

PRONOUNS

A pronoun is a word that takes the place of a noun. English has specific words that only act as pronouns: "he", "she", "it", "they", etc. For male persons or animals, masculine pronouns are used; for female persons or animals, feminine pronouns are used; for anything else, neuter pronouns are used.

In Latin, the demonstrative adjectives may be used as pronouns if used substantively (standing alone without a noun). *is, ea, id* is generally the most commonly used pronoun, but all the others may be used this way to emphasize different aspects of the noun indicated.

Consider the following chart:

Pronouns

regular	nearby	distant
<i>is, ea id</i>	<i>hic, haec, hoc</i>	<i>ille, illa, illud</i>

In Latin, all masculine persons are indicated with a masculine pronoun, and all feminine persons are indicated with a feminine pronoun, just as in English. The default pronoun for anything else is neuter. However, once a name has been given to a thing, the pronoun must match the gender of the name.

Consider the following examples:

Id *malum est.* ("It is bad.")

Ecce caseus! ***Is*** *malus est.* ("Look at the cheese! It is bad.")

Aqua ***eius*** *vitam non dat.* ("Its water does not give life.")

Huic *malum dat;* ***illi*** *bonum.* ("He gives something bad to him [close by]; he gives something good to him [far away].")