All **pronouns** have **antecedents**. Pronouns and antecedents must **agree** for your sentences to be clear and make sense.

- A **pronoun** is a word used in place of a noun. *He, she, they, we,* and *it* are some common pronouns.

- An **antecedent** is the noun or name to which a pronoun refers. For example, in the sentence “*After Esther packed, she put her suitcase by the door,*” the pronoun “*she*” refers to the antecedent “*Esther.*”

There are three main ways to make sure your pronouns and antecedents agree.

- Make sure you use the correct **gender** of pronoun for your antecedent. For example, if you’re writing about a woman named Esther, refer to Esther as *she* when the pronoun is the subject and *her* when the pronoun is the object. Do not refer to Esther as *he, him,* or *it.*

- Make sure you use the correct **singular** or **plural** pronoun for your subject. Do not refer to Esther as *they* or *them.* As another example, do not refer to the members of a school’s football team as *he, him, she,* or *her.*

- Make sure that there are no other nouns with which your pronoun agrees in between your pronoun and antecedent. For example, if you write a sentence about Melissa and Janet going to the mall, where Melissa buys a dress, the sentence “*Melissa took Janet to the mall, where she bought a dress*” would be incorrect. The pronoun “*she*” refers to Janet, because Janet was the last singular female noun before the “*she.*”
Mark the pronoun errors and correct the sentences below.

1. I bumped into Joe when I went to the store. She was buying dog food.
   Corrected sentence:
   _______________________________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________

2. Last night, I got sprayed by a skunk, because they felt threatened by me.
   Corrected sentence:
   _______________________________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________

3. After Mary went out with Joanna last night, she lost her car keys. (Mary is the one
   who lost her keys.)
   Corrected sentence:
   _______________________________________________________________________
   _______________________________________________________________________

Your instructor or tutor has indicated pronoun problems in some of your sentences.
Write down three of the sentences below and correct them.

Sentence:
_______________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________
Correction:
_______________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________

Sentence:
_______________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________
Correction:
_______________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________

Sentence:
_______________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________
Correction:
_______________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________