

## PRONOUNS

### SUBSTITUTION

Pronouns are words which act as substitutes for nouns. Pronouns may take the place of a noun and/or act in its place.

EX:

<u>Noun</u>	=	<u>Pronoun</u>
Thomas Jefferson	=	He
Catherine	=	She
Benjamin and Gerald	=	They
The Computer	=	It

If the noun has been provided in a sentence, then pronouns may be used. However if a pronoun has not been already provided, then a pronoun should not be used.

EX:

He was sad.

The reader may ask, "What was sad?" However, if you say:

Jake was hurt. He was sad.

Then, you have provided the much needed Antecedent (the original noun) to the pronoun.

### POSSESSION

Pronouns may also be used to show possession. Typically, possessive pronouns stand alone.

EX:

*The dog was his.*

*The cat was hers.*

Common Possessive Pronouns:

His

Hers

Its

Theirs

Yours

Ours

### DIFFERENCES WITH DETERMINERS

Pronouns stand alone, replacing the noun entirely. If the word comes before a noun, typically the word is classified as a determiner.

EX:

Lucy took her painting to an auction. It sold for thousands of dollars.

IT is the pronoun (acting alone or by itself).

EX:

This dog is rabid.

THIS is a determiner, since THIS works to define DOG in terms of specificity (i.e., which dog?).

### REFLEXIVE

Pronouns may also be somewhat reflexive (referring to the self or others within social conditions).

EX:

We made the cake *ourselves*.

He made a pie by *himself*.

Common Reflexive Pronouns:

Myself

Yourself

Yourselves

Oneself

Himself

Herself

Itself

Themselves

Ourselves

### DEMONSTRATIVE

Pronouns may be demonstrative (helping to show an example or examples). Typically, demonstrative pronouns stand alone.

EX:

I want that.

This is my chance to make a difference.

The particle collider is a novel invention; *this* will enable humans to study smaller particles.

Common Demonstrative Pronouns:

This

That

These

Those

## INTERROGATIVE

Pronouns may be interrogative (being the foundation of a question).

EX:

*Where* can I buy a skateboard?

*How* much are skateboards?

Common Interrogative Pronouns:

What

Who

Whom

Which

How

Where

When

## INDEFINITE

Pronouns may help to show things of indefinite or infinite number or quantity.

EX:

*No one* is home.

*Someone* has to be home.

Common Indefinite Pronouns:

All

Everything

Everybody

Everyone

Anything

Any

Anyone

Anybody

Some

Something

Someone

Somebody

No one

Nobody

Nothing

Neither

Both

Either

## RELATIVE

Pronouns may be used to show further relationships between people and people, people and objects, etc.

EX:

The plane *which* I am flying is a Boeing 747.

The drummer *who* plays in my band is named Vinnie.

Common Relative Pronouns:

Who

Whom

Whose

Which