



Lesson 6

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Chapter 11: First & Second Person Pronouns

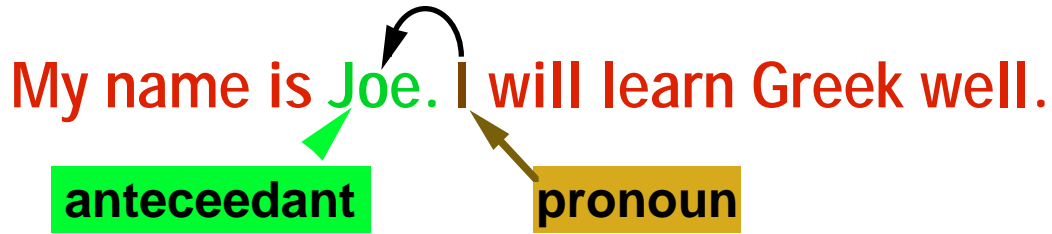
English Background for Pronouns

Let's try an example that will take you "way back"—back to first grade! (If you learned to read in kindergarten with a particular curriculum, we might try to build an example with "The pig sat in the mud," but not all of you can relate to that special sentence!)

What is the pronoun in the following sentence? (Hint, Sally, **it** is red! :)

- "Look, Sally. Look, look, look! Look at **the fire truck. It** is red."

An **antecedent** is the word (or phrase or concept) to which the pronoun refers: **the fire truck** in the previous sentence, *Joe* in the following one.



English pronouns may be described grammatically according to **person, gender, number,** and **case.**

◆ **Person**

- **First person:** *I* (singular); *we* (plural)
- **Second person:** *you* (sing. or pl.)
- **Third person:** *he, she, it* (sing.); *they* (pl.)

◆ **Case**

- Which pronoun is correct in each of the following sentences?

✓ I will learn Greek.
(or) Me will learn Greek.

✓ Joe will teach I.
(or) Joe will teach me.

✓ Him will teach he.
(or) He will teach him.

- The difference, though you may not know the technical terminology from English, is one of **case**. **I** and **he** are subjective case in English (= nominative in Greek), **me** and **him** are objective case (= accusative).

◆ Gender:

He will teach Joe. **She** will teach Joe.

- In English, there is no difference in form/spelling in 1st & 2d person pronouns to distinguish gender (*I* and *you*); only in 3d person (**he** versus **she** or **it**).

All these forms are essentially the same word! = the personal pronoun.

The English pronoun uses different forms depending on the person and number.

- ◆ The **case** of a pronoun is determined by its **function** in the sentence.
 - If it is functioning as the **subject**, it will be in the **nominative case**.
 - If it is functioning as the **direct object**, it will be in the **accusative case**.
- ◆ **Person** and **number** of a pronoun are determined by the **antecedent**.

Greek

Greek pronouns function almost identically to English pronouns.

One difference is that Greek has 4 cases instead of just 2.

1st person • Singular

N	ἐγώ		I
G	μου	ἐμοῦ	my
D	μοι	ἐμοί	(to) me
A	με	ἐμέ	me

2d person • Singular

N	σύ		you
G	σου	σοῦ	your
D	σοι	σοί	(to) you
A	σε	σέ	you

Plural

ἡμεῖς	we
ἡμῶν	our
ἡμῖν	(to) us
ἡμᾶς	us

Plural

ὕμεῖς	you
ὕμῶν	your
ὕμῖν	(to) you
ὕμᾶς	you

* **Accented** or **lengthened forms** = **emphatic forms**; unaccented forms are unemphatic.
(Most NT forms are unemphatic—if they weren't, they would no longer be emphatic!)

◆ General syntactical pattern: the genitive pronoun **usually follows** the word it modifies:

Mark 1:2, Καθὼς γέγραπται (it is written) ἐν τῷ Ἡσαΐα τῷ προφήτῃ· ἰδοὺ ἀποστέλλω (I will send) τὸν ἄγγελόν < μου πρὸ προσώπου < σου, ὃς κατασκευάσει (will prepare) τὴν ὁδόν < σου·

◆ But it may sometimes **preceed:**

Mark 2:5, καὶ ἰδὼν (when he saw) ὁ Ἰησοῦς τὴν πίστιν αὐτῶν λέγει (he said) τῷ παραλυτικῷ τέκνον, ἀφίενταί (are forgiven) σου > αἱ ἁμαρτίαι.

After studying this introduction and the material in the textbook, do the translation exercises in the workbook, pp. 41–47.