

PRONOUNS

Pronouns, those seventy-some words such as *she*, *nobody*, or *that* which substitute for a noun, may be divided into five general categories (the same form may occur in more than one category):

Personal	referring to a person or thing, with five possible grammatical functions
Relative	used to introduce a relative clause
Demonstrative	specifying the person or thing referred to
Indefinite	referring to unspecified persons or things
Interrogative	used in questions

The form of **personal pronouns** depends on their grammatical function in the sentence. Grammatically speaking, there are three persons (all of which may be singular or plural): first, the speaker; second, the person addressed; and third, anyone or anything else. Also, a pronoun has one of five grammatical functions:

- 1) the subject, about which something is stated
- 2) the object of a verb or a preposition
- 3) a possessive adjective, indicating the possessor of the noun following it
- 4) the possessive, used to indicate possession when the thing possessed is not stated
- 5) the reflexive, used as the object of a verb or a preposition when it is the same as the subject

	<u>Grammatical Function</u>				
	subject	object	poss. adjective	possessive	reflexive
Person					
1 <i>singular</i>	I	me	my	mine	myself
<i>plural</i>	we	us	our	ours	ourselves
2 <i>singular</i>	you	you	your	yours	yourself
<i>plural</i>	you	you	your	yours	yourselves
3 <i>singular</i>	she	her	her	hers	herself
	he	him	his	his	himself
	it	it	its	its	itself
<i>plural</i>	they	them	their	theirs	themselves

Relative pronouns introduce a relative clause by referring to something in the main clause. They may occur as either the subject or the object of the relative clause. The relative pronouns are:

that	used to introduce a restrictive or defining relative clause
which	used to introduce a non-restrictive relative clause
who	used as the subject of the relative clause
whom	used as the object of the relative clause
whose	used as a possessive determiner in the subject of the relative clause

Demonstrative pronouns specify what is being referred to. (When used with the noun following it, as in the phrase *those birds*, then it is actually an adjective or a determiner, but the forms are the same.) There are just two demonstratives, each with a singular and a plural form:

this / these	the person or thing nearby, present, or just mentioned
that / those	the person or thing further away, implied, or just specified

Indefinite pronouns refer to persons or things unknown or unspecified:

any	anybody	anyone	anything	one, both, several, each, other(s), another
some	somebody	someone	something	few, many, much, all, either, neither, such
every	everybody	everyone	everything	whoever, whose ever, whichever, whatever
none	nobody	no one	nothing	(likewise, <i>who so ever, what so ever</i> , etc.)

Also, any indefinite pronoun may be used with *else* to indicate a person or thing different from one already mentioned:
Someone else will do it. *We don't have one, but everybody else does.*

Interrogative pronouns introduce a question (also used as relative pronouns): **who, whom, whose, what, which.**