Singular and Plural Pronouns

Pronouns are words that take the place of nouns. Pronouns that take the place of singular nouns are **singular pronouns**. *I, me, he, she, him, her,* and *it* are singular pronouns. The pronoun *I* is always capitalized.

**Singular Pronoun**

James was born. He was born.

Pronouns that take the place of plural nouns are **plural pronouns**. *We, us, they,* and *them* are plural pronouns.

**Plural Pronoun**

The horses pulled his wagon. They pulled his wagon.

*You* can be used as a singular and a plural pronoun.

James, you must learn not to take risks.

Children, do you know how to play basketball?

**Directions** Write the pronoun in each sentence.

1. I read a story in class. ________

2. It was about James Naismith. ________

3. James loved sports, and basketball fascinated him. ________

4. He invented the game in two weeks. ________

5. The men played, and they loved the game. ________

**Directions** Write each sentence. Replace the underlined word or words with the correct pronoun.

6. Maude Sherman was on a women’s basketball team.

   ________

7. James became a student at Gross Medical College.

   ________

8. James met basketball players at the 1936 Olympics.

   ________

9. Today you and I can play basketball.

   ________
Subject and Object Pronouns

A pronoun used as the subject of a sentence is called a **subject pronoun**. A pronoun used after an action verb or as the object of a preposition is called an **object pronoun**.

- *I, you, he, she, it, we, and they* are subject pronouns.
- *Me, you, him, her, it, us, and them* are object pronouns.

**Subject Pronouns**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>She hiked in the desert. He and I stayed home.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Object Pronouns</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The plants surprised her. She told him and me about them.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Directions** Write *SP* if the underlined pronoun is a subject pronoun. Write *OP* if it is an object pronoun.

1. Scientists work in Antarctica, and **they** stay there all winter. **OP**
2. The long, cold winters do not discourage **them**. **OP**
3. My group and **I** studied the penguins in Antarctica. **OP**
4. A trip to Antarctica is a dream for **us**. **OP**
5. You should plan a trip too. **OP**

**Directions** Choose the correct pronoun in ( ) for each sentence. Write the sentence.

6. (We, Us) saw two active volcanoes in Hawaii. **We**

7. My family walked on (they, them). **They**

8. Michael and (me, I) saw a lava flow. **I**

9. The volcanoes thrilled Jenny and (me, I). **Me**

10. I took a picture of (she, her) on the volcano. **She**
Possessive Pronouns

Some pronouns show who or what owns, or possesses, something. This kind of pronoun is a **possessive pronoun**.

**Possessive Pronouns**
- My, mine, your, yours, her, hers, his, its, our, ours, their, and theirs are possessive pronouns.
- I’ll look at your rock collection, and then you look at mine.

Directions Write the possessive pronoun in each sentence.

1. Builders use rocks in their work.  
2. Your walls and floors are made of rock.  
3. The cement in our driveway comes from rocks.  
4. Mr. Ferguson used limestone walls in his house.  
5. Mrs. Ferguson has marble floors in her living room.  

Directions Choose the possessive pronoun in () that could replace the underlined words in each sentence. Write the sentence.

6. There are white cliffs in England, and the cliffs’ color comes from limestone. (their, its)

7. One beautiful area in Arizona stands out because the area’s rocks are red. (their, its)

8. We took a road through the mountains, and the mountains’ colors amazed us. (our, their)

9. The rocks on your side were yellow, while the rocks on my side were orange. (mine, yours)
Contractions

A contraction is a word made by putting two words together. When words are joined in a contraction, an apostrophe is used to show where a letter or letters have been left out.

- Some contractions combine a pronoun and a verb: I + will = I’ll; they + will = they’ll; she + is = she’s; it + is = it’s; they + have = they’ve; you + are = you’re.
- Some contractions combine a verb and not: has + not = hasn’t; had + not = hadn’t; was + not = wasn’t; did + not = didn’t; could + not = couldn’t, should + not = shouldn’t.
- Some contractions combine two verbs: should + have = should’ve; could + have = could’ve; would + have = would’ve.

Contractions  We’ve gone swimming every day, but we won’t go tomorrow.

Directions Write the contraction in each sentence. Then write the words that make up the contraction.

1. Swimming was popular in ancient Greece, and it’s still popular today.

2. Swimmers began competing in the 1896 Olympics, and they’ve competed ever since.

3. Women didn’t compete in the Olympics until 1912.

4. Women should’ve competed sooner than 1912.

Directions Write the contraction for the underlined words.

5. I see that you are reading about Natalie Coughlin, my favorite athlete.


7. I could have read about Fanny Durack all afternoon.
**Prepositions**

A **preposition** is the first word in a group of words called a prepositional phrase. A **prepositional phrase** ends with a noun or pronoun called the **object of the preposition**. A prepositional phrase tells more about other words in a sentence.

- **Preposition**: The eagle lived on a cliff.
- **Prepositional Phrase**: The eagle lived on a cliff.
- **Object of Preposition**: The eagle lived on a cliff.

Related sentences can be combined by putting a prepositional phrase from one sentence into another sentence. First, find the prepositional phrase, and then insert it in the other sentence.

The eagle spread its wings and flew. It flew toward the sun.

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**Common Prepositions**

Here are some prepositions: *about, above, across, after, against, along, among, around, at, before, behind, below, beneath, beside, between, beyond, by, down, during, except, for, from, in, inside, into, near, of, off, on, onto, out, outside, over, past, since, through, throughout, to, toward, under, underneath, until, up, upon, with, within, without.*

**Directions** Combine the sentences. Put a prepositional phrase from the second sentence into the first sentence. Underline all prepositional phrases in your sentences. Circle prepositions.

1. We drove to our campsite. We drove in the end.

2. A huge bird flew. It flew across the sky.

3. The baby eagles rested. They were inside the nest.

**Directions** Choose the preposition in ( ) that makes sense in each sentence. Write the sentence.

4. The word ___ a baby eagle is *eaglet*. (for, into)

5. Eaglets leave the nest ___ last. (at, onto)