

# Pronouns

## Teaching

A **pronoun** is a word used in place of a noun or another pronoun.

Type of Pronoun	Function	Examples
personal	refers to first person, second person, and third person	I, you, he
possessive	shows ownership or relationship	mine, ours
reflexive	reflects an action back on the subject	itself
intensive	emphasizes a noun or pronoun in the same sentence	yourself
interrogative	asks a question	who, what
demonstrative	points out specific persons, places, things, or ideas	that, those
relative	introduces a subordinate clause	who, what
indefinite	does not refer to a specific person or thing	all, each, several

### Finding Pronouns

Underline all the pronouns in the following sentences.

1. A cartoon is a drawing or series of drawings that tells a story.
2. Each of the separate scenes in a cartoon is called a *panel*.
3. Most of the cartoonists do not draw people as they really appear.
4. These are artists who tend to exaggerate some of the features of a person.
5. For example, they may draw a person who has an oversized head.
6. Another of their techniques is to use symbols to help them tell a story.
7. They may use a light bulb above a character's head to indicate that the character is having an idea.
8. Most of us are familiar with comic strips, but what is an editorial cartoon?
9. An editorial cartoon is one of the most interesting kinds of cartoons you may see in a newspaper or magazine.
10. Editorial cartoons encourage their readers to develop an opinion about someone or something in the news.
11. Editorial cartoonists themselves have strong feelings about their topics.
12. Benjamin Franklin drew one of the first editorial cartoons urging all of the colonies to unite.
13. It showed each of the colonies as a part of a snake and had a caption that read, "Join or Die."
14. Thomas Nast made himself into a legend in cartooning when he introduced the elephant and donkey as symbols of the major political parties.
15. Comic strips are so popular that most of the newspapers in the country reserve one or more of their pages just for their comics.
16. In the early 1900s, a cartoonist whose name was Rube Goldberg drew cartoons that featured complicated contraptions.
17. The contraptions themselves were designed to accomplish simple tasks, but they were ridiculously complex.
18. None of Goldberg's readers would have used his inventions to do jobs that they could do more easily for themselves.

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## More Practice

REVIEW

### A. Finding Pronouns

Underline the pronoun or pronouns described in parentheses after each sentence.

1. I have never read either of these books. (indefinite)
2. Over the summer, he taught himself to juggle. (reflexive)
3. Who was the first one to read his report? (interrogative)
4. The candidates themselves proposed that they debate. (intensive)
5. Mr. Foster insisted that these were the tastiest cookies he had ever eaten. (demonstrative)
6. She is a principal whom everybody respects. (relative)
7. She asked if she could borrow our video camera. (possessive)
8. Our coach asked us to carry the equipment to his car. (personal)
9. I knocked on their door, and somebody answered. (indefinite)
10. Our teacher warned us that this was our last chance to order yearbooks. (demonstrative)
11. The author herself will be autographing her books at the mall. (intensive)
12. He proved to all of us and to himself that he could be a good leader. (reflexive)
13. Everyone agrees with me that this is the best restaurant in town. (relative)
14. Which of you left your umbrella in my car? (personal)
15. My parents always come to the games to watch me play. (possessive)

### B. Identifying Pronouns

Complete each sentence with an appropriate pronoun. Then, on the line to the right, label the pronoun **personal, possessive, reflexive, intensive, interrogative, demonstrative, relative, or indefinite**.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ of the gymnasts had trained for years. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_ of the deities was the god of war? \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_ are examples of early Roman sculpture. \_\_\_\_\_
4. John Wilkes Booth, \_\_\_\_\_ was an actor, shot Abraham Lincoln. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_ of the formats is acceptable for the yearbooks. \_\_\_\_\_
6. The official blew \_\_\_\_\_ whistle to stop the play. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_ is the scientific name for goldfish? \_\_\_\_\_
8. When some people ride a roller coaster, \_\_\_\_\_ scream all the way down the first hill. \_\_\_\_\_
9. Before you go to bed, calm \_\_\_\_\_ down with a glass of warm milk. \_\_\_\_\_
10. I was surprised when the senator \_\_\_\_\_ answered the phone. \_\_\_\_\_

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## Application

### A. Writing Sentences with Pronouns

Write sentences using the types of pronouns indicated. Underline the required pronouns in your sentences. Be sure the pronoun matches the person, number, and gender of its antecedent, when an antecedent is stated.

1. demonstrative pronoun

\_\_\_\_\_

2. possessive pronoun that stands alone

\_\_\_\_\_

3. personal pronoun in the first person

\_\_\_\_\_

4. personal pronoun in the third person

\_\_\_\_\_

5. plural reflexive pronoun

\_\_\_\_\_

### B. Writing Dialogue with Pronouns

Underline all the pronouns in the dialogue below. Then write one more quotation for each of the two speakers. Include at least four of these kinds of pronouns: **personal, possessive, demonstrative, reflexive, intensive, interrogative, indefinite, and relative.** Underline the pronouns in your dialogue.

"Kallie, do you know where the newspaper comics are? I like to give myself a treat and read them every day."

"Alec, you are too old to be reading comics. No one over the age of ten reads them."

"You are wrong. Some of the comics make comments about what is going on in the world. Others provide insight into human relationships. Many are intended just to make us laugh. The comics are so important that when there was a newspaper strike in New York, the mayor himself, Fiorello La Guardia, read them to all of the people over the radio."

"I guess you have convinced me."

"So, what did you do with my comics?"

"I hid them so I could read them first."

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