



Pronouns

Learning Outcomes

- Students will understand the types of pronouns (personal, possessive, reflexive, relative, etc.).
- They will use pronouns effectively to replace nouns in sentences.
- They will avoid common errors in pronoun agreement and case.



Lead in

Rewrite the paragraph using appropriate pronouns for the underlined noun.

Rahul and Varun are good friends. Rahul and Varun wanted to go and watch a movie. Rahul and Varun went to Varun's father to seek permission. Varun's father refused to allow Rahul and Varun to go for a movie. Varun's father asked Rahul and Varun to go out and play instead.

Pronouns

Words that are used in place of nouns are called **Pronouns**.

When nouns are repeated in a paragraph, it looks awkward. We use a noun only once and then replace it by a pronoun.

Kinds of Pronouns

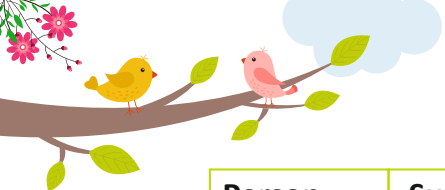
Pronouns are of following kinds:

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Personal Pronouns | 2. Reflexive Pronouns |
| 3. Emphasizing Pronouns | 4. Demonstrative Pronouns |
| 5. Interrogative Pronouns | 6. Possessive Pronouns |
| 7. Distributive Pronouns | 8. Indefinite Pronouns |
| 9. Relative Pronouns | |

1. Personal Pronouns

Pronouns that refer to persons or things are called **Personal Pronouns**.

- ⦿ There are three persons : **First Person**, **Second Person** and **Third Person**.
- ⦿ The first person refers **to the person speaking**.
- ⦿ The second person **is the person spoken to**.
- ⦿ The third person **is the person or thing spoken about**.



| Person | Subject | Object | Possessive | Reflexive | Remarks Emphasizing |
|--|-------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|--|---|
| 1st person (singular) (plural) | I we | me us | mine ours | myself ourselves | used for both masculine and feminine |
| 2nd person (singular) (plural) | you you | your your | yours yours | yourself yourselves | used for both masculine and feminine |
| 3rd person (singular) (singular) (singular) (plural) | he she it they | him her it them | his hers theirs | himself herself itself themselves | masculine feminine neuter all gender |

A. Complete the following dialogues using suitable personal pronouns.

Rohan : What's that?

Suman : Oh, _____ is a photo of my family. Look _____ is _____ mother.

Rohan : _____ already know _____. Who's _____ ?

Suman : _____ is my brother. _____ is a sportsperson. Everybody likes _____.

Rohan : Oh, _____ looks like _____.

Suman : And look at that big dog. _____ is our pet dog Robot.

We use words to express our **thoughts** and **feelings**. Words are arranged in a proper order to convey **what we wish to express**. These are called **Sentences**.

2. Reflexive Pronouns

Pronouns that are used as the receiver of an action are called **Reflexive Pronouns**.

1st person:

(Singular) myself

(Plural) ourselves

2nd person:

(Singular) yourself

(Plural) yourselves

3rd person:

(Singular) himself, herself, itself

(Plural) themselves





Grammar Byte

- ◉ We can use a reflexive pronoun as the object of the verb.
- ◉ A reflexive pronoun reflects back on its subject.

Examples :

1. I did my homework **myself**.
2. We finished our project **ourselves**.

3. Emphatic Pronouns

An Emphatic Pronoun is a pronoun such as myself, herself, yourself etc. that is used immediately after the noun to which it refers in order to show emphasis.

Examples :

1. Jasmin **herself** locked the door.
2. Rohit **himself** solved the sum.



Grammar Byte

- ◉ We put these pronouns near the **Subject**.
- ◉ We cannot use an **Emphatic Pronoun** as object of the verb.

B. Fill in the blanks with suitable reflexive or emphasizing pronouns.

1. She will do that _____.
2. They often quarrel among _____.
3. Mohit did it _____.
4. I _____ heard him shouting.



Skills/Level
WRITING/A1



4. Demonstrative Pronouns

Pronouns that are used to point out the things and persons they refer to are called demonstrative pronouns.

Examples :

This is a book.

These are birds.

That is a pen.

Those are kites.

Demonstrative pronouns should not be confused with demonstrative adjectives which are also the words this, that, these and those.

Examples :

This is my cap.

[Demonstrative Pronoun]

This cap is mine.

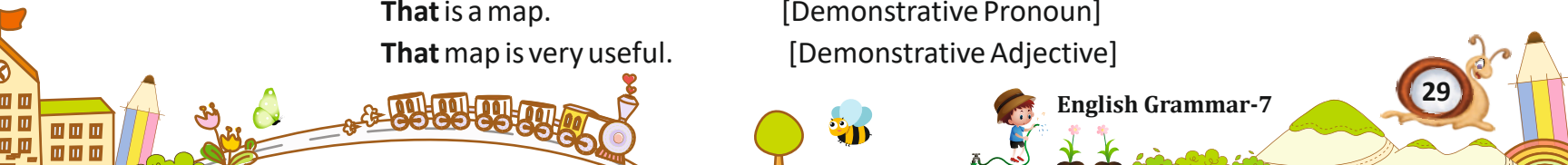
[Demonstrative Adjective]

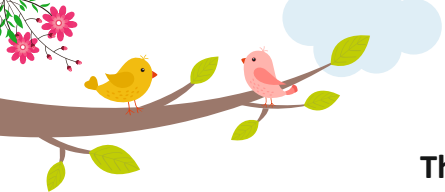
That is a map.

[Demonstrative Pronoun]

That map is very useful.

[Demonstrative Adjective]





Those are cats.

[Demonstrative Pronoun]

Those cats are white.

[Demonstrative Adjective]

C. Tick (✓) only those sentences that use a demonstrative pronoun.

1. That is your book.
2. This painting is very beautiful.
3. These are your books.
4. Those cars are ours.

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5. Interrogative Pronouns

Pronouns that are used to ask questions are called **Interrogative Pronouns**.

1. **Who** is your principal?
2. **Which** is the best painting?
3. **Whom** do you want?



Grammar Byte

- ◉ Interrogative pronouns should not be confused with interrogative adjectives.
- ◉ Interrogative adjectives are placed before the noun that they describe.

Examples:

Interrogative Pronoun.

What is that troubles you so much?

Interrogative Adjective.

Whose books are on the shelf?

D. Complete the following sentences using Interrogative Pronouns.

1. _____ do you want to meet?
2. _____ of these is your bag?
3. _____ would you like to eat?
4. _____ is knocking at the door?



Skills/Level
WRITING/A2



E. Tick (✓) the sentences that have interrogative pronouns and cross (✗) those that have interrogative adjectives.

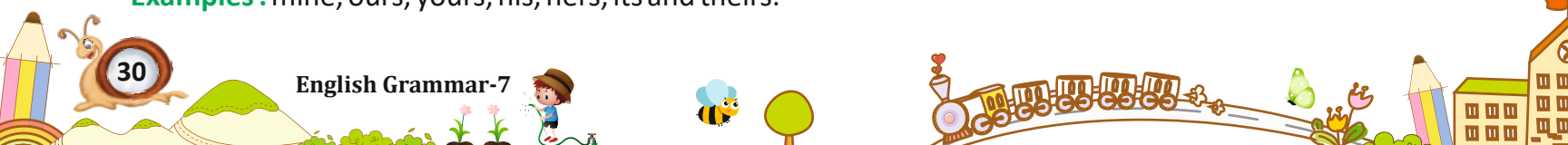
1. Whose bag is this?
2. What did she say?
3. Which bike is yours?
4. What is your father's name?

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6. Possessive Pronouns

Pronouns that refer to possession or ownership are called **Possessive Pronouns**.

Examples : mine, ours, yours, his, hers, its and theirs.





- **Possessive Pronouns** must not be confused with possessive adjectives which are my, our, your, his, her and their.
- A **Possessive Adjective** is usually used to describe a noun, and it comes before the noun like other adjectives.

| Persons | | | Pronoun | Adjective |
|------------|------------|--------|----------|-----------|
| 1st Person | (Singular) | I | mine | my |
| | (Plural) | we | ours | our |
| 2nd Person | (Singular) | you | yours | your |
| | (Plural) | you | yours | your |
| 3rd Person | (Singular) | he/she | his/hers | his/her |
| | | it | its | its |
| | (Plural) | they | theirs | their |

F. Write the correct Possessive Pronoun in the following sentences.



Skills/Level
WRITING/A2



- These pens belong to the girls, they are _____.
- This umbrella belongs to Radha, this is _____.
- This car belongs to my uncle, this is _____.
- This book belongs to you, this is _____.

7. Distributive Pronouns

Pronouns that refer to persons or things one at a time, are called **Distributive Pronouns**.

Examples :

- Each** of her daughters touches his feet.
- Either** of the girls did a good job.
- Neither** of them would win the match.

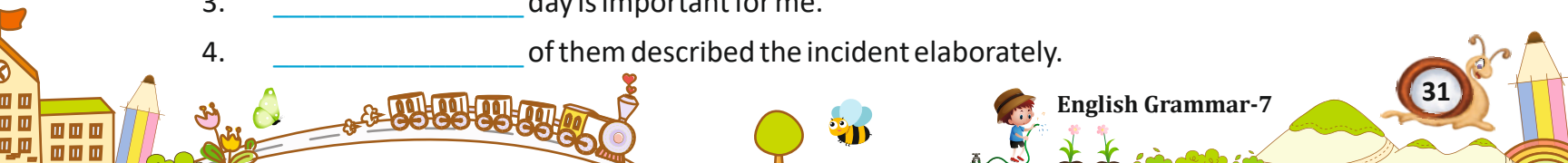


Grammar Byte

- ⊙ **Each, every, neither** and **either** are examples of distributive pronouns.
- ⊙ **Either** and **neither** are used to refer to individuals in a pair or in a group.
- ⊙ **Each** is used to refer to individuals in a group.

G. Fill in the blanks with suitable Distributive Pronouns.

- _____ of them is worthy of the prize.
- _____ of them could win the match.
- _____ day is important for me.
- _____ of them described the incident elaborately.



8. Indefinite Pronouns

Pronouns that do not stand for any specific person or thing are called **Indefinite Pronouns**.

These pronouns refer to a person or thing in a general way. These include pronouns such as:

- Someone, somebody, something
- Everyone, everybody, everything
- Anyone, anybody, anything
- No one, nobody, nothing
- One, all, some, few, many, none

➤ Use of few, a few and the few

These three indefinite pronouns refer **only to Countable Nouns**:

1. **Few** denotes an insignificant number. It means 'hardly any.'

Examples: Few buyers were fooled by the misleading advertisements.

2. **A few** refers to a small number but which the speaker considers significant.

Examples: A few articles broke while we were shifting to our new house.

3. **The few** refers to the small number of something specific. It always identifies or denotes a specific noun.

Examples: The few who are interested will read these books.

H. Fill in the blanks using suitable Indefinite Pronouns from the brackets.



Skills/Level
WRITING/A2



1. Calm down. There is _____ (something/nothing) to worry about.
2. I am sure I put down my keys _____ (somewhere/anywhere).
3. Would you like _____ (something/nothing) to eat?
4. Does _____ (somebody/anybody) live in that hut?
5. This is boring. There is _____ (nothing/not something) to do.

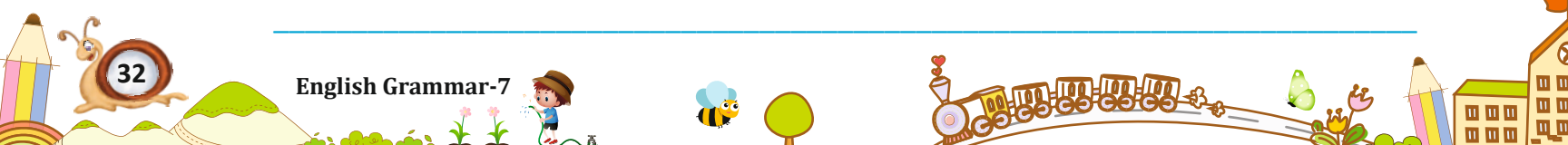
9. Relative Pronouns

Pronouns that refer to the noun or pronoun that has been mentioned earlier in a sentence are called **Relative Pronouns**.

| Relative pronouns | Used for | Examples |
|-------------------|----------------------------|--|
| who, whom | used for persons | 1. This is the boy who was knocking on the door. 2. This is the woman whom she helped. |
| which | used of things and animals | 1. I lost the watch which my father bought yesterday. 2. This is the bike which Raj bought. |
| whose, that | used of persons and things | 1. The girl whose umbrella was lost has not come. |

I. Join the following sentences using suitable Relative Pronouns.

1. Show me the way. The way leads to the school.



2. He is a man. You can trust him.
3. She is a woman. She is always greedy.
4. This is the teacher. He teaches us English.



Points to Remember

- Words that are used in place of nouns are called **Pronouns**.
- Pronouns that refer to persons or things are called **Personal Pronouns**.
- Pronouns that are used as the receiver of an action are called **Reflexive Pronouns**.
- Pronouns that are used to convey emphasis are called **Emphasizing Pronouns**.
- Pronouns that are used to point out things and persons they refer to are called **Demonstrative Pronouns**.
- Pronouns that are used to ask questions are called **Interrogatives Pronouns**.
- Pronouns that refer to possession or ownership are called **Possessive Pronouns**.
- Pronouns that refer to persons or thing one at a time are called **Distributive Pronouns**.
- Pronouns that do not stand for any specific person or thing are called **Indefinite Pronouns**.
- Pronouns that refer to the noun or pronoun that has been mentioned earlier in a sentence are called **Relative Pronouns**.



My Activity Corner

Rewrite the following sentences replacing the possessive adjective with possessive pronoun.

1. These are my pens.
2. That is his piano.
3. These are my fingerprints.



My EeeBee Interactive Activities



Listening



Speaking



Reading



Writing



Grammar



Vocabulary

WRITE YOUR SCORE

Practice your LSRW Skills



on Communication Lab

