Grammar Workshop

Pronoun Case:  
*I* or *Me*?

Pronoun Case

. . . depends on how the pronoun is used in the sentence
- possessive
- subjective
- objective

Possessive Case Pronouns

These are easy to identify because they show ownership:
- *My* dog is Rover.
- Leslie lost *her* ribbon.
- The disk was left out of *its* case.
- The boys left *their* books in the library.
- Myron said the backpack is *his*.
- The pen is *mine*.

Subjective Case Pronouns

Some pronouns function as a subject or subject complement.

(A subject complement follows a linking verb.)

For example ...

Subject Case: Examples

- *She* and Sylvia shared the award.  
  ("She" functions as the subject.)

- The winners were Jeff and *I*.  
  ("I" functions as the subject complement—because it follows the linking verb *were.*)

Subjective Case Pronouns

- *I*
- *We*
- *You*
- *He*
- *She*
- *It*
- *They*
Objective Case Pronouns
Some pronouns function as objects:
- Direct object
- Indirect object
- Object of preposition

For example ...

Objective Case Examples
- Bruce found Tony and brought him to the party. (direct object)
- Alice gave me a surprise party. (indirect object)
- If you see Ann, please give this note to her. (object of preposition)

Objective Case Pronouns
Me
You
Him
Her
It
Us
Them

Compound Word Groups
- Rita and she?
- Rita and her?
  Which one?
  The Trick: When a pronoun appears as part of a compound word group, mentally strip away all the words in the group except the pronoun.

Compound Word Groups
(She/her) and Rita went to the movie.
Explanation: She and Rita – subject of the sentence – subjective case pronoun
(The trick: She went to the movie.
  Her went to the movie. Ouch!)

Compound Word Groups
Mother baked a pie for John and (I/me).
Explanation: John and me – object of the preposition for – objective case pronoun
(The trick: Mother baked a pie for me.
  Mother baked a pie for I. Ouch!)
Appositives

Appositives are words that rename nouns or pronouns.

- **We** students like this class.
- The teacher is stern but fair with **us** students.

Pronouns with *than* or *as*

Sometimes verbs are omitted in comparisons that use *than* or *as*. To choose the correct pronoun, mentally fill in the verb.

- Harold weighs more than **I** [weigh].
- Sue’s brother is as tall as **she** [is].

Which Pronoun Do I Use?

- Learn “subjective” and “objective” case pronouns.
- Analyze the sentence to see how the pronoun functions in the sentence to know which case you should use.