

What Is a Pronoun?

A **pronoun** is a word that takes the place of a noun or nouns.

Read this paragraph.

Ned has a busy day today. First, Ned will eat breakfast. Then, Ned will do Ned's chores. Ned will fix lunch for Ned at noon. Then, Ned will go play with Ned's friends.

Now, read the same story below. This time, notice the pronouns in bold print.

Ned has a busy day today. First, **he** will eat breakfast. Then, **he** will do **his** chores. **He** will fix lunch for **himself** at noon. Then, **he** will go play with **his** friends.

Each one of the pronouns refers back to the same noun – Ned.

You need to state a noun before you can replace it with a pronoun. The noun is the **antecedent** for the pronoun. That means it comes before the pronoun. The antecedent for the pronouns in the story above is **Ned**.

➔ Underline the antecedent for each bolded pronoun.

1. Marcy paid for the ticket **herself**.
2. Anthony put **his** shoes on the wrong feet.
3. Daniel likes cats but is allergic to **them**.
4. Barbara returned Antonio's jacket to **him**.
5. Courtney loves **her** new necklace.
6. David wants to keep a secret from his brother but **he** can't.
7. Aiden tried to fix the toy but **it** fell apart.
8. Adam watched a movie by **himself**.



