**10H Grammar Unit 5 Pronoun/Pronoun Antecedent**

**Nominative/Objective /Possessive Case**

A pronoun that acts as a subject is in the nominative case. A pronoun that acts as an object is in the objective case. A pronoun that shows possession is in the possessive case.

EXAMPLES:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Nominative | Objective | Possessive  |
| **We** called the doctor. | The doctor called **us**. | **Our** call was an emergency. |

Memorize the list below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Nominative | Objective |
| I, he, she, we, they | Me, him, her, us, them |

\*Since a predicate nominative is a noun or pronoun in the predicate that refers to the same thing as the subject, use the nominative case. Refresher-a predicate nominative follows a form of the verb *be*.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Common form of the verb *be* | Predicate Nominative |
| Am, is, are, was, were, may be, can be, will be, etcmay have been etcmust be, might be | I, he, she, we, you, they |

PRACTICE: Circle the pronoun that can be substituted for each italicized expression.

1. *Neil and Oak* are tied for first place. (I, he, she, we, you, they)
2. Can it be *some choir members* in that picture*?* (I, he, she, we, you, they)
3. Either Faith or *Macy* will be in charge. (I, he, she, we, you, they)
4. I am sure it was *Michael* and you on the dance floor. (I, he, she, we, you, they)
5. Only *the Goodman’s* and the Miller’s left early. (I, he, she, we, you, they)

\*When the subject is compound, try each subject separately with the verb, adapting the form as necessary.

EXAMPLE:

She and I are teammates. (She is a teammate. I am a teammate)

When using a pronoun as a direct object, indirect object, or object of the preposition, use me, him, her, us, and them.

PRACTICE: Circle the pronoun that can be substituted for each italicized expression.

1. Did you tell the principal or *Mr. Jones*? (me, him, her, us, and them)
2. I sent the admissions director and *her assistant* a letter. (me, him, her, us, and them)
3. I dedicated my poem to both Jackie and (she, her)
4. The principal should have notified *Jackson and me.*  (me, him, her, us, and them)
5. Sherise will be inviting both you and (first person pronoun). (me, him, her, us, and them)
6. The slide show was presented by my sister and (I, me).
7. Please don’t ask (first person pronoun) athletes about last Saturday’s game. (me, him, her, us, and them)

**Who and Whom as Interrogative Pronouns**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Nominative | Objective | Possessive |
| Who, whoever | Whom, whomever | Whose, whosever |

Case forms governing personal pronouns apply to *who* and *whom*. A trick to help you find the correct form is to substitute *he, she, him,* or *her*. If *he* or *she*-nominative- fits the sentence then *who* will be correct. If *him* or *her* fits, then *whom* will be correct. When the interrogative pronoun *who* or *whom* is used after a preposition, *whom* is always correct.

EXAMPLES

(Who, Whom) broke his Leg? [He broke his leg; therefore, *who* would be correct.]

(Who, Whom) did Nick choose? [Nick did choose him, therefore; *whom* is correct.]

On (who, whom) does it depend? [On is a preposition, therefore; *whom* is correct.]

**Who and Whom as Relative Pronouns**

When *who* and *whom* (*whomever* and *whoever*) are used to begin a subordinate clause, they are relative pronouns. Their case is governed by the same rules that govern the case of a personal pronoun. Although *whom* is becoming increasingly uncommon in spoken English, the distinction is usually observed in writing. The case of the pronoun beginning a subordinate clause is determined by its use in the clause that it begins. The case is not affected by any word outside the clause.

STEPS

1. Pick out the subordinate clause.
2. Determine how the pronoun is used in the clause-subject, predicate nominative, object of the verb, object of the preposition-and decide its case according to the rules.
3. Select the correct pronoun.

EXAMPLES

1. Harry Houdini, (who, whom) was born in Hungary, performed daring escape tricks.

The subordinate clause is (who, whom) was born in Hungary. In this clause the pronoun us used as the subject of the verb and is in the nominative case. The correct form is *who*.

1. Harry Houdini (who, whom) audiences adored, performed daring escape tricks.

The subordinate clause is (who, whom) audiences adored. The subject of the clause is audiences, the verb is adored and the pronoun is the object of the verb. The correct form is whom.

PRACTICE: Circle the correct pronoun.

1. Someone called you last night, but I did not know (who, whom) she was.
2. The announcer said that (whoever, whomever) finishes in the top ten can compete in the final round.
3. Anybody (who, whom) orders now will receive a free gift.
4. I have been looking for the person to (who, whom) I can deliver this package.
5. Dr. Power was a woman (who, whom) many people respected.

**Pronouns after Than and As:**

Incomplete pronouns occur most often after the words than and as. To avoid repetition, we say “The tenor sang louder than he.” (sang is omitted.) Use the form of the pronoun you would use if the construction were completed.

EXAMPLE:

We trust Jane more than she. [than she trusts Jane]

PRACTICE: Circle the correct pronoun.

1. Have you lived in this city as long as (they, them)?
2. I don’t know Erin as well as (she, her)?
3. Eryn is shorter than (I, me)?
4. I understand him better than (she, her)?
5. The results show that I do better on tests than (he, him).

**Pronouns Ending in Self or Selves**

Pronouns ending in *self* or *selves* are usually used only to refer to another word in the sentence or to emphasize another word. Avoid the use of pronouns ending in self or selves in place of other personal pronouns if the pronouns do not refer to or emphasize another word in the sentence.

EXAMPLES

1. I hurt myself. [*Myself* refers to I.]
2. She planned the party herself. [*Herself* emphasizes she.]
3. The boys themselves invented the game. [*Themselves* emphasizes boys.]
4. She and I [not *myself]* are club members.
5. Ms. Jones gave snowboarding lessons to Stephanie and me. [not *myself*.]

**Pronouns and Appositives**

An appositive is in the same case as the word with which it is in apposition.

EXAMPLES

1. Two seniors, Veena and *she*, made the best speeches.

Veena and s*he* are in apposition with seniors, the subject of the sentence. Since the subject of a verb is nominative, the appositive is also nominative and *she* is correct.

1. For the leads in the play, the director chose two people, Sydney and *her*.

In apposition with people, which is the object of chose, Sydney and *her* are also in the objective case so *her* is correct.

PRACTICE

1. We started giving (us, ourselves) ten extra minutes during our morning break just a week after Mrs. Smith took over.
2. Two debaters, Pranav and (he, him), researched the topic thoroughly.
3. My close friends, Samantha and (she, her), joined the choir.
4. The reporters interviewed his uncle and (him, himself).
5. Mrs. Jones tutored Smera and (me, myself).