

UNIT 6 Choosing the Right Pronoun

WRITING APPLICATION A: Splitting Double Pronouns

Splitting a lunch with someone means sharing that lunch. Splitting double pronouns in a sentence means that two or more pronouns connected by a conjunction are sharing the rest of the sentence. Therefore, each pronoun can stand alone in the sentence and still make sense. Any time you are unsure of the correct pronoun forms to use in a sentence that splits pronouns, test each pronoun alone in the sentence. The pronouns that make best sense in the sentence are the correct ones.

SENTENCE (Her, She) and (me, I) planned to attend Greg's party.

TEST 1 Her planned to attend Greg's party. (makes poor sense)

She planned to attend Greg's party. (makes sense)

TEST 2 Me planned to attend Greg's party. (makes poor sense)

I planned to attend Greg's party. (makes sense)

SOLUTION She and I planned to attend Greg's party.

Writing Assignment: On a separate sheet of paper, write about an everyday activity you have shared with someone else. Suggestions include a meal, a letter, or after-school plans. Use double pronouns at least twice in your writing to gain practice using them. You will have the opportunity to revise your writing later.

Evaluation Checklist: Reread your first draft. Use these guidelines to help you judge the content and organization of your writing.

___ I have split double pronouns correctly.

___ My writing follows a logical order.

Revising, Proofreading, and Writing the Final Version: Revise your draft based on your evaluation. Include a topic sentence in each paragraph. Then proofread your revised draft. Write your revised draft in final form.

WRITING APPLICATION B: Using Pronouns with Missing Words

Nodding and shaking one's head from left to right are silent ways of saying yes and no. These gestures are easily understood without the words to accompany them. In a similar way when you write, you can leave out words in sentences and still be easily understood. However, a problem occurs when a pronoun is used that does not go with the missing word. The correct pronoun to use becomes obvious when the missing word is put in the sentence. In the example below, the missing word is shown in parentheses.

INCORRECT Don told funnier jokes than *me* (told).

CORRECT Don told funnier jokes than *I* (told).

Writing Assignment: On a separate sheet of paper, write about a competition in which you have participated. Compare generally what you did with what others did. Provide details that will enable your readers to picture clearly the competition you are describing.

Evaluation Checklist: Reread your first draft. Use these guidelines to help you judge the content and organization of your writing.

___ I have used correct pronouns in my writing.

___ I have provided details that enable my readers to picture clearly the competition I have described.

___ My writing follows a logical order.

___ Each of my paragraphs includes a topic sentence and supporting sentences.

Revising, Proofreading, and Writing the Final Version: Revise your draft based on your evaluation. Make sure your sentences are in logical order. Then proofread your revised draft. Write your revised draft in final form.

WRITING APPLICATION C: Using the Rule of Courtesy with Pronouns

One way that people show courtesy for others is by putting other people first. In a similar way in writing, courtesy for others is shown by putting nouns or pronouns that identify others before pronouns such as *I*, *we*, or *me*.

EXAMPLES 1. *He and I* attended a baseball game last night.
(not *I and he* attended a baseball game last night.)

2. Jennifer mailed an invitation to Andre and *me*.
(not Jennifer mailed an invitation to *me* and Andre.)

Writing Assignment: On a separate sheet of paper, write about something you and someone else planned that had an unusual outcome. Examples of something planned might include a dance, an anniversary party, a talent show, or a class presentation.

Evaluation Checklist: Reread your first draft. Use these guidelines to help you judge the content and organization of your writing.

___ I have placed pronouns I have used in a courteous order.

___ I have used correct pronouns in my writing.

___ My writing follows a logical order.

___ Each of my paragraphs includes a topic sentence and supporting sentences.

Revising, Proofreading, and Writing the Final Version: Revise your draft based on your evaluation. Make sure you have used more than once the pronouns *I*, *me*, or *we* in your writing. Then proofread your revised draft. Write your revised draft in final form.