ESOL E2 – Personal pronouns

# of 15 – Welcome

Welcome to this session on personal pronouns.

This session will cover.

* Personal pronouns.
* Subject pronouns.
* Object pronouns.

# of 15 – Types of nouns

A pronoun takes the place of a noun in a sentence. We often use them to avoid repeating the nouns that they refer to.

Personal pronouns refer to specific people, places, or things. We use two types of personal pronouns: subject pronouns and object pronouns.

The following are subjective pronouns:

I.

You.

He.

She.

It.

We.

They.

The following are object pronouns:

Me.

You.

Him.

Her.

It.

Us.

Them

# of 15 – Subject pronouns

We use subject pronouns as the subject of a verb.

For example:

* I want to go to sleep
* You are winning the game
* He is my best friend
* She is wearing her favourite dress
* It is snowing
* We went to the zoo
* They went on holiday

# of 15 – Object pronouns

We use object pronouns as the object of a verb.

For example:

* Please can you help me?
* Let me pay you
* She loves him
* The doctor sent her a letter
* I can’t see it
* They sent us an invitation
* I saw them at the park yesterday

# of 15 – Object pronouns after prepositions

We also use object pronouns after prepositions.

For example:

* He is waving at me
* I’ll fetch it for you
* Please pass it to him
* Stop looking at her
* Write your name on it
* The present is from us
* I’ll speak to them

# of 15 – He, she and they

We use ‘he’ or ‘him’ to refer to males and ‘she’ or ‘her’ to refer to females. However, when we are not sure if we are talking about a male or female, we use ‘they’ or ‘them’.

Look at these examples:

1. You should see a doctor; they may be able to help you.

In this sentence, we do not know if the doctor will be a male or female, so we use the word ‘they’.

1. Talk to a friend; ask **them** to help you.

The friend being referred to could be male or female, so we use the word ‘them’.

# of 15 – You and they

We use ‘you’ to talk about people in general, including the person speaking and the person listening.

Look at these examples:

1. You can buy this phone everywhere.

This sentence means that anyone can find this phone on sale.

1. You must pay at the machine.

This sentence means that everyone must pay at the machine.

We use ‘they’ or ‘them’ to talk about institutions and organisations.

Look at these examples:

1. They serve the best chips here.

In this sentence, ‘they’ refers to the restaurant.

1. They are going to increase taxes.

In this sentence, ‘they’ refers to the government.

# of 15 – It

We use ‘it’ to talk about ourselves when other people cannot see us. We also use ‘it’ to talk about other people when we cannot see them.

If someone was answering the phone, they could say “Hello. Who is it?”

The person replying could say “It’s me. It’s Ibraheem.”

# of 15 – Question 1

Choose the correct pronoun from the list below to complete the following sentence.

“My name is Mika and **blank** am your new teacher.”

1. I
2. you
3. she
4. we
5. they

Answer: The correct answer is **1)**. The sentence should read “My name is Mika and **I** am your new teacher.”

# of 15 – Question 2

Choose the correct pronoun from the list below to complete the following sentence.

“You’ve got my phone number, so phone **blank** if you need a lift.”

1. me
2. you
3. us
4. them
5. his

Answer: The correct answer is **1)**. The sentence should read “You’ve got my phone number, so phone **me** if you need a lift.”

# of 15 – Question 3

Choose the correct pronoun from the list below to complete the following sentence.

“Don’t give Tony and Barbara an early appointment. You know **blank** can’t get here on the bus at that time.”

1. I
2. you
3. she
4. we
5. they

Answer: The correct answer is **5)**. The sentence should read “Don’t give Tony and Barbara an early appointment. You know **they** can’t get here on the bus at that time.”

# of 15 – Question 4

Choose the correct pronoun from the list below to complete the following sentence.

“This is my partner, Ruby. \_\_\_\_\_ live in London.”

1. it
2. you
3. she
4. we
5. they

Answer: The correct answer is **4)**. The sentence should read “This is my partner, Ruby. **We** live in London.”

# of 15 – Question 5

Choose the correct pronoun from the list below to complete the following sentence.

“Here are your tickets. Shall I put **blank** in an envelope for you?”

1. you
2. they
3. it
4. them
5. we

Answer: The correct answer is **4)**. The sentence should read “Here are your tickets. Shall I put **them** in an envelope for you?”

# of 15 – Question 6

Choose the correct pronoun from the list below to complete the following sentence.

Question: “Where is Fiona from?”

Answer: “I’m not sure. I don’t know \_\_\_\_ very well.”

1. they
2. her
3. it
4. we
5. you

Answer: The correct answer is **2)**. The sentence should read as follows:

Question: “Where is Fiona from?”

Answer: “I’m not sure. I don’t know **her** very well.”

# of 15 – End

Well done. You have completed this session on proper nouns.

We have covered.

* Personal pronouns.
* Subject pronouns.
* Object pronouns.

# If you have any questions about any of these topics, make a note and ask your tutor for more help.