More on Pronouns

Relative Pronouns

2 categories: *definite* relative pronouns and *indefinite* relative pronouns.

The definite relative pronouns are *who*, *which*, and *that*. *Whom* is the objective case form of *who*; *whose* is the possessive case. Definite relative pronouns are part of adjectival relative clauses.

The parking garage [that had not been built] was needed.

The campus, [which was inundated with cars], called itself green.

The drivers [who were late for class] drove around the lots like hunters following game.

The lonely kitten [whom the cat herd had shunned] sat by the dumpster.

The choice of *who* or *whom* depends on its construction *within* the relative clause.

The man *whom you accused* is not guilty.

The grammarian *to whom I spoke* was very helpful.

Compare:

whom you accused
who accused you
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*Whose*, the possessive form of *who*, is commonly used as an adjective.

The woman *whose house I rented* is my cousin. (Whose mod. house)

**Definite vs. Indefinite Relative Pronouns**

Definite relative pronouns have antecedents in the main clause and are adjectival. When used without antecedents, relative pronouns are called *indefinite*. They function as nouns.

The common indefinite relative pronouns include: *who (whom, whose), which, what, whoever (whomever), whatever.*

I can guess [whom you’re referring to.]
I know [whose it was]
[What I think] doesn’t seem to matter.
[Whoever comes] will be welcome
He does [whatever he likes.]
Interrogative Pronouns

The forms *who (whom)*, *which*, and *what* may introduce questions. When they do, they are interrogative pronouns.

- *Who* told you that story?
- *Whom* has he selected?
- *Which* do you prefer?
- *What* is the price of beans?
- I want to know *who* told you that lie.

Notice:

- *Who* did you take to the party? (colloquial)
- *Whom* did you take to the party? (formal)
Demonstrative Pronouns

The demonstrative pronouns are *this, that, these, those*—usually defined as pronouns which point out something.

*This* is the answer.
*Those* were the days.
*That* was too much.

Notice the similarities and differences between demonstrative pronouns and demonstrative adjectives.

*This* is my book. Are *those* the pictures? (pronouns)
*This* book is mine. Did you take *those* pictures? (adjectives)

Indefinite Pronouns

These are the pronouns that cause some agreement trouble.

Singular: anybody, anyone, anything, everybody, everyone, everything, somebody, someone, something, another, each, either, neither, nobody, nothing, none, one.

Plural: all, any, both, enough, few, more, none, plenty, several, some.
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Homework

• Simple sentence = independent clause
• compound sentence = two or more independent clauses
• complex sentence = independent clause and dependent clause
• compound-complex sentence = at least two independent clauses and at least one dependent clause

Please compose and bring to class the two sentences that fit the following requirements.

1) A compound sentence that uses PA in one clause and a PN in the other clause
2) A complex sentence that makes use of DO and OC in both clauses
3) A compound-complex sentence that uses IO and DO in one clause and DO and OC in another clause
4) A sentence that makes use of at least 5 prepositional phrases
5) A sentence that has at least one adjectival prepositional phrase and one adverbial prepositional phrase