

***I, Me, Mine, Who, Whom, Whose,
He, She, Him, Her, his, hers***

This exercise sheet is concerned with case. Remember that nouns and pronouns are declined in one of three cases: subject (also called the subjective or nominative), object (also called objective), and possessive. Nouns have case, although they seldom display it unless in the possessive. Pronouns retain a measure of complexity in their declensions.

When pronouns serve as subjects or predicate nouns (which are grammatically equivalent to subjects), formal rule-based grammar demands that they be in the subject case.

When pronouns serve as direct objects, indirect objects, object complements, or objects of prepositions, they *must* be in the object case.

Use the appropriate case and number of the 3rd person personal pronoun (he, she, it).

- 1) One day a paintbrush appeared (on my living room floor). _____ was lying (with Orange's wiffle balls).
- 2) Strange, I thought. I wonder [how _____ got there].
- 3) Later that day, Abby was sitting (in the sun). _____ was stretched luxuriantly next (to the brush).
- 4) Good (for _____), I thought, _____ has been hunting.
- 5) The following morning the brush appeared upstairs. _____ was bringing a fresh kill (with _____).

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*Fill in the blanks, using the appropriate case of **Who/Whom** and other pronouns. I have bracketed relative clauses.*

- 6) I heard a mewling noise from [_____ I did not know].
- 7) Stooping I saw a kitten [_____ was temporarily blinded].
- 8) He was guarded by another more fierce kitten [_____ seemed willing to attack a large creature like **I/me**].
- 9) The male kitten, [_____ was cured of his parasitic condition and regained sight], was named Delancy.
- 10) His sister, [to _____ he owed his life for {**she/her** had fed **he/him** as well as protected him}], we named Cherry. *Identify the function of “for.” What type of clause is placed within curled brackets?*

Underline and identify all objects and complements in the following sentences (DO, IO, OC, PN, PA). There may be none. For this exercise, don't identify objects of prepositions.

- 11) Mr. Gray is dead now.
- 12) But for a bit over five years he was a hero among cats.
- 13) I didn't know him until late in his life.
- 14) I tossed Mr. Gray playtoys.
- 15) With superior disdain, he ignored my friendly gestures.

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- 16) At night he would sleep on my chest. I could not move.
- 17) One night I moved accidentally, and Gray slapped my cheek hard.
- 18) The noise woke the other cats. I didn't move further.
- 19) Gray had the most expressive eyes.
- 20) They were unfathomable pools of liquid wisdom.
- 21) He is mourned to this day.

In the following sentences underline the complete subject once and the complete predicate twice.

- 22) That big old Mug Mug is king of the entire herd.
- 23) The gentle giant often takes their grooming upon himself.
- 24) Across the floor ran snarl-lipped Harold.
- 25) Don't they know about the mice in the cupboards?
- 26) Slowly, but with increasing force, the cats began pushing through the screen.

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Underline the simple subject with a single line, the simple verb with a double line. Supply you where necessary.

27) We cooked a five-course meal for those cats.

28) The distance from the food supply added to their hunger.

29) A dog of that size has no chance against Alley.

30) Wear your collar today.

31) Please come right home after the hunt.

32) Dennis, Dudley, and Roxanne are a family.

33) Pike, Harry, Clyde, and Angus stalk, walk, and meow similarly.

34) Most of the dogcatchers have criticized and condemned our cats.

35) Have you seen or heard anything about the fight?

36) Mr. Gray, fatigued with indignation in the heat of feeding, looked silently at Cecelia.

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Identify the objects and complements in each sentence by writing DO, IO, OC, PA or PN above the appropriate word. There may be none. For this exercise, don't identify objects of prepositions.

37) The catnip is a very important ingredient in this dish.

38) Pike roared a challenge at the intruders.

39) Divide the tuna evenly.

40) Clyde should certainly wake before noon.

41) Dudley and his mother were sitting in the parlor.

42) The summer continued hot and dry.

43) This condition increased the danger of lost tempers.

45) Don't tell anyone the truth about Dennis.

46) There was just one cat in the room.

47) After all that screeching, nothing happened.