

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #21

FOCUS Subject Case Pronouns

Pronouns are in the **subject case** when they are used as the sentence subject or when they identify or refer to the subject. These are the subject case pronouns:

Singular—*I, you, he, she, it* Plural—*we, you, they*

CONNECT TO WRITING

Pronouns take the subject case in three grammatical forms:

- If the pronoun is the sentence subject. The sentence subject is the “do-er” of the sentence.
Example: *She* and *I* attended the concert.
- If the pronoun is a predicate nominative. A predicate nominative follows a “to be” verb (*is, am, are, was, were, be, being, been*) and identifies or refers to the subject.
Example: The students who got into trouble are *they*.
- If the pronoun is part of an appositive, such as after *than* or *as*. An appositive is a noun or pronoun placed next to another noun or pronoun to identify or explain it.
Example: Marty is smarter than *I*.

To test whether the pronoun is in the subject case, try these tricks:

- Rephrase to check if the pronoun sounds right.
Example: The last one to arrive was *he*. Rephrase—*He* was the last one to arrive.
- Drop other nouns or pronouns in a compound subject or object to check if the remaining pronoun sounds right. Remember that English is a polite language; the first person pronouns (*I, me, ours, mine*) are placed last in compound subjects or objects.
Example: John and *I* play video games. Drop and check—*I* play video games.

PRACTICE

Fill in the blanks to identify the subject case pronouns: S for a sentence subject, PN for a predicate nominative, or an A for an appositive.

The women in the clown costumes must be she ___ and her mother. We ___ didn't recognize them at first, but at least I ___ asked, “Who were they ___?” Sue and he ___ arrived at the party earlier than I ___, but no one came as early as she ___.

WRITE

Compose your own sentences, using a pronoun as a sentence subject, a pronoun as a predicate nominative, and a pronoun as an appositive.

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet Answers

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #16 Practice Answers

1. I enjoy watching old television shows, but (yet) the new ones are better.
2. Do you want vanilla, or (and) do you want strawberry?
3. No one really wants to go; they just feel like they must attend.
4. This route takes too long; there must be another way.

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #17 Practice Answers

1. As soon as the boy practices his trombone, he will be able to go outside to play.
2. Tonight we celebrate a special young lady, whose achievement is special.

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #18 Practice Answers

After the sun set, the campers roasted marshmallows, and John then told a campfire story. Since the captain had a beard, he knew the sailor, and the sailor did not recognize him. Although he knew better, he could not teach her, because she just would not listen.

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #19 Practice Answers

Options: Running down the hill, I saw her. I saw her running down the hill.
Finally, (any subject then predicate) the reason he left.
The playground seems to be covered with ice.

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #20 Practice Answers

1. Jonathan seemed very selfish. He never shared with the other children.
2. Ms. Clements always prepared well for her lesson plans, and (so) the results paid off.
Option: Ms. Clements always prepared well for her lesson plans; the results paid off.
3. Nicco enjoyed video games, playing only after completing his chores.

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #21 Practice Answers

The women in the clown costumes must be she PN and her mother. We S didn't recognize them at first, but at least I S asked, "Who were they PN?" Sue and he S arrived at the party earlier than I A, but no one came as early as she A.

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #22 Practice Answers

He told them DO after him OP. He had wanted to tell us I first, but when came to see me I, I said that he should tell him IO the news before me OP. He had not given it IO much thought.