

Handout Number 13

Pronouns

I- Definition: A pronoun is a word that takes the place of one or more nouns. The noun that the pronoun replaces or refers to is called **antecedent**.

Example:

- *The report has been written, but it still must be typed.*

II- Kinds:

1. Personal pronoun is the most common kind. Personal pronouns are divided into three groups:

a- First person (the person speaking)

- Singular: I, me.

- Plural: we, us.

b- Second person (the person spoken to)

- Singular: you.

- Plural: you.

c- Third person (the person or thing spoken about)

- Singular: he, him, she, her, it

- Plural: they, them.

2. Possessive pronoun is derived from a personal pronoun, and it is used to denote possession. Examine the following chart:

| Personal Pronouns | Possessive | Pronouns |
|-------------------|------------|----------|
| I | my | mine |
| You | your | yours |
| He | his | his |
| She | her | hers |
| It | its | its |
| We | our | ours |
| They | their | theirs |

Examples:

- *The van over there is ours.*

- *Mine is more expensive than yours.*

3. Reflexive and Emphatic Pronouns

A **reflexive** or an **emphatic pronoun** is formed by adding *-self* or *-selves* to certain personal or possessive pronouns.

Singular: myself, yourself, himself, herself, itself.

Plural: ourselves, yourselves, themselves.

Examples:

- *Jason makes himself breakfast every morning. (Reflexive)*

- *Jason himself makes breakfast every morning. (Emphatic)*