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Choose the Pronoun

A pronoun often relates to another word earlier in the sentence. This other word is called an antecedent. It is usually a noun or a pronoun.

Example: Sam dropped his textbook on the floor.

The pronoun in the example is *his*. The antecedent is *Sam*. The pronoun must match the antecedent in number: Since Sam is one person, the pronoun must be singular. It would be incorrect to say "Sam dropped their textbook on the floor," since *their* is plural.

Male antecedents use *he* or *his*; female antecedents use *she* or *her*. For an object or an animal, the pronouns to use are *it* or *its*.

Circle the correct pronoun to complete each sentence.

- 1. His sister had cereal for (his her) breakfast.
- 2. Walter played in (its his) backyard.
- 3. The chair has broken one of (its his) legs.
- 4. The children laughed when (they he) saw the clown dance.
- 5. Chloe sang the song that (she her) knew best.
- 6. The brown sparrow sat on (its their) nest.
- 7. The teachers started (her their) meeting.
- 8. Our window broke, and (it they) let in the cold wind.