

intensive and reflexive pronouns worksheet

Intensive and Reflexive Pronouns Worksheet

Understanding pronouns is crucial for mastering the English language. Among the various types of pronouns, intensive and reflexive pronouns play significant roles in sentence construction and meaning. This article will provide an in-depth exploration of intensive and reflexive pronouns, their definitions, uses, and examples, followed by a comprehensive worksheet to reinforce learning.

What Are Pronouns?

Pronouns are words used to replace nouns in a sentence. They help avoid repetition and make sentences easier to understand. There are several types of pronouns, including personal, possessive, demonstrative, interrogative, indefinite, intensive, and reflexive pronouns.

Understanding Intensive and Reflexive Pronouns

Intensive and reflexive pronouns are closely related, but they serve different purposes in a sentence.

Reflexive Pronouns

Reflexive pronouns are used when the subject and the object of a sentence are the same. They indicate that the action of the verb is performed by the subject upon itself. Reflexive pronouns in English are formed by adding “-self” or “-selves” to certain pronouns.

List of Reflexive Pronouns:

1. Myself (I)
2. Yourself (you, singular)
3. Himself (he)
4. Herself (she)
5. Itself (it)
6. Ourselves (we)
7. Yourselves (you, plural)
8. Themselves (they)

Examples of Reflexive Pronouns:

- I taught myself how to play the guitar.
- She prepared herself for the exam.
- They enjoyed themselves at the party.

Intensive Pronouns

Intensive pronouns, on the other hand, are used to emphasize a noun or another pronoun. They do not change the meaning of the sentence if removed. Intensive pronouns share the same forms as reflexive pronouns.

Examples of Intensive Pronouns:

- I myself completed the project.
- The President himself addressed the nation.
- We will do it ourselves.

Key Differences Between Intensive and Reflexive Pronouns

While intensive and reflexive pronouns share the same forms, their functions in a sentence are distinct.

Here are the key differences:

- Function:
 - Reflexive Pronouns: Indicate that the subject performs an action on itself.
 - Intensive Pronouns: Emphasize a noun or another pronoun.
- Necessity:
 - Reflexive Pronouns: Essential for the meaning of the sentence.
 - Intensive Pronouns: Not necessary; the sentence can stand without them.
- Example Comparison:
 - Reflexive: "She made herself a sandwich." (The subject and object are the same.)
 - Intensive: "She herself made the sandwich." (Emphasizes 'she'.)

Creating an Intensive and Reflexive Pronouns Worksheet

Worksheets are an effective way to reinforce the understanding of intensive and reflexive pronouns.

Below is a suggested structure for creating a comprehensive worksheet.

Section 1: Identification

In this section, students will identify whether the pronouns in the sentences are intensive or reflexive.

Instructions: Read the sentences below and underline the pronouns. Then, write "I" for intensive or "R" for reflexive.

1. I bought myself a new book.
2. The cat groomed itself.
3. She herself organized the event.
4. We enjoyed ourselves at the concert.
5. He taught himself how to cook.

Section 2: Fill in the Blanks

This section focuses on filling in the blanks with the correct pronouns.

Instructions: Fill in the blanks with the appropriate reflexive or intensive pronoun from the list below.

List: myself, himself, herself, ourselves, themselves

1. They did the project by _____.
2. I made a cake by _____.
3. The children dressed _____ for the party.
4. She completed the assignment all by _____.
5. The manager assured us that he would handle it _____.

Section 3: Sentence Creation

In this section, students will create their own sentences using intensive and reflexive pronouns.

Instructions: Write two sentences for each pronoun type.

1. Reflexive Pronoun Sentences:

- _____.

- _____.

2. Intensive Pronoun Sentences:

- _____.
- _____.

Section 4: Correct the Sentences

In this section, students will correct sentences that misplace or misuse intensive and reflexive pronouns.

Instructions: Read the sentences below and correct the pronouns if necessary.

1. She gave herself a reward for her hard work.
2. He himself made dinner for everyone.
3. They enjoyed their time by themselves at the zoo.
4. I prepared myself for the meeting.
5. The dog cleaned itself after playing outside.

Importance of Practicing Intensive and Reflexive Pronouns

Practicing intensive and reflexive pronouns is essential for several reasons:

- Clarity in Communication: Understanding the distinction between these pronouns helps in constructing clear and meaningful sentences.
- Enhanced Writing Skills: Using the correct pronouns improves writing quality and allows for more expressive language.
- Grammar Proficiency: Mastery of pronouns is a fundamental aspect of grammar, which is critical for academic success.

Conclusion

Intensive and reflexive pronouns are integral parts of the English language that enhance clarity and emphasis in communication. By understanding their definitions, functions, and differences, learners can significantly improve their writing and speaking skills. The provided worksheet serves as a practical tool for reinforcing the concepts and ensuring mastery of these important pronouns. Regular practice and application will lead to greater confidence and proficiency in using intensive and reflexive pronouns in various contexts.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are intensive pronouns and how are they used in sentences?

Intensive pronouns are used to emphasize a noun or another pronoun in a sentence. They typically end in '-self' or '-selves' (e.g., myself, yourself, themselves) and are used for emphasis without changing the meaning of the sentence.

What are reflexive pronouns and when should they be used?

Reflexive pronouns are used when the subject and object of the sentence are the same person or thing. They also end in '-self' or '-selves' (e.g., myself, yourself, ourselves) and are essential for the meaning of the sentence.

How can I differentiate between intensive and reflexive pronouns in a worksheet?

On a worksheet, you can differentiate them by checking if the pronoun is emphasizing a noun (intensive) or if it is necessary to complete the meaning of the verb (reflexive). Intensive pronouns can be removed without altering the sentence's meaning, while reflexive pronouns cannot.

Can you provide an example of a sentence using both an intensive and a reflexive pronoun?

Sure! 'I myself completed the project by myself.' In this sentence, 'myself' is the intensive pronoun emphasizing 'I,' and the second 'myself' is the reflexive pronoun indicating that I did the project alone.

What activities can be included in an intensive and reflexive pronouns worksheet?

Activities can include fill-in-the-blank exercises, matching intensive and reflexive pronouns to their correct nouns, rewriting sentences to include intensive or reflexive pronouns, and identifying pronouns in given sentences.

Are intensive and reflexive pronouns commonly confused, and how can I avoid this mistake?

Yes, they are often confused. To avoid this mistake, focus on the role the pronoun plays in the sentence: if it adds emphasis, it's intensive; if it serves as the object that refers back to the subject, it's reflexive.

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