

FILIPINO PRONOUNS MASTERY

1. PERSONAL PRONOUNS (PANGHALIP PANAÓ)

Filipino pronouns change form depending on their role in the sentence (Subject, Possessive, or Oblique).

A. "Ang" Set (Subject / Topic)

Used as the subject of the sentence (the one doing the action in Actor-Focus verbs, or the topic in descriptions).

Person	Singular	Plural
1st Person	Ako (I)	Kami (We - Exclusive) Tayo (We - Inclusive)
2nd Person	Ikaw / Ka (You)	Kayo (You all)
3rd Person	Siya (He/She)	Sila (They)

Note: Ikaw is used at the beginning of a sentence or alone. Ka is used after the verb/predicate.

Ikaw ay maganda.* (Formal)

Maganda ka.* (Natural)

B. "Ng" Set (Possessive / Actor)

Used to show ownership OR as the actor in Object-Focus sentences.

Person	Singular	Plural
1st Person	Ko (My / I)	Namin (Our - Excl) Natin (Our - Incl)
2nd Person	Mo (Your / You)	Ninyo (Your / You all)
3rd Person	Niya (His/Her / He/She)	Nila (Their / They)

- Possession: Ito ang libro ko. (This is my book.)
- Actor (Object Focus): Kinain ko ang mansanas. (I ate the apple.)

C. "Sa" Set (Oblique / Directional)

Used to indicate direction, location, or possession (when emphasizing "Mine", "Yours"). Used with prepositions like para sa (for), galing sa (from).

Person	Singular	Plural
1st Person	Akin (Me / Mine)	Amin (Us - Excl) Atin (Us - Incl)
2nd Person	Iyo (You / Yours)	Inyo (You all / Yours)
3rd Person	Kanya (Him/Her / His/Hers)	Kanila (Them / Theirs)

- Direction: Ibigay mo ito sa akin. (Give this to me.)
- Possession (Emphatic): Sa akin ito. (This is mine.)

2. INCLUSIVE VS. EXCLUSIVE "WE"

This is a unique feature of Tagalog.

- Tayo (Inclusive): Includes the listener. "You and I" (and maybe others).
- Kain tayo. (Let's eat - inviting you to eat with me.)
- Kami (Exclusive): Excludes the listener. "Me and them" (but not you).
- Kumain kami. (We ate - I ate with someone else, you were not there.)

3. DEMONSTRATIVE PRONOUNS (PANGHALIP PAMATLIG)

These point to specific objects based on distance from the speaker and listener.

Distance	Pronoun (This/That)	Location (Here/There)	Modifier (This/That + Noun)
Near Speaker	Ito (This)	Dito / Rito (Here)	Itong
Near Listener	Iyan (That)	Diyan / Riyan (There)	Iyang
Far from Both	Iyon (That over there)	Doon / Roon (Over there)	Iyong

Examples:

- Ito: Ano ito? (What is this? - holding it)
- Iyan: Ano iyan? (What is that? - pointing to something you are holding)
- Iyon: Ano iyon? (What is that? - pointing to something far away)

Dito vs Rito (D vs R Rule)

- Use D if the preceding word ends in a consonant.
- Mainit dito. (It's hot here.)
- Use R if the preceding word ends in a vowel.
- Pumunta ka rito. (Come here.)

4. LINKING PRONOUNS

When connecting demonstratives to nouns, use linkers (-ng / na).

- Itong libro (This book) = Ito + -ng + libro
- Iyang bag (That bag) = Iyan + -ng + bag
- Iyong bahay (That house yonder) = Iyon + -ng + bahay

Example Sentence:

- Mahal itong relo. (This watch is expensive.)