

Possessive Pronouns

Pronouns that show ownership are called possessive pronouns. A possessive pronoun and its antecedent must agree in number and gender. Before you use a possessive pronoun, ask yourself whether the antecedent is singular or plural. If the antecedent is singular, decide whether it is masculine, feminine, or neutral. Then choose a pronoun that agrees.

Possessive Pronouns

My/mine, your/yours, his, her/hers, its, our/ours, their/theirs

- *My, your, her, our, and their* are always used with nouns.
I did my report on the Taino tribe.
- *Mine, yours, hers, ours, and theirs* stand alone.
Which science project is yours?
- *His and its* can be used with nouns or can stand alone.
His report discussed life on the frontier.
The report on frontier life was his.
- Never use an apostrophe with a possessive pronoun.

Directions Underline the possessive pronoun in each sentence.

1. My history book tells the story of the Taino tribe.
2. The Taino were kind and their way of life was peaceful.
3. Their territories were rich and beautiful.
4. What was their way of living like?
5. Their civilization was almost completely wiped out by infectious diseases.
6. I need your book about the Taino people.
7. The Taino woman is carrying some water for her family.

Directions Circle the pronoun in () that completes each sentence.

1. Taino chiefs knew (their, his) people was suffering and dying.
2. The dog stayed in (our, its) warm bed on the floor.
3. For black slaves brought to Hispaniola, loneliness was part of (their, theirs) lives.
4. The woman worked to build (hers, her) home with mud walls.