



## ENGLISH REVISION AID (10)

### Personal Pronouns

A **noun** is another name for a place or thing, for example: a chair, Rita, telephone Big Ben.

We use **personal pronouns** to replace nouns which are people or things.

**Personal pronouns for people:** I, me, my, you, yours, he, him, his, she, her, hers, we, us, ours, they, them, theirs

**Personal pronouns for things:** it, they, them

These personal pronouns are useful when writing as it means you can use them to talk about things in more detail without repeating words you have already used.

*When Sally wants a cup of tea, Sally puts the kettle on.*

To make the sentence sound better, it should really be written as

*When Sally wants a cup of tea, **she** puts the kettle on.*

The word 'she' has replaced the word 'Sally' in the sentence, making it more interesting to read.

Personal pronouns can be divided into groups:

- **Subject Pronouns:** the 'who' or 'what' the sentence is about.

I, you, he, she, it, we, they

Eg: ***I*** (*subject*) **ate the cake**

- **Object Pronouns:** the 'who' or 'what' the verb was directed at

Me, you, him, her, it, us them

Eg: **the ball** hit ***me*** (*object*)

In the sentence *Sally put the kettle on* 'Sally' is the subject and is doing the action (putting on) 'the kettle' is the object, or the thing the action is done to – it is the thing which she puts on.

You could repeat this sentence by saying *she put it on*.

- **Possessive pronouns** show us that something belongs to someone:

This pencil is *yours* → *your* pencil

The cat sat on *my* mat → the mat is *mine*

### **Common mistakes:**

- When *that* is used for *who*: 'It was her, not me *that* spilt it' (wrong)
- Using *me* instead of *I*: 'It's you and *me* who lose' (wrong)
- Thinking 'everyone' is a plural: 'Everyone must pay *their* fair share' (wrong)