



**CLASS IX AND X  
ENGLISH GRAMMAR  
PART I  
LESSON - 6  
PRONOUN**

**NOTES**

**Pronouns** are words which are used in place of Nouns to avoid repetition and thus making reading smooth. It should be kept in mind that any Pronoun that we used for a Noun should agree with the Noun in Person, Number and Gender.

**There are eight classes of Pronouns. They are:**

<b>Pronoun Class</b>	<b>Examples</b>
<b>1. Personal Pronouns</b>	1. I, you, he, she, it, we, they etc.
<b>2. Demonstrative Pronouns</b>	2. this, that, such etc.
<b>3. Interrogative Pronouns</b>	3. who, which, what, whom etc.
<b>4. Relative Pronouns</b>	4. who, which, what, whom, that etc.
<b>5. Reflexive Pronouns</b>	5. myself, herself, themselves etc.
<b>6. Indefinite Pronouns</b>	6. one, all, some, any etc.
<b>7. Distributive Pronouns</b>	7. each, either, neither etc.
<b>8. Reciprocal Pronouns</b>	8. each other, one another etc.

**Example:** John is a teacher and he is from Churachandpur.

The pronoun 'he' is used in place of the noun 'John'. The noun for which the pronoun stands is called the **Antecedent of the Pronoun**.



**1. Personal Pronoun:** Personal Pronouns are so called because they are used in place of persons. A Personal Pronoun must be of the same Number and Gender of the Noun for which it stands. Again, in Grammar, the word **Person** refers to three types of Persons used in speech.

**a. First Person: A Pronoun of the first person stands for the person speaking.**

**Example:**

*I* have a few close friends.

**b. Second Person: A Pronoun standing for the person spoken to is said to be in the Spoken Person.**

**Example:**

*You* are a good boy.

**c. Third Person: A Pronoun which stands for a person spoken of is said to be in the Third Person.**

**Example:**

*He* gave me a radio.

**The following table shows the different Personal Pronouns:**

<b>Person</b>	<b>Number</b>	
	<b>Singular</b>	<b>Plural</b>
<b>First Person</b>	I, me, mine	we, us, ours
<b>Second Person</b>	you, you, yours	you, you, yours
<b>Third Person</b>	he, him, his she, her, hers it, it, its	they, them theirs

**Notes:**

1. Nouns referring to animals and small children in a context where the sex is irrelevant are replaced by the pronoun **'it'**.
2. When a Pronoun is used for a Collective Noun, **'it'** is generally used. But if the Collective Noun indicates the idea of separate individuals, **'they'** is used.



2. **Demonstrative Pronouns:** The Pronouns which point out some persons or things for which they stand for are called Demonstrative Pronouns. Some of the commonly used Demonstrative Pronouns are *this, that, these, those, yonder, such* etc.

**Examples:** *This* is the man I met yesterday.

*Yonder* is the magnificent Taj Mahal.

The words 'this' and 'yonder' in the above sentences are Demonstrative Pronouns because they point out the Nouns 'man' and 'Taj Mahal' respectively.

**Notes:**

Demonstrative Pronouns will also be found qualifying Nouns. In this case, the Demonstrative Pronouns are called Demonstrative Adjectives.

**Examples:**

a. *This* is my house. (Demonstrative Pronoun)

b. *This* house belongs to me. (Demonstrative Adjective)

3. **Interrogative Pronouns:** The Pronouns which are used for asking questions are called Interrogative Pronouns. *Who, what, which, whom* are the commonly used Interrogative Pronouns.

**Examples:**

a. *Who* are you?

b. *Which* is the house of Mr. Haokip?

In the above examples, the words given in bold – *Who and Which* are Interrogative Pronouns because they are used to ask questions.

**Notes:**

**Remember:**

1. **'Who'** is used for persons only.

2. **'Which'** is used to asked questions about persons and things both.

3. **'Whom'** is used for persons only and it is in the object form of 'who'.

4. **'What'** is used to asked questions about people or objects.

4. **Relative Pronouns:** The Pronouns which are used to relate or refer to Nouns that had gone before them and stand for them are called Relative Pronouns. *Who, which, that, what, such, as, but etc.* are some of the commonly used Relative Pronouns.

**Examples:**

a. That is the boy *who* took my book.

b. This is the house *that* belongs to my friend.

In the above examples, 'who' and 'that' are used as Relative Pronouns and as they also function like Conjunctions, they are sometimes called Conjunctive Pronouns.



**Notes:**

**Remember:**

1. 'Who' refers to persons only.
2. 'Which' refers to things without life, animals and babies.
3. 'That' refers to persons, animals and inanimate objects.
4. 'What' refers to things only.

5. **Reflexive Pronouns:** Pronouns which are formed by adding 'self' to *my, your, him, her, it* and 'selves' to *our, your and them* are called Reflexive Pronouns. They are used when the subject and the object of the verb refer to the same person.

**Example:** I hurt myself.

**Note:**

When a Pronoun with 'self' or 'selves' is used for the sake of emphasizing the Noun or Pronoun, it is called an **Emphatic Pronoun**.

**Example:** I **myself** will do the work.

6. **Distributive Pronouns:** Pronouns like **each, either and neither** are called **Distributive Pronouns**. 'Each' refers to everyone of a number of persons or things taken separately. 'Either' and 'neither' are used only when two persons or things are referred to. 'Either' means one or the other of the two. 'Neither' means not one nor the other of the two.

**Examples:**

- i. **Each** of the five boys was fined.
- ii. **Either** of the two boys may go.

**Note:**

**Distributive Pronouns** are sometimes used to qualify some Nouns and when they are used as such Pronouns, they are called **Distributive Adjectives**.

**Example:** **Each** student was given a shirt.

7. **Reciprocal Pronouns:** 'Each other' and 'one another' are called **Reciprocal Pronouns**. They express a mutual or reciprocal relationship. 'Each other' refers to two persons or things and 'one another' refers to more than two persons or things. These Pronouns are now considered as single units which may be called **Compound Pronouns**. They form their possessives as single units.

**Examples:**

- i. The two brothers regularly meet at each other's house.
- ii. They have refused to talk to one another.

8. **Indefinite Pronouns:** Pronouns which do not refer to any person or thing in particular but are used in a general way are called Indefinite Pronouns. Some of the Indefinite Pronouns are *any, one, none, some, all, something, nobody, few, many* etc. Most of the Indefinite Pronouns are used as **Indefinite Adjectives**.

**Example:** **Any** man can do the work.

**Note:**

The words **one, body and thing** are sometimes combined with Indefinite Pronouns and they are known as **Compound Indefinite Pronouns**.

**Examples:** anyone, anybody, anything, nothing etc.

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