

Pronoun-Antecedent Agreement refers to the grammatical rule that a **pronoun** must agree with its **antecedent** (the noun it replaces) in **number, gender, and person**.

Key Rules of Agreement

1. **Singular vs. Plural Agreement:**
 - o A singular antecedent requires a singular pronoun.
 - *Example:* The **student** submitted **his** assignment.
 - o A plural antecedent requires a plural pronoun.
 - *Example:* The **students** submitted **their** assignments.
2. **Indefinite Pronouns:**
 - o **Singular indefinite pronouns** (e.g., **everyone, each, anybody**) take singular pronouns.
 - *Example:* **Everyone** should bring **his or her** laptop.
 - o **Plural indefinite pronouns** (e.g., **several, few, many**) take plural pronouns.
 - *Example:* **Many** forgot **their** passwords.
3. **Collective Nouns:**
 - o If the group acts as **one unit**, use a singular pronoun.
 - *Example:* The **team** won **its** first match.
 - o If members act **individually**, use a plural pronoun.
 - *Example:* The **team** argued among **themselves** about the strategy.
4. **Compound Antecedents:**
 - o **Joined by 'and'** → Use a plural pronoun.
 - *Example:* **John and Alex** completed **their** project.
 - o **Joined by 'or' or 'nor'** → Pronoun agrees with the closest noun.
 - *Example:* Neither **the teacher nor the students** brought **their** books.
5. **Gender-Neutral Pronouns:**
 - o Use **they/them/their** for singular antecedents if gender is unknown or irrelevant.
 - *Example:* If **a programmer** writes efficient code, **they** will be successful.

Common Errors & Fixes

- ✗ **Incorrect:** Each student must submit their project.
- ✓ **Correct:** Each student must submit his or her project. (*or "their" for gender neutrality*)

- ✗ **Incorrect:** The company revised their policies.
- ✓ **Correct:** The company revised its policies.

- ✗ **Incorrect:** Either Jack or his friends forgot his keys.
- ✓ **Correct:** Either Jack or his friends forgot their keys.