

PRONOUN TYPES

I. Subject v. Object Pronouns

- A. With compound structures: try each PN by itself in the sentence.
Ex. Marge and she / her gave the car an oil change.
Give more spaghetti to Hal and she / her.
- B. After forms of the verb *to be*: ALWAYS use a SUBJECT PN.
Ex. It was I who telephoned.
It may have been they at the door.
- C. In comparisons using *than* or *as*: supply the missing words to decide.
Ex. You read faster than I.
Our boss paid Monica more than me.

II. Relative Pronouns

- A. *Whose* = possessive; *who's* = contraction
Ex. Do you know whose umbrella this is?
Do you know who's coming to the party tonight?
- B. **The Great Who/Whom Debate** *who* = subj PN; *whom* = obj PN
In questions: Replace the who/whom with another PN to decide.
Ex. Whom did you visit? (I visited *him/her*.)
Who do you think wrote the story? (I think *she* wrote the story.)

In dependent clauses: Is the PN a subject or object *in the clause*?
Ex. I don't know who sideswiped my car.
The suspect whom the police arrested finally confessed.

- C. Use *that*, *which*, and *who/whom* correctly.
1. *who*: refers to people vs. *that, which*: refer to things
Ex. The poet who read at Border's is a professor in this department.
 2. *that*: used in clauses w/o commas vs. *which*: used w/ commas
Ex. The book that I lost was my favorite.
White Noise, which I lost last week, was my favorite book.

III. Possessive Pronouns—**NEVER TAKE AN APOSTROPHE!!**

Avoid the stupid mistake to end all stupid mistakes: the *its* / *it's* mistake.