

## Personal, Reflexive, and Intensive Pronouns

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

A **personal pronoun** refers to the one speaking (*first person*), the one spoken to (*second person*), or the one spoken about (*third person*). A **reflexive pronoun** refers to the subject of a sentence and functions as a complement or as an object of a preposition. An **intensive pronoun** emphasizes its antecedent.

**PERSONAL** I will let **you** see **my** notes. Did **you** give **him** **yours**?

**REFLEXIVE** My little sister can get dressed by **herself**.

**INTENSIVE** Dr. Minton **himself** will perform the operation.

**EXERCISE** In the sentences below, identify each underlined pronoun by writing above the pronoun *P* for *personal*, *R* for *reflexive*, or *I* for *intensive*.

**Example 1.** The Service Dogs Charity Walk was a success for the dog-training center; a side benefit was how much we enjoyed ourselves.

1. Have you ever participated in one of these benefits yourself?
2. This year our club helped the trainers raise money for their work.
3. Some city officials and business owners donated their time to help us with publicity.
4. The dogs and owners representing the center are themselves the stars at any of its events.
5. One trainer told me that the dogs in her program are often strays from a local shelter—they may even have been recommended by its staff.
6. Her dogs learn to open doors by themselves and to respond to sounds.
7. In addition, she makes sure that they learn to retrieve objects as part of their skills training.
8. She and her staff try to teach the dogs basic skills within the first year, and later they teach specific jobs when dogs are matched with owners.
9. The training itself is expensive, which is why fund-raisers like ours are so important.
10. My friends and I will continue to commit ourselves to helping this organization.