

Adjective or Pronoun?

14b. A *pronoun* is a word used in place of one or more nouns or pronouns.

14c. An *adjective* modifies a noun or a pronoun.

Some words may be used either as adjectives or as pronouns. A word may be used as one part of speech in one context and as a different part of speech in another context. Remember that an adjective *modifies* a noun and that a pronoun *takes the place of* a noun or pronoun.

ADJECTIVE I have **another** shoe just like **this** one somewhere in my room. [*Another* modifies the noun *shoe*. *This* modifies the pronoun *one*.]

PRONOUN I have **another** just like **this** somewhere in my room. [The pronoun *another* takes the place of *shoe*. *This* takes the place of the pronoun *one*.]

EXERCISE A Identify each underlined word by writing above it *ADJ* for *adjective* or *PRON* for *pronoun*.

Example 1. Will these ballots be distributed to all of us?

- Several of those subjects are easy for me: Algebra II, Spanish III, and American history.
- Hakim, please explain why both of these formulas are correct.
- I didn't know whether one topic would be more fun to research than the other.
- Whose were those gym clothes left lying in heaps on all of the benches?
- For much of our vacation, Dad had found another route for us to follow.
- May we have a little more time to finish both parts of the application for admissions?
- Neither of us knows which is the more difficult job, gardening or baby-sitting.
- Each runner may pick up a sweatband and a water bottle in either color.
- What did Salma do with each item?
- The nature of this chemical is such that neither combination will be successful.

EXERCISE B In the sentences below, identify the italicized words by underlining the adjectives and circling the pronouns. Then, draw an arrow from each underlined adjective to the word it modifies.

Example 1. Was that the largest pumpkin entered in the fair this year?

- Few* people appreciated how long it took *most* of us to get into costume.
- Renee hoped *some* guests would arrive early, so she could enjoy visiting with each *one*.
- The bricklayers finished *most* of the new wall before *many* businesses were open.
- Once you have decided *which* era you will explore, *whose* is the story you will tell?
- Both* golfers played an outstanding round, *each* scoring in the low 70s.