

FUMC ESL 4-15-2024 High Beginning and Low Intermediate Lesson

Introduce yourself. Tell where you are from and where you live now. How long ago did you fly somewhere? Where did you fly to?

GRAMMAR: On Thursday we talked about different kinds of pronouns. Today we'll review how to use them and learn a few new rules.

We know to say, "She and Pat are going to the party." "She and Pat" are the subjects of the sentence, so we use subject pronouns.

But let's look at some other ways to use pronouns:

Pronoun as a direct object---- "The dog bit I", OR "The dog bit me."

Answer: We use ME because ME is the direct object of the sentence. To find a direct object, we ask who or what about the verb. Who did the dog bite? The dog bit ME.

We always use an object pronoun when it is the direct object.

Pronoun as an indirect object--- "Jim made I a cake." OR "Jim made me a cake."

Answer: Jim made ME a cake because ME is the indirect object. Cake is the direct object. The indirect object tells who received the action of the verb. **We always use an object pronoun if it is an indirect object.**

Pronoun as an object of the preposition-- "Nell went with we." OR "Nell went with us."

Answer: Nell went with US. US is the object of the preposition. **Always use an object pronoun in a prepositional phrase.**

Pronoun following a linking verb (is, am, are, was, we re)---- This is a tricky one. In formal English, you should use a subject pronoun after the linking verb. That is technically correct. So we should say, "It is I." Or "It was he." However, in informal speech, it is **much more common** to use an object pronoun. EX: Who is that? It's me! Is this the boy who kicked your dog? Yes, that is him. Using an object pronoun is widely accepted now.

NOTE: I remember Mother teaching me how to answer the question, "Is this Catherine?" when someone phoned. I was taught to say, "Yes, this is she." I wonder if kids are still taught that today?

When we just have one pronoun, it's pretty easy to figure out which one to use. The wrong pronoun sounds wrong. The trouble comes for most people, including native speakers, when we have a compound pronoun like "she and I" or "her and me". We need to apply the same rules as for a single pronoun.

Read these sentences and choose the correct pronoun. Don't forget your rules. If it sounds wrong, try leaving out one of the pronouns. EX: Mother made dresses for me and her. It sounds awkward, but if you take out the her or the me, it sounds right. EX-Mother made a dress for her. EX-Mother made a dress for me. So we know, "Mother made a dress for me and her." is correct.

1. The dogs followed Greg and (I / me).

2. Pam made (I / me) a fancy pillow.
3. This book is all about (she / her).
4. Chris and (I / me) are riding our bikes home. NOTE: When we use subject pronouns, it is polite to say the other persons name first. Chris and I, not I and Chris.
5. Mom baked cookies for Sara and (I / me).
6. If you don't understand, just ask Sara or (I / me).
7. I love this picture of my husband and (I / me).
8. (He / Him) and (I / me) are going downtown.
9. I sent the letter to (Dad and she / Dad and her).
10. The teacher always gives (they / them) homework on the weekends.

Replace the underlined word or phrase with a pronoun.

1. I gave the book to my little sister.
2. Sam will ask Judy.
3. Will you tell the students to sit down.
4. She never listens to Mother and Dad.
5. Mother is very worried about the twins.
6. Who is that man?
7. What is Mother doing here?
8. That's my friend, Steve. I work with Steve.
9. I can't find my keys.
10. My dad and I love chocolate.
11. Yes, it was Peter who baked the cookies.
12. I don't like vegetables, but I will eat vegetables today.

Reflexive Pronouns: myself, yourself, herself, himself, itself, ourselves, themselves.

We use reflexive pronouns when the subject and the object are the same person.

EX: Jim was ashamed of **himself**. She was surprised at **herself**. They were pleased with **themselves**. We made everything **ourselves**. He hurt **himself** when he jumped off the porch.

Jack made an A on the exam. He rewarded **himself** with a dinner out.

Mark and Jack made **themselves** some coffee.

We did it all by **ourselves**.

Reflexive pronouns seem easy, but many ESL students and native speakers struggle with them.

For example, I have heard this: Andrew and myself will conduct the meeting.

This is incorrect. It should be Andrew and I. Do not use a reflexive pronoun as the subject of the sentence.

Another example: Send your expense report to Mrs. Ash or myself by this afternoon.
This is incorrect. It should be Mrs. Ash or me.

Practice Speaking:

1. How old were you when you flew the first time?
2. Are you afraid of flying?
3. Did you ever experience something on a plane that scared you?
4. What do you do to occupy yourself on a long flight?
5. Have you ever had anything confiscated at an airport security check?
6. Have you ever flown in a helicopter? Talk about it.
7. Do you usually check luggage or do you carry on everything?
8. Have you ever had a problem getting through customs?
9. Are you nervous when you go through customs?
10. Have you ever accidentally brought something into the country that was not allowed? What happened?
11. What is the longest flight you've ever taken?
12. Have you ever flown a long distance with a baby? How did that go?
13. When you travel within your home country, do you usually fly, drive, take the train or bus?
14. Are there any countries you consider too unsafe to visit?
15. Do you like to travel alone, or does that make you nervous?