

English Pronouns

The function of a pronoun is to "stand in" for a noun. A noun by itself has no identity - it takes its meaning from the context.

Personal pronouns can be used in a variety of ways - they can serve as the subject of a sentence, as the object of a verb or preposition to show possession, or to provide emphasis (sometimes called intensive pronouns) and reflexive pronouns

Nominative personal pronouns = subject

Objective or possessive pronouns = Object of the verb or preposition

Mary went to the tomb. Mary was looking for Jesus.

so - Mary went to the tomb. "She" was looking for Jesus.

"She" 'stands in' for Mary. "She" is the personal pronoun.

Personal pronouns

"I" am very busy.

"You" are busy too.

"She" is studying.

Mary went to tell "them" Jesus is risen.

Hebrew Pronouns

Function as English pronouns. Hebrew independent personal pronouns stand alone - that means by themselves - NOT prefixed or suffixed

Independent personal pronouns

		Singular		Plural
1 Common	"I"	אני, אני	"We"	אנחנו
2p masc	"you"	אתה	"you"	אתם
2p fem	"you"	את	"you"	אתן or הן
3p masc	"he"	הוא	"they"	הם or הן
3p fem	"she"	היא	"they"	הם or הן

Demonstrative Pronouns - "this" & "these"

Masc Sing	זה "this" also	זו
Fem Sing	זאת "this" also	אלה
Common Plural	אלה "these" also	

(may take a definite article)

'that' & 'those' (indicated by the use of the third person - may take a definite article)

Masc Singular הַזֶּה , הַזֵּה "that"

Masc Plural אֵלֶּה , הֵּלֶּה "those"

אֵלֶּיךָ or הֵּיכָּן "those"

Fem Singular הַזֵּה "that" , הַזֵּה "that"

Fem Plural הֵּנָּה "those" , הֵּנָּה "those"

Demonstratives can function as a pronoun or an adjective.

As a pronoun - usually will be the subject of the sentence - therefore pronoun would appear without article - (but agrees with noun in number and gender)

As an adjective - usually will FOLLOW the nouns they modify and agree in number and gender

(More on this section of pronouns in later lessons.)

Notes: