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Reflexive and emphatic pronouns

Test it

1 Circle the best option.

- Polly hurt her/herself when she fell off her bike.
- a We lost ourselves/got lost in the forest and couldn't find a way out.
 - b The two men had an argument and then they started to hit each other/themselves.
 - c Let's meet/meet ourselves after work for a drink.
 - d I cut me/myself when I was chopping vegetables.
 - e I got myself up/got up early this morning.
 - f You stole it! You should be ashamed of/ashamed of yourself.
 - g Haven't you got any money on you/yourself?
 - h Alia's only two and she can already dress herself/her.
 - i We saved a lot of money by painting the house/by painting the house ourselves.
 - j I'm glad Parveen and Jamil are getting married. They love themselves/each other very much.

2 Find and correct the mistakes in the sentences.

- We gave ourselves the same present at Diwali. *each other*
- a Rashee was standing next to me.
 - b After work, I like to relax myself at home.
 - c It must be true. She told me her.
 - d I'm not worried about Jinia going alone. She can look after.
 - e The Olympic champion himself will be swimming in the 200 metres.
 - f Brinda and her boyfriend decided to get engaged.
 - g When the thief started to run away, the police officer shot himself.
 - h Once they were friends, but now each other don't like.
 - i Sanjeev burnt himself while he was cooking.
 - j Who did your homework for you? No one. I did it myself.

GO to page 28 and check your answers.

Test it again

1 Solve the clues to complete the crossword.

Across

- 1 Vikranth has bought a new house.
- 3 Why don't we repair the car ?
- 6 The first lady was at the show.
- 8 His parents divorced last year.
- 9 They congratulated each
- 10 The kids behaved very well.
- 11 The heating turns on at night.

1	h	i	2	m	s	e	l	f
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11

Down

- 2 I enjoyed last night.
- 3 We see other every day.
- 4 Look at ! You're both filthy.
- 7 Ask this question: do you feel lucky?

2 Complete the sentences. Use reflexive pronouns or each other.

Einstein *himself* would have found the maths test hard.

- a The two generals were enemies. They hated
- b 'Did Saisha have any help with the painting?' 'No, she did it
- c I made a terrible mistake. I was very angry with
- d The girls were very vain. They looked at in the mirror all the time.
- e One rider fell off his horse and injured



Fix it

Answers to Test it

Check your answers. Wrong answer?

Read the right Fix it note to find out why.

- 1**
- herself → **A**
 - a got lost → **F**
 - b each other → **G**
 - c meet → **C**
 - d myself → **A**
 - e got up → **C**
 - f ashamed of yourself → **D**
 - g you → **E**
 - h herself → **A**
 - i by painting the house ourselves → **B**
 - j each other → **G**
- 2**
- ourselves each other → **G**
 - a correct → **E**
 - b relax myself relax → **C**
 - c her herself → **B**
 - d look after look after herself → **D**
 - e correct → **B**
 - f correct → **F**
 - g himself him → **A**
 - h each other they don't like don't like each other → **G**
 - i correct → **A**
 - j correct → **B**

Now go to page 27. Test yourself again.

Answers to Test it again

- 1**
- | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| | | | 1 | h | i | 2 | m | s | e | l | f | | | |
| 3 | e | | 4 | y | | | | | y | | | | | |
| | a | | 5 | o | u | r | s | e | l | v | e | s | | |
| | c | | | u | | | | | e | | | | | |
| 6 | h | e | r | s | e | l | f | | | 7 | y | | | |
| | | | | s | | | f | | 8 | g | o | t | | |
| | | | | e | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | l | | | 9 | o | t | h | e | r | | |
| | | | | v | | | | | | | | s | | |
| 10 | t | h | e | m | s | e | l | v | e | s | | | | |
| | | | | s | | | | | | | | l | | |
| | | | | | | | 11 | i | t | s | e | l | f | |
- 2**
- a each other
 - b herself
 - c myself
 - d themselves
 - e himself



Fix it notes

- A** Use a reflexive pronoun if the subject and object of the verb are the same.
- B** Use reflexive pronouns for emphasis: that person, nobody else. Or when someone does something without help.
- C** Verbs that are reflexive in some languages may not be reflexive in English.
- D** Use reflexive pronouns with some verbs + prepositions, e.g. *look at*, or phrasal verbs, e.g. *look after*, and after adjective + preposition, e.g. *ashamed of*.
- E** Don't use reflexive pronouns after prepositions of place or position, e.g. *on*, *next to*.
- F** Use get + past participle to make certain verbs reflexive, e.g. *get lost*, *get engaged*, *get divorced*.
- G** Use each other (not *ourselves* or *themselves*) when two or more people do the same thing. Don't use *each other* as the subject of a verb.

For more information, see the Review page opposite.

i Review

Reflexive and emphatic pronouns

Reflexive pronouns: *myself, yourself, etc.*

- You use a reflexive pronoun, e.g. *myself*, not a personal pronoun, e.g. *me*, when the subject and object of a verb are the same person or thing.
I hurt myself in the accident. NOT ~~*I hurt me in the accident.*~~
- You can use reflexive pronouns to emphasize that someone or something can or can't do something without any help.
Jayita found herself a new job.
He's broken his wrist, so he can't wash himself.
- You can also use reflexive pronouns to emphasize someone's importance.
The Prime Minister himself was there.
- You can use reflexive pronouns with some verbs + prepositions, e.g. *believe in*, *look at*, with some phrasal verbs, e.g. *look after*, *take care of*, and with adjective + preposition, e.g. *ashamed of*. Don't use them after prepositions or expressions of place.
You must believe in yourself. *Look at yourself. You're covered in mud!*
My grandfather's ill because he doesn't take care of himself.
NOT ~~*...take care of him.*~~
I'm ashamed of myself for crying when I hurt my finger.
There was a huge man in front of me. NOT ~~*...in front of myself.*~~
- Be careful! Some verbs are reflexive in some languages but not in English, e.g. *complain*, *concentrate*, *get up*, *go to bed*, *remember*, *rest*, *wonder*.
I complained about the delay. NOT ~~*I complained myself about the delay.*~~

Get + past participle

- You can make some verbs reflexive by adding *get* to the past participle.
I quickly got dressed. NOT ~~*I quickly dressed myself.*~~
We got married last year. NOT ~~*We married ourselves last year.*~~
They got up early. NOT ~~*They got up themselves early.*~~

Each other

- You use *each other* when two or more people do the same thing.
We send each other birthday cards. (I send you a card and you send me a card.)
Note that *We send ourselves birthday cards* means 'I send myself a card and you send yourself a card.'
- You use *each other* as the object of a verb, not as the subject of a verb.
They understand each other. NOT ~~*Each other understands them.*~~