



PRONOUN-ANTECEDENT AGREEMENT



WHAT IS IT?

A **pronoun** “points” to a noun or another pronoun called its **antecedent**.

- Does the **wall** have a spider on **it**?

A pronoun should agree in both number and gender with its antecedent.

SINGULAR

A word that refers to one thing is considered singular.

Use **singular pronouns** to refer to **singular antecedents**.

- I, me, you, he, she, it

Example: Pick up your **phone** before you step on **it**.

PLURAL

A word that refers to more than one thing is considered plural.

Use **plural pronouns** to refer to **plural antecedents**.

- We, us, they, our, their

Example: Try on the **clothes** before you buy **them**.

INDEFINITE PRONOUNS

Indefinite pronouns refer to a person or thing whose exact identity is unknown.

The following indefinite pronouns are singular:

- Anybody, everybody, anyone, everyone, someone, something, nothing, anything, etc.

One of the boys left **his** backpack in the locker room.

One of the students left **his or her** backpack in Ms. Hubbard's room.

INDEFINITE PRONOUNS CONT.

The following indefinite pronouns may be plural or singular depending on how they're used:

- All, more, none, any, most, some

Some of the music is good. Will you play it again?

Some of the songs are new. Have you heard them?

OR & NOR

Use a singular pronoun to refer to two or more singular antecedents joined by “or” or “nor.”

Do you know if **Eva or Amy** will display **her** work?

Neither **Noah nor Darrien** brought **his** jacket.

AND

Use a plural pronoun to refer to two or more antecedents joined by “and.”

Do you know if **Eva and Amy** will display **their** works of art?

Noah and Darrien forgot **their** jackets.