**Pronoun Case**

**Pronoun Case Guidelines**

2 pages long (ELC charges 10 cents/page for print jobs)

PRONOUN CASE is really a very simple matter. There are three cases.

1. SUBJECTIVE case: Pronouns used as subject.

2. OBJECTIVE case: Pronouns used as object of verbs or prepositions.

3. POSSESSIVE case: Pronouns which express ownership.

Pronouns as SUBJECTS

Pronouns as OBJECTS

Pronouns that show POSSESSION

I

me

my (mine)

you

you

your (yours)

he

him

his

she

her

her (hers)

it

it

its

we

us

our (ours)

they

them

their (theirs)

who

whom

whose

(The pronouns THIS, THAT, THESE, THOSE and WHICH do NOT change form).

Some problems of case:

1. In compound structures, where there are two pronouns or a noun and a pronoun, drop the other noun for a moment. Then you can see which case you want.

NOT: Bob and me travel a good deal. (Would you say, “me travel”?)

NOT: We gave the flowers to Jane and I. (Would you say, “he gave the flowers to I”?)

NOT: Us men like the coach. (Would you say, “ us like the coach”?)

2. In comparisons. Comparisons usually follow than or as.

He is taller than I (am tall).

This helps you as much as (it helps) me.

She is as noisy as I (am).

Comparisons are really shorthand sentences which usually omit words, such as those in the parentheses in the sentences above. If you complete the comparison in your head, you can choose the correct case for the pronoun. For example:

NOT: He is taller than me. (Would you say, “than me am tall”?)

3. In formal and semi-formal writing-

Use the objective form after a form of the verb to be for informal uses only.

FORMAL: It is I.

INFORMAL: It is me.

Use whom in the objective case.

FORMAL: To whom am I talking?

INFORMAL: Who am I talking to?

Note: Pronouns do not show possession with an apostrophe, or apostrophe and s combination. Thus, if your write “it’s,” what you have written is the contraction, “it is,” not the possessive form of the pronoun, “it.” The possessive form of the pronoun “it” is “its.” Study the possessive forms of pronouns to avoid making mistakes with them.

**Pronoun Case Grammar Module Activities**

1 page long (ELC charges 10 cents/page for print jobs)

Instructions: Read the Guidelines Sheet for Pronoun Case/Possesives before you complete the following activities. The Extended Learning Center provides all the videos and books you will need to complete these activities.

Tutoring: You may see a tutor for help with understanding any of the following activities.

Activities:

1. The Allyn and Bacon Video Grammar Library , Lesson 5: Using the Correct Pronoun Case: Watch the video and write a ½ page summary of what you have learned.

2. SkillsBank: To enter the computer program at Lone Star College–Tomball, click the SkillsBank Icon. At Lone Star College–Willow Chase Center, click the “Start” button in the bottom left-hand corner of your screen. Select “Learning Assistance” and then “SkillsBank.” Log in to SkillsBank with your assigned user name and identification number. In SkillsBank, select “Writing” from the column of subjects on the left of the screen and then “Language Usage” from the list of lesson topics across the top.

Do Lesson 3 (“Pronouns—A Review”)

After you've completed those lessons, select “Language” from the list of subjects. Choose “Grammar & Usage” from the list of lesson topics.

Do Lesson 17 (“Possessive Forms of Pronouns”)

Your scores will automatically be reported to your instructor, so you will not need to print out a record of your activities.

Grammar textbook work: Do not write in the textbooks. Either photocopy exercise pages from the text or complete assignments on your own paper (writing short answers whenever possible, rather than copying entire sentences).

3. The Little, Brown Handbook (8 th edition) : Read Chapter 13 (pages 292-300), paying particular attention to the information in the yellow boxes and to 13h (page 299) on using the possessive case before gerunds. Complete Exercise 4 on page 299.

4. Odyssey (3 rd edition) : Read Chapter 26 (pages 398-402) and complete Exercise 26.1 on page 402.

5. Writer's Choice : Review types of pronouns shown in the boxes on pages 442-447. Read Chapter 17 (pages 623-631). Complete Exercises 2, 5, 8, 9, and 11 on pages 625-631.

6. Worksheets: Complete Worksheets PS314, PS316, and PS322. Use the answer keys, located in the Extended Learning Center, to check your work.

Turn in all work assigned by your instructor before taking the Pronoun Case/Possessives Test.

**Pronoun Case Practice Test**

(2 pages, 10¢/page for print jobs in ELC)

Directions: In the following sentences determine if there is an error in pronoun case usage. Mark your answers as follows:

“a” if the sentence does not contain an error in pronoun case usage

“b” if the sentence does contain an error in pronoun case usage

1. Mr. Teague's daughter sent an email to her mom and he with details about the job offer she had just received.

2. Her talking non-stop on the cell phone caused the bill to be over two hundred dollars.

3. I'm sending them copies of all the pictures because their in almost every one of the shots.

4. My sister phoned to say that its going to rain today, so we need to postpone our family picnic.

5. Jeff is more likely to figure out the riddle than I.

6. This is a chance for us parents to ask questions about childcare options.

7. The committee awarded my brother more college scholarships money than they awarded I.

8. My friend and me are taking my computer apart to install a new motherboard.

9. Whom did you select for the lead role in the play?

10. The mechanic phoned to ask Diane for John and her to explain the problem with the transmission of the truck.

Directions: Sentences in the passage below are numbered. Be certain to read each sentence carefully and then determine if the sentence contains an error in pronoun case usage. Mark your answers as follows:

“a” if the numbered sentence does not contain an error in pronoun case usage

“b” if the numbered sentence does contain an error in pronoun case usage

(11) My sister, my brother, and me all decided to take a weekend trip to go tubing on the Guadalupe River. (12) Dan agreed to gather up all the camping equipment we would need for the three-day outing. (13) Ellen volunteered that we two girls would plan and shop for food, as well as doing the cooking while we were on the trip. (14) No one in the world hated to cook more than me, so I protested sharing the job of food preparation. (15) Even as I said that, I thought to myself, “Their never going to let me off the hook on this.” (16) I was right; he and she both started to laugh and call me ‘Chef Grouch'. (17) Their next response to me was to put me in charge of all the clean-up jobs during the trip. (18) I should have known then that him and her would come up with a job that was even worse. (19) My dad, who had been listening to the conversation from the next room, started laughing very loudly. (20) “Its not right to keep calling her ‘Chef Grouch' since she isn't doing any cooking,” he called out. “I think ‘The Tidy Tuber' may be a more appropriate nickname!”

Answer Key:

1. b

2. a

3. b

4. b

5. a

6. a

7. b

8. b

9. b

10. a

11. b

12. a

13. a

14. b

15. b

16. a

17. b

18. b

19. a

20. b