

## **Rules of Pronoun**

### **Rule 1**

When the subject of the verb is the receiver of the action, the action is said to be reflected. Such verbs are used reflexively.

'Acquit, absent, avail, reconcile, amuse, resign, avenge, revenge, enjoy, exert, apply, adapt, adjust, pride' **overreach** etc are used reflexively.

For example

(1) You should avail yourself, of every chance in life.

(2) They enjoyed themselves during summer vacation.

### **Rule II**

The following verbs are not used reflexively.

**Keep, stop, turn, qualify, bathe, move, rest, hide'** are not used reflexively.

For example

(1) You should keep yourself from bad boys. (Drop yourself)

Ans. You should keep from bad boys.

(2) He has qualified himself for the post. (Drop himself)

Ans. He has qualified for the post.

### **Rule III**

A reflexive pronoun cannot act as a subject or object of a verb unless it is preceded by pronoun or noun concerned.

For example

(1) Myself will see to it that you get your share of property. (Change myself into 'I')

Ans. I will see to it that you get your share of property.

(2) Yourself and he reached there in time. (Change yourself in 'you' )

Ans. You and he reached there in time.

(3) I myself like him.

#### **Rule IV**

The verb '**to be**' should be followed by subjective form when the complement is pronoun. For example

(1) It is me who has brought you home. (Change me into 'I' )

Ans. It is I who has brought you home.

(2) Was it her who did it for you?

Ans. Was is she who did it for you?

#### **Rule V**

**Verbs and Prepositions** are followed by objective case of a pronoun.

(1) Between you and I Suhani is intelligent.

Ans. Between you and me Suhani is intelligent.

#### **Rule VI**

Good manners require that the order of singular pronouns should be **second person, third person and first person** (231).

But in plural '**we**' is used before '**you**' and '**they**' after '**you**' (123). The latter order is also observed while referring to unpleasant acts. For example

(1) I and you will attend her wedding tomorrow.

Ans. You and I will attend her wedding tomorrow.

(2) You and I will be punished.

Ans. I and you will be punished.

#### **Rule VII**

Use of possessive adjectives (Possessive case of the pronoun)

(A) When two subjects are joined by

**'As well as, together with, along with, and not, in addition to, like, unlike with rather than, except, no less than, nothing but, more (noun) than one the**

possessive case of the pronoun (possessive adjective) is used in accordance with the first subject.

For example :

1. Reena as well as her children has returned to their room.

Ans. Reena as well as her children has returned to her home.

(B) When two subjects are joined by 'Either-or, neither-nor, not only-but also, none-but.' the possessive case of pronoun (possessive adjective) is used according to the nearest subject.

For example:

1. Neither the students nor the teacher was playing in their proper uniform.

Ans. Neither the students nor the teacher was playing in his proper uniform.

(C) When the pronouns

'Each, every, neither, either, anyone' many a, more than one (possessive adjective) are used as subject, the possessive case should be third person singular They may refer to two or more than two objects or persons.

For example:

1. Each boy and each teacher is required to bring their luggage.

Ans. Each boy and each teacher is required to bring his luggage.

(D) When one is used as a subject, the possessive case of the pronoun should be according to one. (i.e. one's)

For example:

1. One should do his duty sincerely.

Ans. One should do one's duty sincerely.

### **Rule VIII**

A noun or pronoun in the possessive case should not be used sometimes with the nouns such as 'Separation, leave, excuse, mention, report, pardon, sight, favour.

For example

1. Your separation is very painful to me.

Ans. Separation from you is very painful to me.

2. I beg your favour, please.

Ans. I beg favour from you, please.

### **Rule IX**

'Either, neither, each other' are used in speaking of two persons or things.  
'Anyone, none, one another' are used while referring to more than two persons or things.

For example

1. Indians should never fight with each other.

Ans. Indians should never fight with one another.

2. None of his arms was wounded in the accident.

Ans. Neither of his arms was wounded in the accident.

### **Rule X**

While writing question tag the subject and verb must be according to the main sentence.

For example

1. Our teacher is intelligent, isn't it?

Ans. Our teacher is intelligent, isn't he?

2. The boys are not going on picnic, are they?

3. They went to Delhi yesterday, isn't it?

Ans. They went to Delhi yesterday, didn't they?

### **Rule XI**

Use of Both

'Both should be followed by 'and' and not by 'as well as', Negative is avoided with Both.

For example

1. Both you as well as my brother are going to attend her marriage tomorrow.

Ans. Both of you and my brother are going to attend her marriage tomorrow.

2. Both of them are not going there.

Ans. Neither of them is going there.

### **Rule XII**

Which is used in place of Who when we are referring to a choice between two or more than two things or persons.

For example

1. Of the two sisters who is the more intelligent.

Ans. Of the two sisters which is the more intelligent.

### **Rule XIII**

Possessive case We don't use noun after possessive case of a pronoun.

For example

1. This book is mine

### **Rule XIV**

The relative pronoun should be expressed according to its relation with the verb of the adjective clause. "Who is used as a subject of a verb of adjective clause and whom is used as an object of a verb of adjective clause. For example

1. He was talking of the women who, he said, he met in America.

Ans. He was talking of the women whom, he said, he met in America.

2. She is the kind of lady whom, everybody knows, is intelligent.

Ans. She is the kind of lady who, everybody knows, is intelligent.

### **Rule XV**

The use of "But" as a relative pronoun.

For example

1. There was none but wept.
2. There is no country but is corrupt.

### **Rule XVI**

The use of the same as pronoun is wrong.

For example

1. He bought a house and is living in the same.

Ans. He bought a house and is living in it.

### **Rule XVII**

What is used without an antecedent and it refers to things only.

For example

1. It is incredible what she said.
2. I don't believe in the words what she uttered.

Ans. I don't believe in the words that/which she uttered.