

Pronouns
Grade 3 Worksheet- 2

Exercise 1: Number in Pronouns. Choose the correct pronoun to match the number (singular or plural):

1. The dog buried (its/their) bone in the yard.
2. The students finished (its/their) homework.
3. My sister lost (her/their) glasses.
4. The team celebrated (its/their) victory.
5. The babies are drinking (its/their) milk.
6. The musician played (his/their) guitar.
7. The geese spread (its/their) wings.
8. The class must bring (its/their) books tomorrow.
9. The family packed (its/their) bags.
10. The elephant used (its/their) trunk.

Exercise 2: Gender in Pronouns. Fill in the blanks with the appropriate pronoun:

1. John forgot _____ lunchbox, so _____ went back to get it. (he/his/him)
2. Maria raised _____ hand because _____ knew the answer. (she/her/hers)
3. The doctor helped the patient when _____ arrived at _____ office. (he/his/she/her)
4. The kitten licked _____ paw after _____ played in the mud. (it/its/their)
5. The teacher gave _____ students their homework. (his/her/their)
6. The baby cried when _____ dropped _____ toy. (it/its/he/his/she/her)
7. The mail carrier left _____ bag in _____ truck. (his/her/their)

8. The bird built _____ nest while _____ partner watched. (its/their/his/her)
9. Everyone must complete _____ assignment by Friday. (his/her/their)
10. The puppy wagged _____ tail when _____ saw its owner. (it/its/he/his/she/her)

Exercise 3: Mixed Practice. Fix these sentences by choosing the correct pronouns for number and gender:

1. "The class finished (its/their) project, and (it/they) did a great job."
2. "Either Mary or John will bring (his/her/their) book tomorrow."
3. "The flock of birds spread (its/their) wings as (it/they) flew south."
4. "Every student must do (his/her/their) best on the test."
5. "The jury made (its/their) decision, and (it/they) announced it today."
6. "Neither of the girls brought (her/their) umbrella today."
7. "The team lost (its/their) first game, but (it/they) won the second one."
8. "The baby dropped (his/her/its) bottle while (he/she/it) was sleeping."
9. "The group of friends planned (its/their) vacation together."
10. "Each player must wear (his/her/their) uniform to the game."

Remember:

- If you're talking about one person or thing, use singular pronouns
- If you're talking about more than one, use plural pronouns
- If you know the gender, use he/she pronouns
- If you don't know the gender or it doesn't matter, use "it" for things and animals, and "they" for people
- Some words that seem plural (team, class, family) can use either singular or plural pronouns depending on if you're thinking of the group as one unit or as separate individuals

Exercise 1: Number in Pronouns. Answers with explanations:

1. "The dog buried its bone in the yard."

Explanation: "Dog" is singular, so we use the singular pronoun "its"

2. "The students finished their homework."

Explanation: "Students" is plural, so we use the plural pronoun "their"

3. "My sister lost her glasses."

Explanation: "Sister" is singular, so we use the singular pronoun "her"

4. "The team celebrated its/their victory."

Explanation: Both are correct. "Team" is a collective noun - use "its" when thinking of the team as one unit, "their" when thinking of individual members

5. "The babies are drinking their milk."

Explanation: "Babies" is plural, so we use the plural pronoun "their"

6. "The musician played his/her guitar."

Explanation: "Musician" is singular, so we use a singular pronoun. Either "his" or "her" works, depending on the musician's gender

7. "The geese spread their wings."

Explanation: "Geese" is plural, so we use the plural pronoun "their"

8. "The class must bring its/their books tomorrow."

Explanation: Like "team," "class" is a collective noun that can take either singular or plural pronouns

9. "The family packed their bags."

Explanation: While "family" is technically singular, it's common to use "their" when referring to actions of individual family members

10. "The elephant used its trunk."

Explanation: "Elephant" is singular, so we use the singular pronoun "its"

Exercise 2: Gender in Pronouns. Answers with explanations:

1. John forgot his lunchbox, so he went back to get it.

Explanation: "John" is male, so we use masculine pronouns

2. Maria raised her hand because she knew the answer.

Explanation: "Maria" is female, so we use feminine pronouns

3. The doctor helped the patient when she/he arrived at her/his office.

Explanation: Either set is correct since we don't know the doctor's gender

4. The kitten licked its paw after it played in the mud.

Explanation: For animals, unless we know and want to specify their gender, we use "it/its"

5. The teacher gave her/his students their homework.

Explanation: Either is correct without knowing the teacher's gender

6. The baby cried when it dropped its toy.

Explanation: For babies, when gender isn't specified, we often use "it/its"

7. The mail carrier left their bag in their truck.

Explanation: When gender is unknown, "their" is a common gender-neutral choice

8. The bird built its nest while its partner watched.

Explanation: For animals, unless gender is important to the story, use "it/its"

9. Everyone must complete their assignment by Friday.

Explanation: For indefinite pronouns like "everyone," "their" is increasingly accepted as gender-neutral singular

10. The puppy wagged its tail when it saw its owner.

Explanation: For animals, we typically use "it/its" unless gender is known and relevant

Exercise 3: Mixed Practice. Answers with explanations:

1. "The class finished its project, and they did a great job."

Explanation: "Its" refers to the class as a single unit for the project, while "they" refers to the students individually doing a good job

2. "Either Mary or John will bring their book tomorrow."

Explanation: When connecting singular subjects with "or," modern usage accepts "their" as gender-neutral singular

3. "The flock of birds spread its wings as it flew south."

Explanation: "Flock" is being treated as one unit, so we use singular pronouns

4. "Every student must do their best on the test."

Explanation: With "every," modern usage accepts "their" as a gender-neutral singular pronoun

5. "The jury made its decision, and it announced it today."

Explanation: "Jury" is acting as a single unit here, so we use singular pronouns

6. "Neither of the girls brought her umbrella today."

Explanation: "Neither" is singular, and we know we're talking about girls, so we use "her"

7. "The team lost its first game, but they won the second one."

Explanation: Shows how collective nouns can switch between singular and plural pronouns

8. "The baby dropped its bottle while it was sleeping."

Explanation: Without knowing the baby's gender, "it" is appropriate

9. "The group of friends planned their vacation together."

Explanation: When emphasizing individual actions within a group, use plural pronouns

10. "Each player must wear their uniform to the game."

Explanation: With "each," modern usage accepts "their" as a gender-neutral singular pronoun

Teaching Tips for Number and Gender:

1. Help the child understand that some nouns (like team, family, class) can use either singular or plural pronouns depending on context
2. Explain that modern English increasingly accepts "they/their" as singular pronouns when gender is unknown or unspecified
3. Practice identifying whether we're thinking of a group as one unit or as individuals
4. Discuss how context helps us choose between "it" and gendered pronouns for animals and babies