

CORRECTING ERRORS WITH PRONOUNS

There are several different types of pronouns we use when speaking and writing. It's important to make sure the pronouns are clear and match their antecedents to avoid confusing your reader or listener. Here are some common pronoun errors to avoid.



Pronoun error type	Error	Correction
subject vs. object confusion	Her and Jackie went to the coffee shop.	She and Jackie went to the coffee shop.
shifts in number	An owl uses their wide eyes to track prey in the dark.	An owl uses its wide eyes to track prey in the dark.
shifts in person	If students want to join an after-school activity, you can sign up online.	If students want to join an after-school activity, they can sign up online.
vague or unclear antecedent	They say this weekend will be an excellent time to surf.	The forecasts say this weekend will be an excellent time to surf.

Directions: Identify the incorrect pronoun and cross it out. Then, write the correct pronoun in the space provided. In the case of an unclear antecedent, replace the unclear pronoun with a noun or noun phrase.

- My twin brother and **me** requested that our birthday party guests make a donation to the animal shelter instead of buying us presents. **I**
- Will there be room on any of the Wednesday night bowling league teams for Zavier and **myself**? **me**
- Due to improved technologies for exploring the deep sea, such as sonar and remotely operated vehicles, **they** discover new creatures all the time. **scientists**
- Mateo and **him** have been watching online videos to learn how to knit so that they can make birthday gifts for their grandpa. **he**
- A pink fairy armadillo sounds like a creature from a fantasy land, but **they're** an endangered species found in the sandy plains and dry grasslands of central Argentina. **it's**
- Unlike **myself**, my sister has never taken an interest in playing an instrument or learning a new language. **me**
- On Saturday mornings, Piper walks along the beach and collects plastic debris and pieces of sea glass because she can use **it** in her sculptures. **them**
- People who live in the county can show their photo ID and proof of address at a library location to register for **your** permanent library card. **their**
- Olivia is coding a dog-training program for smartphones where **they** will learn to obey the prerecorded commands. **the dogs**
- Where are the cans of diced tomatoes I bought for the fiery stuffed poblano dish? **It's** not in the cupboard. **They're**