

SENTENCE ESSENTIALS - ENC 0002
PRONOUN CASE - REVIEW

- ◆ The **SUBJECT PRONOUNS** (singular) *I, you, he, she, it* and (plural) *we, you, they* are used when they function as the subject of the verb, meaning they are **doing** the action of the verb.

He made reservation for dinner. [*He* is doing the action so is the subject of the verb]

Remember that when the subject is the singular *he, she, or it*, the verb in the PRESENT TENSE must have as -s.

He makes reservations for dinner. She eats with him every night. It is their custom.

- ◆ The **OBJECT PRONOUNS** (singular) *me, him, her*, and (plural) *us, them* are used when they function as the object of a verb or preposition, which means they are not doing the action.

Jose made reservations for them for dinner. [*them* is the object of the preposition *for*]

Jose saw him at dinner. [*him* is receiving the action of being seen by the subject *Jose*]

- ◆ **WATCH OUT** for pronouns in **COMPOUND CONSTRUCTION**. A pronoun used by itself does not usually cause problems, but when used with another noun or pronoun often causes problems. To fix the problem, omit the other person and listen to the pronoun by itself.

INCORRECT: *Laura and me went to the movies.* [would you say *me went to the movies??*]

CORRECT: *Laura and I went to the movies.* [*I went to the movies*, so **Laura and I** went]

INCORRECT: *Me and him had lunch.* [would you say *me had lunch??* or *him had lunch??*]

CORRECT: *He and I had lunch.* [*he had lunch; I had lunch*, so **he and I** had lunch]

- ◆ The **POSSESSIVE PRONOUNS** are used to show ownership.

singular: *my/mine, your/yours, his, her/hers, its*

plural: *our/ours, your/yours, their/theirs*

They can be used with nouns - *that is my book* - or by themselves - *that book is mine*.

Do NOT confuse the POSSESSIVE pronouns *its/your/their* with the CONTRACTIONS *it's/you're/they're*
To use *it's, you're, or they're*, you MUST be able to say *it is* (or *it has*), *you are*, or *they are*.

INCORRECT: *The car has a dent in it's fender.* [would you say *the car has a dent in it is fender??*]

CORRECT: *The car has a dent in its fender.* [*its* tells whose fender]

INCORRECT: ~~*Its*~~ *got to be fixed.* [there is no possession in this sentence]

CORRECT: *It's got to be fixed.* [*It has* got to be fixed]

INCORRECT: *This is you're lucky day.* [would you say *this is your are lucky day ??*]

CORRECT: *This is your lucky day.* [*your* tells whose lucky day]

INCORRECT: ~~*Your*~~ *a lucky person.* [there is no possession in this sentence]

CORRECT: *You're a lucky person.* [*You are* a lucky person]

INCORRECT: *I have not seen they're new car.* [would you say *I have not seen they are new car??*]

CORRECT: *I have not seen their new car.* [*their* tells whose new car]

INCORRECT: ~~*Their*~~ *going with us.* [there is no possession in this sentence]

CORRECT: *They're going with us.* [*They are* going with us.]

Remember that *his* and *hers* NEVER take an apostrophe.