Pronouns

Intermediate English, Week One, Spring 2021

Pronouns

- A *pronoun* is a word we use instead of a noun
  - Laura likes the house. **She** likes **it.**
- Pronouns can be the subject or object of a sentence
- They can also be used as a possessive
  - This one is **my** pen, and that one is **yours**.
- And, we also use reflexive pronouns to talk about ourselves
  - Did you hurt **yourself** when you were playing tennis?
- Today, we'll discuss all of these types of pronouns

Subject pronouns

- A subject pronoun replaces the subject of the sentence
  - The subject is usually the person or thing doing the action
- I / you / he / she / it / we / they
  - **They** went to the store last night.
  - **We** have English class four days a week.
  - **It** was the best year of my life.
- Remember, use *it* for things or animals, never for people
- We can also use *you* for a group of people
  - Boys, **you** need to clean the house this afternoon.

Object prounouns

- An object pronoun replaces the object of a sentence
  - The object of a sentence is the person or thing receiving the action. The subject does something to the object.
- me / you / him / her / it / us / them
  - I love **him**, and he loves **me.**
  - My parents sent **us** postcards from Hawaii.
  - Please help **her** with this assignment.

Possessive pronouns and adjectives

- A possessive pronoun shows who owns or has something. It goes **after** the noun

- mine / yours / his / hers / its / ours / theirs
  - The papers on the table are mine.
  - Don't touch the food. It's not ours.

- A possessive adjective replaces a word with 's. It goes **before** the noun

- my / your / his / her / its / our / their
  - This is Michael's new car. → This is his new car.
  - The cat's eyes are blue and round. → Its eyes are blue and round.

Reflexive pronouns

- When the subject and the object are the same person or thing, we use a *reflexive pronoun* for the object

- myself / yourself / himself / herself / itself / ourselves / themselves
  - I cut **myself** when I was cooking.
  - The dog hurt **itself** when it was chasing the cat.

- Be careful to use –f for singular and –ves for plural