#### **Unit 50: PERSONAL PRONOUNS**

We can use a personal pronoun instead of a noun phrase (Unit 45) when we can already understand who or what.

#### 1 Form

SUBJECT	OBJECT	GENITIVE		REFLEXIVE
I	me	my	mine	myself
You	you	your	yours	yourself
Не	him	his	his	himself
She	her	her	hers	herself
It	it	its		itself
We	us	our	ours	ourselves
You	you	your	yours	yourselves
They	them	their	theirs	themselves

### 2 Subject pronouns

When the pronoun is the subject of the sentence (Unit 1) or the subject of a clause.

Maria read for a few minutes. Then she went to sleep.

John said that **he** had to go.

Maria had done the test before so it was easy for her.

**These houses** are very old. **They** were built 200 years ago.

# 3 Reflexive pronouns

**a** When the noun after the verb is the same as the subject.

Maria looked at herself in the mirror.

**John** has hurt **himself.** = John hurt John.

Enjoy **yourselves** on holiday! (The subject is **you.**)

**b** To point strongly to the subject.

I made it **myself.** (Nobody made it for me.)

NOTICE: He lives by himself. = He lives alone.

### 4 Genitive pronouns

When we are talking about who things belong to.

**a** With a noun I've lost my book.

Is that **your** car?

**John** has changed **his** mind.

John and Maria are visiting their uncle.

**b** Without a noun This is Maria's book. Where's **mine**?

**Maria** is talking to an old friend of **hers**.

That's my car. **Yours** is over there.

NOTICE: She's cut her finger. NOT she's cut the finger

# 5 Object pronouns

When we cannot use any of the other pronouns.

Maria had to go because John was waiting for her.

Maria had done **the test** before so she found **it** easy.

**The students** sat with the exam paper in front of **them**.

Could you help **us** please?

Who's that? It's me.

# 6 Special uses of pronouns

**a** it for the weather **It**'s very hot. **It** was raining.

for the time It's half past two. It was very early.

for distance

It's two kilometres to the centre.

for identifying people Who's that at the door? **It**'s me.

b you for <u>anyone</u> or <u>everyone</u> (usually in speaking)

The buses here are so full that **you** often have to stand.

You mustn't smoke in a non-smoking area.

**c** they for a group of people who you do not know personally

They say it's going to be a good summer.

**They**'re putting up the price of gasoline.

with a singular meaning (because we don't know if we are talking about **him** or **her**)

If anyone has finished, they can go.

Someone hasn't eaten **their** food.