

Choosing the Correct Pronoun (II)

When two or more antecedents are joined by *or* or *nor*, use a singular pronoun if each antecedent is singular; use a plural pronoun if the antecedents are plural. If one singular and one plural antecedent are joined by *or* or *nor*, the number of the pronoun is governed by the antecedent that is nearer the verb.

Singular	Neither Sam nor Bob has <i>his</i> baseball mitt.
Plural	Either the monkeys or the tigers will have <i>their</i> cages cleaned.
Plural	Neither Sara nor her friends have <i>their</i> sheet music with them.

When a pronoun is part of a comparison using *than* or *as*, use the nominative form.

She is bigger than *I*. (Think: . . . bigger than *I am*.)

A. Identifying Correct Pronouns

Underline the correct pronoun of the two given in parentheses.

1. Neither Sue nor the other finalists could conceal (her, their) nervousness.
2. He is older than (I, me) by twelve years.
3. Either Mary or Elise will perform (her, their) solo in the competition.
4. Neither Todd nor Andy has received a reply to (his, their) job applications.
5. Ms. Barton likes the novels of Charles Dickens as much as (me, I) do.
6. Neither Mr. Buckle nor the singers waited for (his, their) bus.
7. Eileen O'Toole is as lighthearted as (her, she).
8. Either Peter or his brothers brought (his, their) friends to the movie.
9. My friend Kara is a better cook than (me, I).
10. Either she or her sister will read (her, their) speech to the graduating class.

B. Using Pronouns in Comparison

Underline the correct pronoun in the following sentences.

1. I am as interested in that documentary on civil rights as (she, her).
2. They are as eager to go to the Whitney Houston concert as (we, us).
3. Mr. Boone was as brave as (her, she) during the long ordeal.
4. I was later than (her, she) for the guidance meeting.
5. My sister is taller and bolder than (I, me), but people still say I seem older.
6. The bank teller seems to be as tired as (me, I).
7. Do you really think that Marty is as qualified as (he, him)?
8. They are just as excited about the plans for a new city pool as (we, us).
9. Could Janice be more ready for this vacation than (me, I)?
10. Christopher is not more prepared for the test than (me, I) simply because he stayed up late.

Choosing the Correct Pronoun (II)

A. Using Pronouns Correctly

In the blank, write an appropriate pronoun form.

1. Neither the amaryllis nor the poinsettia had lost _____ leaves.
2. My mother is as excited as _____ about my award.
3. Neither the Itos nor their neighbors hid _____ joy when the judge pronounced them citizens of the United States.
4. Donald stayed underwater longer than _____.
5. Ask either Kirk or Allen to bring _____ camera.
6. Either Kristin or one of her sisters bought _____ art supplies.
7. You don't really need a stepladder, Mia; you are as tall as _____.
8. Neither the candidate nor her staff gave me _____ opinions.
9. Neither Maura nor Kimberly had received _____ final grades.
10. After hearing Sharon, we felt no one had ever sung better than _____.

B. Correcting Problems with Pronouns

Some students are blocking out ideas for a short dramatization about a community problem. On the lines below, rewrite and correct any sentences containing pronoun problems. If a sentence contains no errors, write **Correct**.

(1) Either a student or a teacher tells of their impression that our school is going to be closed. (2) At first, neither students nor our teacher could believe her ears. (3) The principal then learns that a high-tech firm wants the building for office space, and no one is more surprised than him. (4) The students realize they could all be sent to different schools, and no one tries harder than them to save the school.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____
