



OBJECT PRONOUNS / DIRECT AND INDIRECT OBJECTS / REFLEXIVE PRONOUNS

The object pronouns are used when the subject changes from its normal position at the beginning of the sentence. They can never be used in subject position.

Personal Pronoun	Object Pronoun	Reflexive Pronoun
I	Me	Myself
You	You	Yourself
He	Him	Himself
She	Her	Herself
It	It	Itself
We	Us	Ourselves
You	You	Yourselves
They	Them	Themselves

When we use object pronouns to replace the subject this subject must be understood or we have to point to the object.

Examples:

Give the pencil to Mark.

Give **it** to Mark. *or* Give the pencil to him.

Put the garbage outside. Put **it** outside.

Take the cows out of the corral. Take **them** out of the corral.

Throw the bone to the dog.

Throw **it** to the dog *or* Throw the bone to **it**.

Tell your parents to come in the afternoon. Tell **them** to come in the afternoon.

Direct object = objects

Indirect objects = people

Give **me** the pen right now. (pattern one)

Give it to **me** right now. (pattern two)

With this list of verbs, we can put the direct object immediately after the verb or at the end of the sentences with “to” before the indirect object.

give	show	sell	bring
write	teach	send	pass
read	tell	lend	

Examples:

Write me a letter.

Write a letter to me.

Pass me the salt, please.

Pass the salt to me, please.

With this list only Pattern One is possible. In other words, the direct object must go right after the verb.

ask	wish	cost	charge
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Examples:

Correct: Ask the teacher a question.

Correct: Ask him a question.

Error: Ask a question to him.

With this list only Pattern Two is possible; the indirect object after the verb (with the direct object preceded by “to”).

announce	mention	say	report
describe	prove	speak	explain
introduce	repeat	suggest	

Examples:

Correct: Explain the lesson to me please.

Error: Explain me the lesson, please.

With the verbs *ask*, *tell* or *want*, the indirect object is used immediately after the verb followed by a verb in its infinitive form (*example*: to be).

Examples:

Correct: Ask your parents to come on time next time.

Error: Ask to your parents to come on time next time.

Correct: My teacher wants me to study for the test.

Error: My teacher wants to me study for the test.

Correct: Tell them to come back early.

Error: Tell to them to come back early.

When we use the verbs *let* or *make*, the following verb is conjugated normally.

Examples:

Correct: Let me help you.

Error: Let me to help you.

Correct: Let him go.

Error: Let him to go.

Correct: Don't make me laugh.

Error: Don't make me to laugh.

Correct: This joke makes me smile.

Error: This joke makes me to smile.

We use reflexive pronouns when the action reflexes on the subject. Here are some examples of verbs that use reflexive pronouns.

Comb	Dress	Cut	Kill	
Enjoy	Wash	Clean	Stop	Shave

Examples:

My father shaves himself in the morning. Don't kill yourself!

The little boy can't dress **himself**.

This CD player is fully automatic. It stops by **itself**.

I cut **myself** because the knife is very sharp.

Please, enjoy **yourselves** at the party.

Cats are very tidy. They clean **themselves**.

But when we want to say that the action was performed by the subject “without anyone’s help” we use “by” before the reflexive pronoun.

Examples:

In the U.S.A. some elderly people live **by themselves**.

I did the exam **by myself**. Nobody helped me.

Kids can not cross the street **by themselves**.

This dishwasher is not automatic. It can't stop **by itself**.

They crossed the river **by themselves**.

If you want to learn English do the exercises **by yourselves** and don't copy.



Fill in the blanks with the correct personal pronoun (me-you-him-her-it-us-them). Pay attention to the personal pronoun given to you in parenthesis. Follow the example.

Example:

Pass _____ (I) the book, please. Pass **me** the book, please.

1. Give _____ the book, please. (she)
2. Pass _____ the sugar, please (I)
3. Take _____ out. (the garbage)
4. Tell _____ to study for the final exam. (they)
5. Don't ask _____ why. (I)
6. Give _____ a couple of more minutes! (we)
7. Take _____ out of my sight! (he)
8. I'll visit _____ someday. I promise. (you)
9. Come on! Tell _____ the good news. (I)
10. Tell _____ the truth! (we)
11. Ask _____ to come back later. (he)
12. Let _____ take a short break. (we)
13. Put _____ (the books) on the top shelf. Thank you!
14. Please give _____ me one more chance. (I)
15. Could you ask _____ to stay for just five more minutes? (they)
16. Send _____ a text message. (I)
17. Let _____ know when you are ready. (I)
18. Could you let _____ know when you arrive? (we)
19. I told _____ not to come late anymore. (you)
20. Give _____ (he) a break. He is really tired.



Fill in the blanks with the correct reflexive pronoun (myself-yourself-himself-herself-itself-ourselves-yourselves-themselves). Pay attention to the subject of the each sentence to decide which reflexive pronoun to use. Follow the example.

Example:

This copy machine is fully automatic. It turns off by _____ after completing a job.

This copy machine is fully automatic. It turns off by **itself** after completing a job.

1. My father shaves _____ in the bathroom every morning.
2. Ouch! I've cut _____.
3. Her little brother does his homework by _____.
4. We enjoyed _____ at the party.
5. I can't do it by _____. It is too complicated.
6. She lives by _____.
7. Nobody helped us. We finished the project by _____.
8. A lot of young people in the United States live by _____.
9. This CD player is automatic. It stops by _____.
10. I can't look at _____ in the mirror.
11. My friend Peter hurt _____ while trying to lift a heavy box.
12. You should stop talking to _____ because people might think there is something wrong with you.
13. Cats are very tidy. They always clean _____.
14. You have to believe in _____ to succeed in anything you do.
15. She is such a show off! She is always talking about _____.