Subject Pronouns

1. Focus

Explain Subject Pronouns

Say: All sentences have a subject, or what the sentence is about. Subjects are nouns. But if an author uses the same subject noun over and over, the text doesn’t sound right. So authors replace the subject with a pronoun. Subject pronouns are I, it, he, she, they, we, and you. Write subject pronouns on chart paper and hang it in the room.

Model Using Subject Pronouns

Display the modeling text on chart paper or using the interactive whiteboard resources and read them aloud to students.

Juliet is an English setter. Juliet She is blond with orange spots all over. Juliet She has the floppiest ears ever!

Modeling Text

Say: Hmmm. My sentences all started with the name Juliet. I used Juliet three times. I wonder if there is another way to say Juliet. I should probably keep the first Juliet, but I think I can replace the second and third Juliet with the pronoun she. Draw a line through the second and third Juliet (or erase) and replace with she.

Say: Now I'll read the sentences again. (Read sentences aloud.) That sounds much better. The sentences don’t sound as choppy. They flow from one to the next.

2. Rehearse

Practice Using Subject Pronouns

Display the practice text on chart paper or use the interactive whiteboard resources.

Ask students to form pairs. Invite pairs to revise the practice sentences to include subject pronouns. (Students do not need to copy sentences.)

If your class includes English learners or other students who need support, use “Strategies to Support ELs.”

Objectives

In this mini-lesson, students will:
• Determine the purpose of subject pronouns.
• Identify subject pronouns in writing.
• Use subject pronouns in writing.

Preparation

Materials Needed
• Interactive whiteboard resources
• Subject Pronouns (BLM 7)

Advance Preparation
If you will not be using the interactive whiteboard resources, copy the modeling and practice texts onto chart paper prior to the mini-lesson.

GRAMMAR AND CONVENTIONS
Share Sentences with Subject Pronouns

1. John jumped off the bed and ran out of the room. ______ was chased by a mouse.
2. My mother and I went to the beach. ______ played in the sand and the water. ______ had a great time.
3. Tammy, Amy, and Carol went to the movies. ______ ate popcorn and candy and watched the movie. Then ______ went to the park.

Practice Text

Invite pairs to share how they used pronouns. Discuss their responses. Ask the following questions:

- What pronoun did you choose?
- Why did you choose that pronoun?
- Could you have chosen a different pronoun?
- What pronoun could you have chosen?

3. Independent Writing and Conferring

Say: Remember to use subject pronouns when you want to repeat the subject of a sentence. To make sure your nouns and pronouns sound correct, read your writing out loud.

You may wish to have students complete BLM 7. Encourage students to pay attention to their use of subject pronouns during independent writing time.

4. Share

Review and provide corrective feedback based on students’ answers to BLM 7. Ask students to share what they learned about subject pronouns.

Strategies to Support ELs

Beginning

Beginning ELs need significant support to understand subject pronouns. Concentrate on common subject pronouns that they will need to use in oral language. Create a two-column chart with the column heads “Subject Nouns” and “Subject Pronouns” and write the nouns and pronouns in the appropriate columns. Use items and students to explain each pronoun.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject Nouns</th>
<th>Subject Pronouns</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>an eraser</td>
<td>it</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a girl</td>
<td>she</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a boy</td>
<td>he</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>two girls</td>
<td>they</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Intermediate and Advanced

Pair students with fluent English speakers to develop sentences. Read the practice sentences with students and make sure they understand them. Point out the subject of each sentence.

All Levels

If you have ELs whose first language is Spanish, share these English/Spanish cognates: pronoun/el pronombre, subject/el sujeto.