



**Remember to watch the video first!** Then read the conversation between Sophie and Hakan, a student she met in Turkey. Sophie's helping Hakan understand how to use personal pronouns and possessives.



**Grammar  
Snacks**

We use personal pronouns (*I, me, he, him, etc.*) to replace names or nouns when it is clear what they refer to. We use possessives (*my, your, her*) when it is not necessary to name the person the thing belongs to.

We use personal pronouns to avoid repeating nouns.

*Mum's calling. **She's** in Turkey.  
How's **Daisy**? Give **her** my love.*



**Hakan**

You used **she** because it's the *subject* and **her** because it's the *object*.



**Sophie**

Very good. Here's the list of all the personal pronouns and possessive adjectives:

Subject pronoun	Object pronoun	Possessive adjective	Possessive pronoun
I	me	my	mine
you	you	your	yours
he	him	his	his
she	her	her	hers
it	it	its	-
we	us	our	ours
they	them	their	theirs



We use pronouns to avoid repetition when it is obvious what we are talking about.

*Is this **your** bike? > No, that one's **mine**. (= my bike)  
Those red gloves are **yours**; the blue ones are **hers**. (= her gloves)*



Can I use two pronouns together?



Yes, for example:

*The man in the shop gave **me them** free.*



So, what do I need to be careful about?

Well, sometimes we use *me* when it might seem logical to use *I*. We also use *it* sometimes to refer to people.

*I love house music > I do too / **Me** too.*

*Who's that? > **Me**. / It's **me**. / It's Fran.*

Sometimes we use *they* instead of *he* or *she*, *them* instead of *him* or *her* and *their* instead of *his* or *hers*.

*When you meet your new teacher, **they** will give you the books.*

*If anyone asks where I am, tell **them** I'm in Istanbul this week.*

*Someone left **their** gloves in the classroom.*



I thought *someone* was singular.

Yes, you're right, but nowadays we avoid using *he* for people in general, and *he or she* is very long, so we use *they* instead, especially when we're speaking.



Can you also say:

*"The English cricket team lost again. **They** were rubbish."?*

Yes. We sometimes use *they* for single nouns which refer to groups of people.



What about animals?

We usually use *it/they* for animals, but when people are talking about their own pets, they use *he* or *she*.

*The dog must be thirsty. Give **him** some water.*



Yes, one thinks that animals are just like people, doesn't one?

Ah, we don't use *one* to mean *everyone* very much. It sounds very old-fashioned and too formal. We use *you* to mean people in general.

**You** can see the sea from the top of that mountain. (*you = people in general*)



But the Queen uses *one*?

That's true. But, I haven't met the Queen and *you* should use *you*!



Watch the video on our website!

