

Lesson Topic: Pronoun Number and Case Errors

Objective

Students will be able to choose between subject and object pronouns or singular and plural pronouns in tricky sentences.

Lesson Outline

1. Objective
2. Class Review: Review pronouns in simple sentences
3. Introduction: Discuss subject and object pronouns
4. Teacher Model: Correct a pronoun case error
5. Paired Practice: Add the correct pronoun
6. Individual Practice: Complete the sentence with the correct pronoun
7. Introduction: Discuss indefinite and singular pronouns
8. Individual Practice: Revise a sentence with an indefinite pronoun
9. Wrap-Up

Optional Follow-up Activity

[Follow-Up Activity for Lesson 1: Pronoun Number and Case Errors](#)

Common Core Standards

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.6.1.a

Ensure that pronouns are in the proper case (subjective, objective, possessive).

Prerequisites

Students can identify pronouns in a sentence.
Students can identify the number and person of pronouns.
Students use correct subject-verb agreement.

Slide 1/9

By the end of class today, I will be able to:

- Choose between subject pronouns and object pronouns.
- Choose between singular and plural pronouns.

Objectives

Introduce the objective of the lesson.

Say: Please read the objective for today's class.

Say: Today we're going to learn how to avoid common pronoun mistakes in our writing.

Slide 2/9: Interactive Slide

What pronouns would you use to replace the names?

1. Charles married _____. [Diana]
2. _____ [Paul and George] have certain things in common.



Students Input Sentences

Class Review

Ask students to add pronouns to two sentences.

Say: Let's review pronouns. Pronouns are words that we use to replace nouns. They are words like she, her, us, and they.

Say: Look at the sentences on your screen. Replace the name in brackets with the correct pronoun. Type the two pronouns into the box and press submit.

Discussion

Select 1-2 correct responses and 1-2 incorrect responses to display and discuss.

Ask the following questions:

- Should the pronoun be singular or plural?
- Should the pronoun be male or female?
- Should the pronoun be a subject or an object?

If students struggle with case, give them a hint for the first sentence:

Say: Imagine the sentence this way: "Did Charles break up with Diana?" "No, he married ____." What word should finish the sentence?

Slide 3/9

"I invited Lisa to dinner."

"Lisa invited me to dinner."

Introduction

Explain subject and object pronouns.

Say: Look at the sentences on your screen. One sentence says "I" and another sentence says "me." Does anyone know why we use two different words in each sentence?

Anticipated student responses:

- If the pronoun comes at the beginning, you say *I*. If it comes at the end, you say *me*.
- It sounds right that way.

Say: There is actually a rule for whether you say *I* or *me*. In the first sentence, the pronoun *I* is doing the action. The “doer” of the sentence is called the subject. Since *I* is a pronoun that does an action, we call it a subject pronoun. Other subject pronouns are *he*, *she*, *they*, or *we*.

Say: In the second sentence, *I* changes to *me*. Notice how the sentence has changed. Now Lisa is inviting, and she is doing it to *me*. When a person has something done to them, they are called the object. *Me* is the pronoun that the action happens to, so we call it an object pronoun. Other object pronouns are *him*, *her*, *them*, and *us*.

Say: One more thing. We use object pronouns with words like “*to*” and “*with*” as well. So we say “He was with me,” or “I gave it to them.”

Slide 4/9: Interactive Slide

“Can you drive Ali and I to the store?”



Teacher Models Response

Teacher Model

Model how to correct a pronoun case error in a sentence with a pronoun and a name.

Say: Most of the time, people know when to say “*I*” or “*me*” in a sentence. But when a name is added to a sentence, it is easy to make a mistake.

Say: Raise your hand if you think the sentence on the board is correct. Now raise your hand if you think it is incorrect.

Say: It’s actually incorrect. Many people think saying “Ali and I” sounds more grammatically correct, but using *I* not always correct. Let’s see why. First, I’m going to type the sentence without Ali’s name.

In the Model Your Answer box, type: Can you drive I to the store?

Say: Is this sentence correct? Why or why not?

Anticipated Student Response:

- No. *I* is a subject pronoun. It needs to be an object pronoun.
- No. *I* sounds wrong in that sentence.

Say: Remember what we just learned. In this case, *you* are driving the person to the store. That means that the action is happening to the person, in this case *I*. Since the action is happening to the person, *I* changes to *me*. *Me* is the object pronoun.

In the Model Your Answer box, type: Can you drive me to the store?

Say: Now I have a correct sentence. To complete it, I'm going to add Ali back in. I'm going to put the name in front of the pronoun.
In the Model Your Answer box, type: Can you drive Ali and me to the store?

Say: This is the correct sentence. Remember, if you are confused about what pronoun to use, take out the name.

Slide 5/9: Interactive Slide

Write the correct pronoun in the box and submit.

Lisa and ____ [John] joined the fire department.



Students Input Sentences

Paired Practice

Ask students to write a sentence in pairs using the correct pronoun.

Say: Work with your partner to finish this sentence. Write the pronoun that matches *John* in the box. When you are finished, submit your response from one computer.

Discussion

Select 1-2 correct responses and 2 incorrect responses to display and discuss.

Ask the following questions:

- Is John a subject or an object?
- Which subject pronoun replaces John?
- Is "Lisa" placed before the pronoun?

Slide 6/9: Interactive Slide

Fill in a pronoun and submit the sentence in the box below.

She played in a band with Maria and ____.



Students Input Sentences

Individual Practice

Ask students to complete the sentence on their own.

Say: Let's practice one more time. Put a pronoun into the sentence below. The pronoun can be either male or female, and either singular or plural.

Discussion

Select 2 correct responses and 2-3 incorrect responses to display and discuss.

Ask the following questions:

- What type of pronoun goes with *with*?
- Does the sentence use an object pronoun?

Slide 7/9

1. Everyone should read as much as they can.
2. Everyone should read as much as he or she can.

Introduction

Discuss the use of "he or she" as a singular pronoun in sentences with indefinite pronouns.

Say: On your screen, there are two versions of the same sentence.

Have students read the two sentences out loud.

Say: Raise your hand if you think the first sentence is correct. Now raise your hand for the second. Explain your choice.

Call on volunteers to discuss the sentences.

Say: Sentence two is considered grammatically correct. *Everyone* is technically singular, because it really means "every single person." *He or she* is the traditional singular pronoun.

Say: When people talk, most people say sentence one. Recently, some grammar authorities have decided that sentence one is also

correct, but some say it is not. For now, use “*he or she*” in formal writing, or switch between “*he*” and “*she*.”

Say: If saying “*he or she*” makes the sentence sound clunky, you can change the sentence to avoid saying *everyone*. How can we change this sentence to avoid saying “everyone”?

Call on volunteers.

Anticipated student responses:

- You should read as much as you can.
- People should read as much as they can.

Say: Very good. When saying “*he or she*” makes the sentence awkward, you can revise it.

Slide 8/9: Interactive Slide

Rewrite the sentence using a pronoun or revise the sentence.

Everyone should brush ____ teeth.



Teacher Models Response

Individual Practice

Ask students to rewrite the sentence with the correct pronoun or revise the sentence.

Say: On your screen is a sentence with a missing pronoun. Rewrite the complete sentence and fill in the pronoun, or revise the sentence to avoid clunky pronouns.

Discussion

Select 2-3 correct responses and 1-2 incorrect responses to display and discuss.

Potential Correct Solutions:

- Everyone should brush her teeth.
- Everyone should brush his or her teeth.
- All people should brush their teeth.
- Tooth brushing is important for everyone.

Ask the following questions:

- Is *everyone* matched with a singular or plural pronoun?
- Is there a different way to write this sentence?

Slide 9/9

Today, I learned:

- Pronouns can be subjects, like *I* or *we*, or objects, like *him* or *her*.
- Words like *everyone* match with singular pronouns.

Wrap-up

Review what the students learned today.

Say: Let's review what you learned today.

Ask students to read the bullet points and examples out loud.

You can now assign an independent practice activity that students can either complete now or later.

You can also pull aside the flagged students for small group instruction.

Say: Follow the instructions on your screen. If your screen says to begin the next activity, go ahead and begin it now. If your screen says to wait for instructions, please wait at your desk quietly for your next steps.