

Reference Note

For more information about **predicate nominatives**, see page 104.

Think as a Reader/Writer

Widespread usage has made such expressions as *It's me*, *That's him*, or *Could it have been her?* acceptable in informal conversation and writing. Avoid using them in formal speaking and in your written work unless you are writing notes, informal dialogue, or friendly letters.

Think as a Reader/Writer

Sometimes pronouns such as *I*, *he*, *she*, *we*, and *they* sound awkward when used as parts of a compound subject. In such cases, it is a good idea to revise the sentence.

AWKWARD

She and we are going to the concert.

BETTER

We are going to the concert with **her**.

7c. A predicate nominative should be in the nominative case.

A **predicate nominative** is a word or word group in the predicate that identifies the subject or refers to it. A predicate nominative is connected to its subject by a linking verb. A pronoun used as a predicate nominative generally follows a form of the verb *be* or a phrase ending in *be* or *been*.

EXAMPLES This is **he**.

Did you know that the pitcher was **she**?

Oral Practice 2 Using Pronouns as Predicate Nominatives

Read the following sentences aloud, stressing the italicized pronouns.

1. Do you know whether it was *he*?
2. I thought it was *they*.
3. The winner of the marathon is *she*.
4. The ones you saw dancing were not *we*.
5. Can the valedictorian be *she*?
6. The first ones to arrive were *he* and *she*.
7. Do you think it may have been *they*?
8. The best speakers are *she* and *I*.

Exercise 2 Identifying Pronouns Used as Subjects and Predicate Nominatives

Identify the correct pronoun in parentheses for each of the following sentences. Then, give its use in the sentence—as a *subject* or *predicate nominative*.

EXAMPLE 1. If the phone rings, it will probably be (*she, her*).

1. *she*—predicate nominative

3. How did you know the guest speakers were (*they, them*)?
2. (*She, Her*) and (*he, him*) will move to San Miguel.
3. Open the door! It is (*I, me*)!
4. You and (*me, I*) are the only candidates left.
5. It was wonderful to hear that the winner was (*he, him*).
6. (*Us, We*) and (*them, they*) will meet at five o'clock.
7. That man looked a little like Harry, but it was not (*he, him*) after all.
8. Believe it or not, (*she, her*) was on the radio this morning.
9. Yes, the one in costume was really (*she, her*)!
10. You and (*we, us*) were the first visitors.

The Objective Case

Objective case pronouns—*me, you, him, her, it, us, and them*—are used as direct objects, indirect objects, and objects of prepositions.

7d. A direct object should be in the objective case.

A **direct object** is a noun, pronoun, or word group that tells who or what receives the action of the verb or shows the result of the action.

EXAMPLES Phil called **her** last night. [*Her tells whom Phil called.*]

We still don't know what caused **them**. [*Them shows the results of the action caused.*]

Oral Practice 3 Using Pronouns as Direct Objects

Read the following sentences aloud, stressing the italicized pronouns.

1. They saw Liang and *me* at the fair.
2. Julia said that she recognized *him* and *me* at once.
3. Has anyone called *her* or *him* lately?
4. They took *us* to the reggae concert.
5. Alicia often visits Charlene and *her*.
6. A dog chased *her* and *me* out of the yard.
7. Within a few hours, the search party found Duane and *him*.
8. Did you ask *them* or *us*?

Exercise 3 Choosing Pronouns Used as Direct Objects

For each item below, write an appropriate pronoun in the objective case. Use a variety of pronouns. Do not use *you* or *it*.

EXAMPLE 1. Have you told ____ yet?

1. *him*

1. I found Nina and ____ in the library.
2. Will you help ____ or ____ with their homework?
3. Sylvia Chu drove Candy and ____ to the movies.
4. We all watched Aaron and ____ as they ran the marathon.
5. These gloves fit both Carl and ____.
6. Did you tell ____ about the picnic?
7. If you don't call ____, I will.
8. The realtor showed ____ and ____ the apartment.
9. That solution suits ____.
10. The doctor cured ____.

Reference Note

For more about the different types of **objects**, see page 105.

Think as a Reader/Writer

When the object is compound, try each pronoun separately with the verb. All parts of the compound must be correct for the sentence to be correct.

EXAMPLE

Phil's call surprised (*she, her*) and (*I, me*). [*Phil's call surprised she or Phil's call surprised her? It surprised I or It surprised me?*]

Phil's call surprised **her** and **me**.

SKILLS FOCUS

Identify and use objective-case pronouns correctly. (page 226): Identify and use nominative-case pronouns correctly.

TIPS & TRICKS

Generally, the indirect object comes between the verb and the direct object.

EXAMPLES

Grandma knitted **us** sweaters.

We gave **climbing the cliff** our full attention.

7e. An indirect object should be in the objective case.

An *indirect object* is a noun, pronoun, or word group that appears in sentences containing direct objects. An indirect object tells *to whom* or *to what* or *for whom* or *for what* the action of the verb is done.

EXAMPLES Molly made **me** a tape. [*Me tells for whom the tape was made.*]

The puppies were muddy, so we gave **them** a bath. [*Them tells to what we gave a bath.*]

NOTE Indirect objects do not follow prepositions. If a preposition such as *to* or *for* precedes an object, the object is an object of a preposition.

Oral Practice 4 Using Pronouns as Indirect Objects

Read the following sentences aloud, stressing the italicized pronouns.

- Mrs. Petratos offered *them* delicious moussaka.
- Show Yolanda and *her* your snapshots of Chicago.
- Sara made Dad and *me* mittens and matching scarves.
- Send Tom and *him* your new address.
- My parents told *her* and *me* the news.
- Mrs. Morita gave *him* and *her* applications.
- Tell Willie and *them* the story that you told Erin and *me*.
- The judges awarded *us* the trophy.

Exercise 4 Writing Pronouns Used as Indirect Objects

For each item below, write an appropriate pronoun in the objective case. Use a variety of pronouns. Do not use *you* or *it*.

EXAMPLE 1. The teacher gave ____ their homework assignments.

1. *them*

- Hassan asked ____ the most difficult question.
- Alex baked ____ a loaf of banana bread.
- The teacher handed ____ and ____ the homework assignments.
- Linda threw ____ the ball.
- Mr. Young has never told ____ and ____ the real story.
- Writing stories gives ____ great pleasure.
- We brought ____ T-shirts from California.
- Mr. Cruz sent ____ a pen as a graduation gift.
- My little sister gave ____ an animal carved out of soap.
- Lee's cousin knitted ____ a sweater.

SKILLS FOCUS

Identify and use objective-case pronouns correctly.