

# Pronouns

Definition: refers to a noun, individual, or thing whose identity is referenced earlier in the text

Example: **She** is allergic to joy.

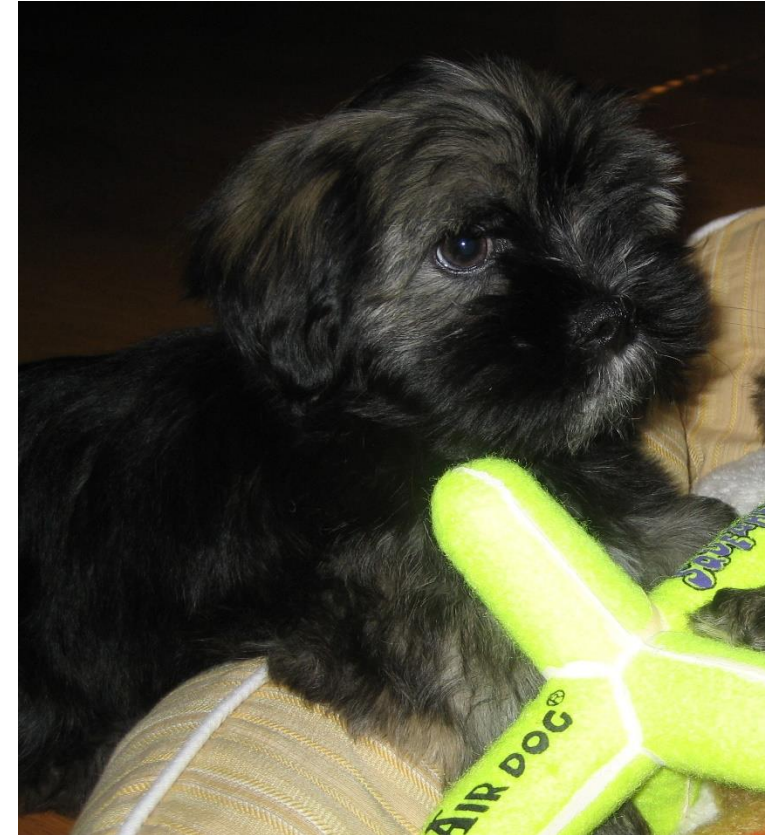
She = Meredith, T-Swift's cat

She is a pronoun



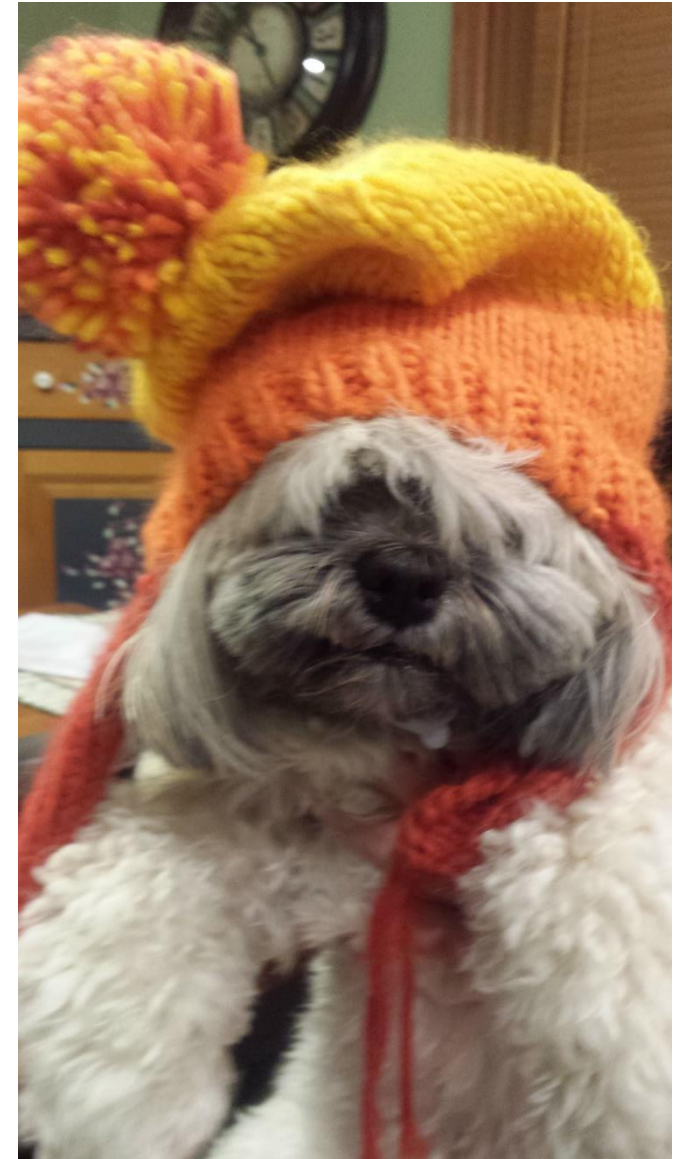
# Definition

- Stands for or refers to a noun (called the pronoun's antecedent)
- If it represents an antecedent, the antecedent needs to be referenced earlier
- Used to prevent repetition and make writing more concise
- Pronoun needs to agree with its antecedent
  - If an antecedent is singular, the pronoun needs to be singular
  - If an antecedent is plural, the pronoun needs to be plural
  - Example: **Indy** likes toys with squeakers, but **he** immediately breaks them.



# Personal Pronoun Definition

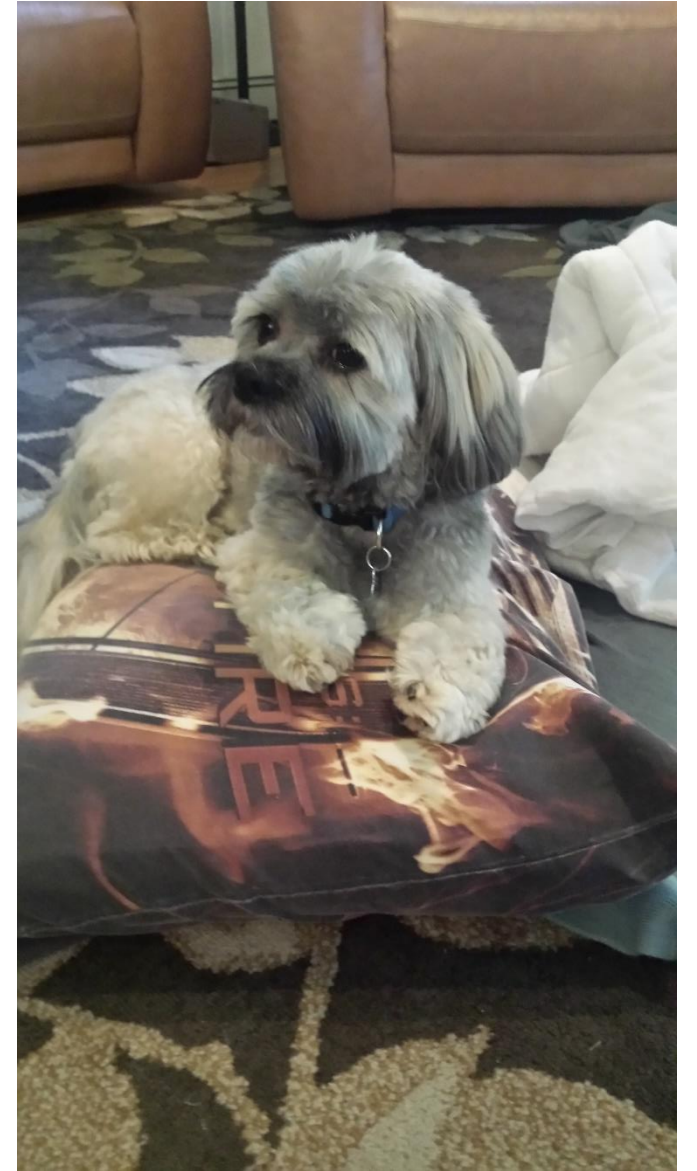
- Pronoun having a definite person or thing as an antecedent and functions grammatically in the same way as the noun that replaces it
- Example: **She** looks adorable in **my** Jayne hat.
- Pronoun designating:
  - The person speaking (I, me, we, us)
  - The person spoken to (you)
  - The person or thing spoken about (he, she, it they, him, her them)





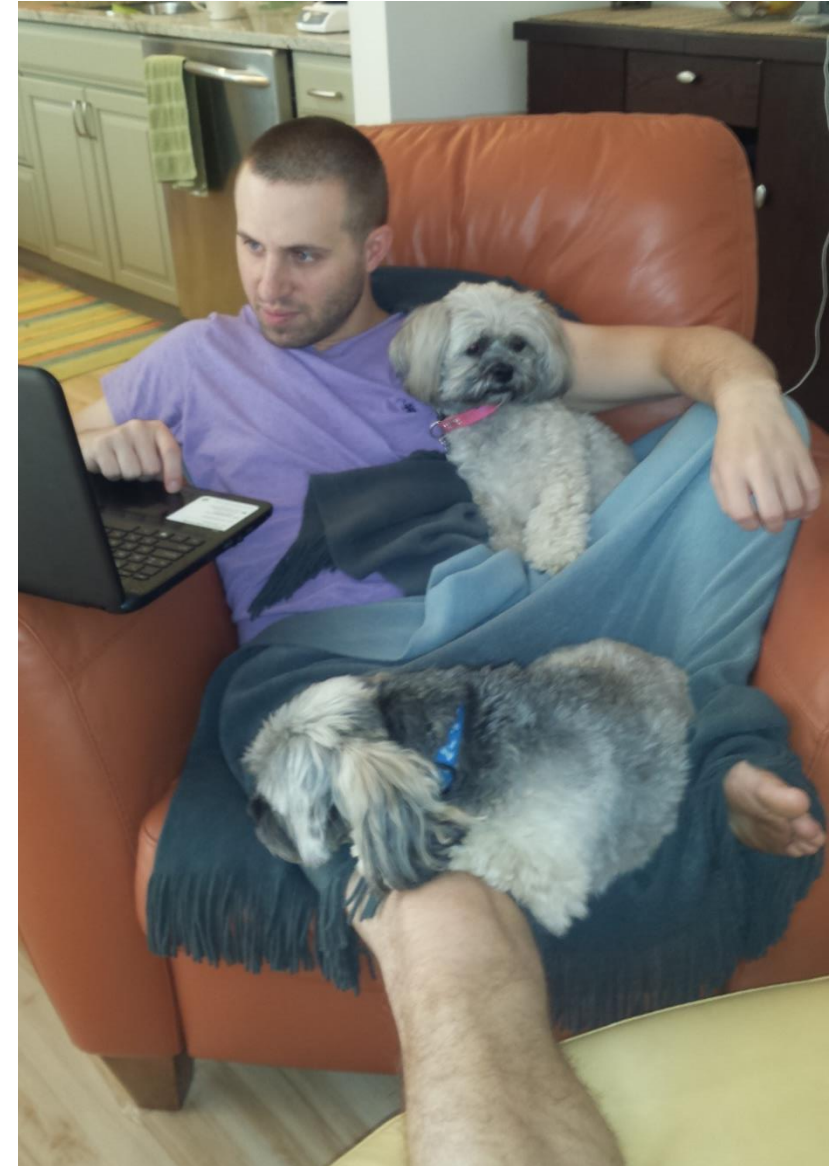
# Personal Pronoun Types

- Personal pronouns change their form depending on person, number, or gender
- 1<sup>st</sup> Person: the person who is talking
  - I, me, we, us, ours
  - I leave **my** pillow out for Indy.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Person: the person being talked to
  - You, yours
  - **You** shouldn't leave **your** pillow on the ground, because Indy will steal it.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> person: the person being talked about
  - He, she, it, they, them, their, theirs
  - **He** loves pillows.



# When to Use Different Personal Pronouns

- number: singular (eg: **I**) or plural (eg: **we**)
- person: 1st person (eg: **I**), 2nd person (eg: **you**) or 3rd person (eg: **he**)
- gender: male (eg: **he**), female (eg: **she**) or neuter (eg: **it**)
- case: subject (eg: **we**) or object (eg: **us**)
- Identify the number, person, gender, and case of the following example:
  - They love hanging out with him.



# Number

- The number of the pronoun refers to whether it is singular or plural
- Singular: I, me, my, mine, you, yours, he, him, his, she, her, hers, it, its
- Plural: we, us, our, ours, you, yours, they, them, their, theirs
- Example: **She** doesn't like walking **them** in the winter.



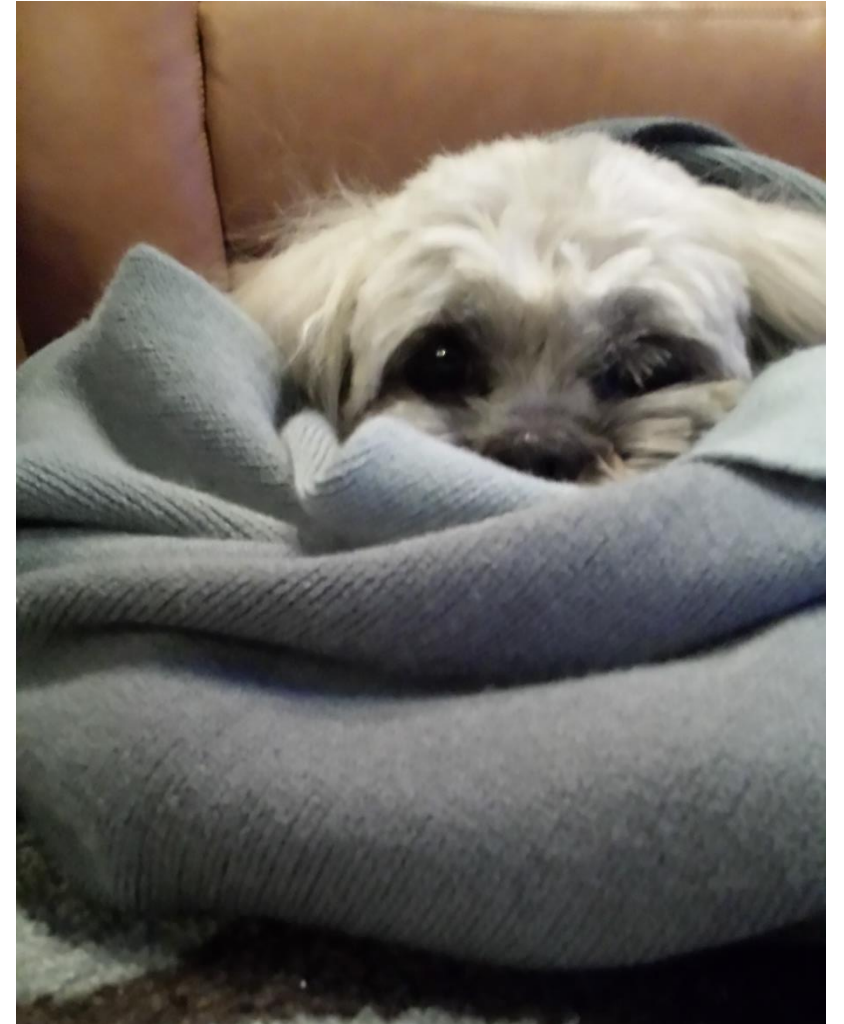
# Single Person (Number) Pronoun Rules

- For a single person, sometimes we don't know whether to use **he** or **she**. There are several solutions to this:
  - If a teacher needs help, **he or she** should see the principal.
  - If a teacher needs help, **he** should see the principal.
  - If a teacher needs help, **she** should see the principal.
  - If teachers need help, they should see the principal.



# Gender Pronouns

- Gender: refers to whether the pronoun refers to a man, woman, or neutral object that is neither male or female
  - Male: he, him, his
  - Female: she, her, hers
  - Neutral: it, its
- She likes to hide in blankets.  
(implies that my dog is a girl)





# Gender Pronoun Rules

- Normally, when we are talking about a single thing, we almost always use **it**.
- We may sometimes refer to an animal as **he/him** or **she/her**, especially if the animal is domesticated or a pet.
- Ships (and some other vessels or vehicles) as well as some countries are often treated as female and referred to as **she/her**.
- Here are some examples:
  - This is our dog Rusty. **He's** an Alsatian.
  - The *Titanic* was a great ship but **she** sank on her first voyage.
  - My first car was a Mini and I treated **her** like my wife.
  - Thailand has now opened **her** border with Cambodia.