**Pronouns**

### Reflexive and Intensive Pronouns

A **Reflexive Pronoun** stands for the subject of the sentence and is required in order for the sentence to make sense. An **Intensive Pronoun** stresses its antecedent and is not required in order for the sentence to make sense. Reflexive and Intensive pronouns end with the suffix –self or –selves.

**Reflexive Pronoun:** Teresa reminded herself to lock the door. (*Herself* stands for the subject *Teresa* and completes the meaning of the sentence.)

**Intensive Pronoun:** Teresa herself locked the door. (*Herself* stresses *Teresa*. *Herself* is not required for the sentence to make sense.)

**Tip:** To decide whether a pronoun is Reflexive or Intensive, rewrite the sentence and leave out the pronoun. If the sentence still makes sense, the pronoun is Intensive.

**Exercise:** Read the following sentences, and decide whether the underlined pronoun is Reflexive or Intensive. On the line provided, write **R** if the pronoun is Reflexive or **I** if the pronoun is Intensive.

1. You should treat **yourself** to a nap.
2. The principal **herself** made the final decision.
3. Did the puppy enjoy **itself** during the outing to the park?
4. After I finished the story, I found **myself** laughing out loud.
5. Uncle Eric **himself** planned the model train layout.

### Demonstrative Pronouns

A **Demonstrative Pronoun** points out a person, a place, a thing, or an idea. The Demonstrative pronouns are this, that, these, and those.

**Examples:**

- Those are the members of the choir. (*Those* points out *members.*)
- Are these the ones you wanted? (*These* points out *ones.*)

**Tip:** Think of Demonstrative pronouns as pronouns that point at something. Imagine pointing your finger at an object and saying, “This is the cereal I want,” or “That is the fastest horse.”

**Exercise:** Underline the Demonstrative pronoun in each of the following sentences.

1. These are my favorite books of all time.
2. Is this a serious tale of grand adventure, or is it just a silly story?
3. You two should really take a look at these!
4. My skateboard rolls as smoothly as those used in professional competitions.
5. Of the entire football season, that was the most suspenseful game!

**Interrogative Pronouns**

An **Interrogative Pronoun** introduces a question. The interrogative pronouns are *who*, *whom*, *which*, *what*, and *whose*.

Examples:  
- *Whose* backpack is on the front porch? (*Whose* introduces a question.)  
- *What* is the cafeteria serving for lunch? (*What* introduces a question.)

**Exercise:** For each blank in the following sentences, write an appropriate **Interrogative** pronoun. Use a different **Interrogative** pronoun for each sentence.

1. From __________ should we get today’s assignment?
2. __________ cartoon character was chosen for the front page of the school newspaper?
3. __________ does the symbol on your ring mean?
4. __________ jacket is lying on the bench?
5. __________ left their book in the classroom?

**Relative Pronouns**

A **Relative Pronoun** introduces a subordinate clause. A **Relative** pronoun generally relates the descriptive information found within a subordinate clause to a noun or pronoun found in the main clause. The relative pronouns are *that*, *which*, *who*, *whom*, and *whose*.

Example:  
- Mario owns a Great Dane, **which** is a very large dog. (*Which* introduces the subordinate clause *which is a very large dog* and relates this descriptive information to *Great Dane.*)

**Exercise:** Underline the **Relative** pronoun in each of the following sentences. Then, draw an arrow from the **Relative** pronoun to the word to which the relative pronoun relates.

1. The pep rally, which began at one o’clock, lasted almost two hours!
2. Try finding a puzzle piece that is shaped like an H.
3. How often should I water the plants that are in the front room?
4. In many classrooms, students read books that explore the dark side of human nature.
5. Marie, whom the community greatly admires, planted four trees in a local park.
Most pronouns refer to specific persons, places, things, or ideas. An **Indefinite** pronoun refers to one or more persons, places, things or ideas that may or may not be specifically named in a sentence.

**Example:**  
Several of the envelopes had rare postage stamps on them. (*Several* refers to things named in the sentence, *envelopes*, but does not refer to specific envelopes.)

Somebody bought the collection of rare stamps. (*Somebody* refers to a person who is not named in the sentence, and it does not refer to a specific person.)

**Exercise:** For each blank in the following sentences, write an appropriate **Indefinite** pronoun. Use a different **Indefinite** pronoun for each sentence.

1. _______ of the computer games has its advantages.
2. Yes, please, I think I’ll have ________.
3. Mark said that he remembered absolutely ________.
4. With a calm and reassuring smile, Warren greeted ________.
5. Is ________ ready to talk about the space program?