

Personal Pronouns

A **personal pronoun** takes the place of a noun or nouns.

Examples:

Bill McCoy heard. *He* heard. The *boys* heard. *They* heard.

Personal pronouns show number and gender. Number tells whether a pronoun is singular or plural. Gender tells whether a pronoun is masculine, feminine, or neuter.

Examples:

Singular

I, me, my, mine
you, your, yours
he, him, his
she, her, hers
it, its

Plural

we, us, our, ours
you, your, yours
they, them, their, theirs



Write each personal pronoun from the following sentences. Then write the pronoun's number and, if the pronoun shows it, gender.

1. Simon and I entered the chess tournament after we had been in the Chess Club for six months.

2. Simon said it would be a good way to test our competence.

3. He's always looking for a challenge.

4. "Do you think it will be too hard for us?" I asked.

5. "I think you'll win a prize," he told me.

6. They gave out only three awards in each age group.

7. "You may all begin playing now," said the tournament director.

8. My chess partner has played with them for several years.

9. Her father taught us how to play chess.

10. Is the chess piece theirs?



Pronouns and Antecedents

An **antecedent** is the noun to which a **pronoun** refers. A pronoun agrees with its antecedent in number and gender. Number tells whether a pronoun is singular or plural. Gender tells whether a pronoun is masculine, feminine, or neuter.

Example:

*Leon asked Anne to tell him about some of her favorite books. (The singular masculine pronoun *him* refers to the antecedent *Leon*. The singular feminine pronoun *her* refers to the antecedent *Anne*.)*



In each sentence, underline the personal pronoun and its antecedent. Then write the number and gender of the pronoun.

- Travelers throughout the world are familiar with youth hostels and enjoy staying in them.

- American Youth Hostels, Inc., or AYH, began in 1934; it was organized to provide low-cost accommodations for travelers.

- Members of the organization can stay in hostels when they travel.

- Although hostels vary from country to country, they have basic features in common.

- Miranda stayed in hostels during a recent biking trip, and she introduced several friends to hosteling.

- Miranda brought photographs to class and showed them to several friends.

- Miranda wanted Miguel to see the pictures, but he seemed uninterested.

- Octavio and Carlos said they saved money by staying in hostels.

- A hostel can be an adventure; it can add to the enjoyment of a trip.

- Miranda's grandfather lives in England, and there is a hostel near where he lives.

