its plan and she will regret a proposal.

Special applications of the personal pronouns

- **You** may be used with reference to nobody in particular, to any person who might find himself in a similar position.
e.g. You don't know him. He is dishonest. **You** feel that he is lying to you every moment of the day.
- **They** may be used to mean 'people in general', especially in the phrase they say.
e.g. **They** say he's going to resign.

The use of **it**.

- Personal pronoun **IT** is used:

- For concrete things, abstract notions and animals.

e.g. I tried the door. **It** was closed.

- To identify an unknown person. Then once it has been done, he or she must be used.

e.g. There was a knock at the door. I thought **it** was a postman. **He** usually came at this time.

When the waiter came up to his table he did not at once realize **it** was Paul. **He** was as handsome as ever.

The use of it.

- **It** may be used not only as a subject of the sentence but also as an object followed by an adjective or a noun which is modified by an infinitive phrase, an -ing form phrase or a clause.

e.g. I found **it** difficult **to explain to him what had happened.**

He thought **it** no use **going over the subject again.**

He thought **it** odd **that they had left him no message.**

- **It** is also used in emphatic construction, i.e. a special sentence pattern that serves to emphasize some word or part of the sentence.

e.g. **It** was my question **that** made him angry.

It was on the terrace **that** he wanted them to lay the table.

The use of it.

Impersonal sentences

- It is very often used as a formal subject in impersonal statements about weather conditions, time, distance and all kinds of measurements.

e.g. It was raining heavily.

It was half past three now.

It is six miles to the nearest hospital from here.

It is three feet deep here.

- It as the formal subject is also found in the sentences in which the predicate is modified by an infinitive phrase (a), or an -ing phrase (b), or a clause (c).

e.g. a) It is stupid to fall asleep like that.

It is a pleasure to see you again.

b) It won't be easy finding our way home.

It's no use hoping he'll ever change his mind.

c) It was clear that he was going to give in.

It was a surprise that he had back so soon.

The use of it.

- It may also refer to an idea expressed in a preceding word groups (a), clause (b), sentence (c), or even context (c).

e.g. a) He tried to break the lock. It was not easy either.

b) He knew his farther was dying but he did not want to speak with anyone about it.

c) The music has stopped. He didn't notice it.

d) He studied her, then shook his head. He waited a moment and then decided not to say what he might have been going to say. He swallowed half of his whisky before going on, and when he did, he returned to the conventional questions. She had watched him do it all without any interest.

ITS vs IT'S

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b4wHZcif18U>

Possessive pronouns

- Have the same distinctions of person, number and gender as personal pronouns.
- Have two forms:
 - Dependent (conjoint-атрибутивная)-is used when pp comes before the noun it modifies and acts as an attribute (определение).

e.g. In his turn old Jolyon looked back at his son

- Independent (absolute – абсолютная)- is used when the pp does not modify any noun. It may act as subject, object or predicative.

e.g. This is not my pencil, **mine** is blue.-subject

I've broken my pencil, give me **yours**.-object

This book is **mine** – predicative



We do not usually translate pp into Russian when they are used before the names of the parts of the body, clothing, things belonging to a person, etc., as pp acts like an article here.

Reflexive pronouns

Reflexive pronoun shows that the action performed by the person which is indicated by the subject of the sentence passes back again to the same person.

e.g. He wrapped himself in his blanket and fell off to sleep.

RP have grammatical categories of person, number and gender (in the 3rd person singular)
She cooked herself a big meal.

	1 st person	2 nd person	3 rd person
Singular	myself	yourself	Himself/herself
Plural	ourselves	yourselves	themselves

Oneself – is a reflexive pronoun, which is formed from the indefinite pronoun *one*

Reflexive pronouns

- Together with the verb RP may form set phrases characterized by idiomatic meaning. The reflexive meaning of the self-pronoun is weakened in this case. The meaning of the verb differs from the meaning of the same verb when it is followed by an object expressed by a noun or an indefinite pronoun.

e.g. He forgot Jane's address (забыл)

I'm afraid he's forgetting himself (забывается)

Finally I found the answer to the riddle (нашел)

Finally I found myself near a railway station (оказался)

She came to the theatre ten minutes later (пришла)

At last she came to herself (пришла в себя)

Reflexive pronouns

- Some verbs are always followed by RP
 - To pride oneself on smth
 - To avail oneself of smth
- Besides, there are few prepositional phrases which have idiomatic meaning.

Are we actually **by ourselves** again? (одни)

He was always **beside himself** with excitement (вне себя)

In spite of himself he was interested (наперекор себе, вопреки своему желанию).

Go and find **for yourself** how it is done (самостоятельно)

As for myself, I have no complaint to make. (что касается меня)

I came away and let him **for himself** (оставил его одного)

We can drive the car **among ourselves** (по очереди)

Reflexive pronouns

- Some verbs **change their meaning** slightly when they have a reflexive pronoun as direct object:
- Would you like to help yourself to another drink?
= *Would you like to take another drink.*
- I wish the children would behave themselves.
= *I wish the children would behave well.*
- He found himself lying by the side of the road.
= *He was surprised when he realised that he was at the side of the road.*
- I saw myself as a famous actor.
= *I imagined that I was a famous actor.*
- She applied herself to the job of mending the lights.
= *She worked very hard to mend the lights.*
- He busied himself in the kitchen.
= *He worked busily in the kitchen.*
- I had to content myself with a few Euros.
= *I had to be satisfied with a few Euros.*

Reflexive pronouns

<https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en/english-grammar/pronouns/reflexive-pronouns>

- <http://busyteacher.org/16518-reflexive-pronouns-worksheet-with-video.html>
- <http://busyteacher.org/22527-im-yours-by-jason-mraz.html>

Phrasal verbs