

Basic grammar rules: personal pronouns (me, you, him...)

In this course we will see the personal pronoun in English (subjects and complements).

1/ Subject personal pronouns (or subject pronouns)

They are used to replace a name. Practical if you don't want to repeat it over and over again...

- **I**
- **you**
- **he / she / it**
- **we**
- **you**
- **they**

Examples:

- **I** like coffee.
- **He** is a doctor.
- **She** is clever.
- **It** doesn't work.
- **We** go to school.
- Paul went to the cinema. **He** watched the new Star Wars. Then, **he** went to the restaurant. => The subject pronoun "*He*" therefore avoids putting "*Paul*" in each sentence.

⚠ **'I'** is always written in capital letters!

⚠ **'it'** is neutral and refers to objects or animals. However, sometimes we can use 'he' or 'she' to talk about a domestic animal, a boat, a motorcycle... a thing or an animal that we are close to and that we can consider as a girl or a boy.

⚠ **'it'** is also used to make a comment, or to talk about time, temperature, time or distance:

Examples:

- **It's** raining.
- **It's** difficult to find a job.
It is important to dress well.
- **It** will probably be cold tomorrow.
- Is **it** eight o'clock yet?
- **It's** 50 kilometres from here to London.

⚠ We use 'we' to talk about 'us':

- **We** like soccer.

2/ Complementary personal pronouns (or complementary pronouns)

- **me**
- **you**
- **him**
- **her**
- **it**
- **us**
- **you**
- **them**

Examples:

- It's **me**, Mario !
- I told **you** !
- Give **her** a beer
- Who is it ? That's **us** !
- The teacher always give **them** homework.
- Where's the phone ? It's next to **him**.
- She's writing a letter to **you**.
- Here's your present. Open **it**!
- John helped **me**.

⚠ Always put the personal pronoun complement behind the verb.

⚠ **'I'** or **'Me'** ?

- **Tom and I** are going to Paris in August => Why not '*Tom and me*' ? Because 'I' is part of the subject of the sentence.
- **They gave the job to me**. => Why not '*I*' ? Because 'me' is the object of the sentence.