

Grammar Explanation

Making pronouns and nouns agree

- Make sure to use plural pronouns to refer to plural nouns and singular pronouns to refer to singular nouns.
 - Example: *The people in the room all raised **their** hands; the vote was unanimous.*
- Demonstrative pronouns such as *this*, *that*, *these* and *those* must agree in number with the nouns they refer to or precede.
 - Example: *Crime is not a new phenomenon. **It** has always existed.*
 - Example: ***This** book is more expensive than **those** books.*
- Make sure to use singular pronouns when referring to indefinite pronouns such as *everyone* and when referring to nouns preceded by *each* or *every*.
 - Example: ***Every** criminal is responsible for **his** or **her** behavior.*
 - Example: ***Everyone** should mind **his** or **her** own business.*
- Be consistent in your use of pronouns.
 - Example: ***You** must remember to send in **your** taxes on time.*
 - Example: *The Smiths are very responsible; **they** always pay **their** taxes early.*

Excerpted from: Nouns and Articles: Exercise 3