## PARTS OF SPEECH

8. Words are divided into different kinds or classes, called Parts of Speech, according to their use; that is, according to the work they do in a sentence. The parts of speech are eight in number:

1. Noun.
2. Adjective.
3. Pronoun.
4. Verb.
5. Adverb.
6. Preposition.
7. Conjunction.
8. Interjection.

1. A Noun is a word used as the name of a person, place, or thing; as, Akbar was a great King.

Kolkata is on the Hooghly.

The rose smells sweet.

The sun shines bright.

His courage won him honour.

Note: The word thing includes (i) all objects that we can see, hear, taste, touch, or smell; and (ii) something that we can think of, but cannot perceive by the senses.

1. An Adjective is a word used to add something to the meaning of a noun; as, He is a brave boy.

There are twenty boys in this class.

1. A Pronoun is a word used instead of a noun; as,

John is absent, because he is ill.

The book are where you left them

1. A Verb is a word used lo express an action or state; as

The girl wrote a letter to her cousin.

Kolkata is a big city.

Iron and copper are useful metals.

1. An Adverb is a word used to add something to the meaning of a verb, an adjective, or another adverb; as,

He worked the sum quickly.

This flower is very beautiful.

She pronounced the word quite correctly.

1. A Preposition is a word used with a noun or a pronoun to show how the person or thing denoted by the noun or pronoun stands in relation to something else; as,

There is a cow in the garden.

The girl is fond of music.

A fair little girl sat under a tree.

15. A Conjunction is a word used to join words or sentences; as,

Rama and Hari are cousins.

Two and two make four.

I ran fast, but missed the train.

1. An Interjection is a word which expresses some sudden feel ing; as, Hurrah! We have won the game. Alas! She is dead.

1. Some modern grammars include determiners among the parts of speech. Determiners are words like a, an, the, this, that, these, those, every, each, some, any, my, his, one, two, etc., which determine or limit the meaning of the nouns that follow. In this book, as in many traditional grammars, all determiners except a, an and the are classed among adjectives.

1. As words are divided into different classes according to the work they do in sentences, it is clear that we cannot say to which part of speech a word belongs unless we see it used in a sentence.

They arrived soon after. (Adverb)

They arrived after us. (Preposition)

They arrived after we had left. (Conjunction)

From the above examples we see that the same word can be used as different parts of speech.

1. He told us all about the battle.
2. He was only a yard off me.
3. Suddenly one of the wheels came off.
4. Mohammedans fast in the month of Ramzan.
5. He kept the fast for a week.
6. He is on the committee.
7. Let us move on.
8. Sit down and rest a while.
9. I will watch while you sleep.
10. They while away their evenings with books and games.

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## THE NOUN: KINDS OF NOUNS

1. A Noun is a word used as the name of a person, place or thing.

Note: The word thing is used to mean anything that we can think of.

1. Look at the following sentence:

Asoka was a wise king.

The noun Asoka refers to a particular king, but the noun king might be applied to any other king as well as to Asoka. We call Asoka a Proper Noun, and king a Common Noun. Similarly:

Sita is a Proper Noun, while girl is a Common Noun.

Hart is a Proper Noun, while boy is a Common Noun.

Kolkata is a Proper Noun, while city is a Common Noun.

India is a Proper Noun, while country is a Common Noun.

The word girl is a Common Noun, because it is a name common to all girls, while Sita is a Proper Noun because it is the name of a particular girl.

Def. - A Common Noun is a name given in common to every person or thing of the same class or kind.

[Common here means shared by all.]

Def. - A Proper Noun is the name of some particular person or place,

[Proper means one's own. Hence a Proper Name is a person's own name.]

Note 1 - Proper Nouns are always written with a capital letter at the beginning.

Note 2 - Proper Nouns are sometimes used as Common Nouns; as, 1. He was the Lukman (= the wisest man) of his age.

2. Kalidas is often called the Shakespeare (= the greatest dramatist) of India.

21. A Collective Noun is the name of a number (or collection) of persons or things taken together and spoken of as one whole; as,

Crowd, mob, team, flock, herd, army, fleet, jury, family, nation, parliament, committee.

A fleet = a collection of ships or vessels.

An army = a collection of soldiers.

A crowd = a collection of people.

The police dispersed the crowd.

The French army was defeated at Waterloo.

The jury found the prisoner guilty.

A herd of cattle is passing.

1. An Abstract Noun is usually the name of a quality, action, or state considered apart from the object to which it belongs; as.

Quality - Goodness, kindness, whiteness, darkness, hardness, brightness, honesty, wisdom, bravery.

Action - Laughter, theft, movement, judgment, hatred.

State - Childhood, boyhood, youth, slavery, sleep, sickness, death, poverty.

The names of the Arts and Science (e.g., grammar, music, chemistry, etc.) are also Abstract Nouns.

[We can speak of a brave soldier, a strong man, a beautiful flower. But we can also think of these qualities apart from any particular person or thing, and speak of bravery, strength, beauty by themselves. So also we can speak of what persons do or feel apart from the persons themselves, and give it a name. The word abstract means drawn off.]

1. Abstract Nouns are formed:

1. From Adjectives; as,

Kindness from kind; honesty from honest.

[Most abstract nouns are formed thus.]

1. From Verbs: as,

Obedience from obey; growth from grow.

1. From Common Nouns; as,

Childhood from child; slavery from slave.

24. Another classification of nouns is whether they are “countable” or “uncountable”. Countable nouns (or countables) are the names of objects, people, etc. that we can count, e.g., book, pen, apple, boy, sister, doctor, horse.

Uncountable nouns (or uncountables) are the names of things which we cannot count,

e.g., milk, oil, sugar, gold, honesty. They mainly denote substances and abstract things.

Countable nouns have plural forms while uncountable nouns do not. For example, we say “books” but we cannot say “milks”.

1. The crowd was very big.
2. Always speak the truth.
3. We all love honesty.
4. Our class consists of twenty pupils.
5. The elephant has great strength.
6. Solomon was famous for his wisdom.
7. Cleanliness is next to godliness.
8. We saw a fleet of ships in the harbour.
9. The class is studying grammar.
10. The Godavary overflows its banks every year.
11. A committee of five was appointed.
12. Jawaharlal Nehru was the first Prime Minister of India.
13. The soldiers were rewarded for their bravery.

14.Without health there is no happiness.

1. He gave me a bunch of grapes.
2. I recognized your voice at once.
3. Our team is better than theirs.
4. Never tell a lie.
5. Wisdom is better than strength.
6. He sets a high value on his time.
7. I believe in his innocence.
8. This room is thirty feet in length.
9. I often think of the happy days of childhood.
10. The streets of some of our cities are noted for their crookedness.
11. What is your verdict, gentlemen of the jury?

## PERSONAL PRONOUNS

117. We may say-

Hari is absent, because Hari is ill.

But it is better to avoid the repetition of the Noun Hari, and say- Hari is absent, because he is ill.

A word that is thus used instead of a noun is called a Pronoun {Pronoun means for-anoun.]

Def.- A Pronoun is a word used instead of a Noun.

118. Read the following sentences :- I am young.

We are young.

You are young.

They are young.

He (she, it) is young.

I, we, you, he, (she, it), they are called Personal Pronouns because they stand for the three persons.

1. the person speaking. .
2. the person spoken to, and (iii) the person spoken of.

The Pronouns I and we, which denote the person or persons speak-mg, are said to be

Personal Pronouns of the First Person

The Pronoun you, which denotes the person or persons spoken to, is said to be a Personal Pronoun of the Second Person.

You is used both in the singular and plural

The pronouns he (she) and they, which denote the person or persons spoken of, are said to be Personal Pronouns of the Third Person. It, although it denotes the thing spoken of, is also called a Personal Pronoun of the Third Person. [The Personal Pronouns of the Third Person are, strictly speaking, Demonstrative Pronouns.]

## Forms of the Personal Pronouns

119. The following are the different forms of the Personal Pronouns :-

FIRST PERSON (Masculine or Feminine)

SINGULAR -- PLURAL

Nominative -- I -- We

Possessive -- my, mine -- our, ours

Accusative -- me -- us

SECOND PERSON (Masculine or Feminine)

SINGULAR/PLURAL

Nominative -- You

Possessive -- Your, Yours

Accusative -- You

THIRD PERSON

SINGULAR -- PLURAL

Masculine -- Feminine -- Neuter -- All Genders Nominative -- he -- she -- it -- they

Possessive -- his -- her, hers -- its -- their, theirs

Accusative -- him -- her -- it -- them

Note 1.- It will be seen that the Possessive Cases of most of the Personal Pronouns have two forms. Of these the forms my, our, your, her, their, are called Possessive Adjectives because they are used with nouns and do the work of Adjectives; as,

This is my book.

Those are your books. That is her book.

Possessive Adjectives are somethings called Pronominal Adjectives, as they are formed from Pronouns.

Note 2.- The word his is used both as an Adjective and as a Pronoun; as

This is his book. (Possessive Adjective)

This book is his. (Possessive Pronoun)

In the following sentences the words in italics are Possessive Pronouns:- This book is mine.

Those books are yours.

That book is hers.

That idea of yours is excellent.

1. The pronoun of the Third Person has three Genders :-

Masculine -- he

Feminine -- she

Neuter -- it

1. It- The Pronoun it is used- (1) For things without life; as, Here is your book; take it away.

1. For animals, unless we clearly wish to speak of them as male and female; as, He loves his dog and cannot do without it. The horse fell and broke its leg.

1. For a young child, unless we clearly wish to refer to the sex; as, When I saw the child it was crying.

That baby has torn its clothes.

1. To refer to some statement going before; as, He is telling what is not true; as he knows it.

He deserved his punishment; as he knew it.

1. As a provisional and temporary subject before the verb to be when the real subject follows; as,

It is easy to find fault. [To find fault is easy.] It is doubtful whether he will come.

It is certain that you are wrong.

1. To give emphasis to the noun or pronoun following; as, It was you who began the quarrel.

It was I who first protested.

It was at Versailles that the treaty was made.

It is a silly fish that is caught twice with the same bail. It is an ill wind [hat blows nobody good.

1. As an indefinite nominative of an impersonal verb; as, It rains. It snows.

It thunders.

The Pronoun it here seems to stand for no noun whatever, though this can be readily supplied from the verb. Thus, 'It rains' means 'The rain rains.'

It so used is called an Impersonal Pronoun. So also the verb rains is here called an Impersonal Verb.

1. In speaking of the weather or the time; as, It is fine.

It is winter.

It is ten o'clock.

122. Since a Personal Pronoun is used instead of a Noun, it must be of the same number, gender and person as the Noun for which it stands; as,

Rama is a kind boy. He has lent his bicycle lo Govind.

Sita helps her mother in household work. She also does her lesson.

Those beggars are idle. They refuse to work for their living.

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1. When a Pronoun (It will be noted that we use the word 'Pronoun' in § 123-128 without observing the distinction pointed out in § 119 between the forms, my, they, her, our, your, their (which are called Possessive Adjectives) and the forms mine, thine, hers, ours, yours, theirs (which are called Possessive Pronouns)) stands for a Collective Noun, it must be in the Singular Number (and Neuter Gender) if the Collective Noun is viewed as a whole; as,

The army had to suffer terrible privations in its march.

The fleet will reach its destination in a week.

The crew mutinied and murdered its officers.

After a few minutes the jury gave its verdict.

If the Collective Noun conveys the idea of separate individuals comprising the whole, the

Pronoun standing for it must be of the Plural Number; as, The jury were divided in their opinions.

The committee decided the matter without leaving their seats.

1. When two or more Singular Nouns are joined by and, the Pronoun used for them must be Plural; as,

Rama and Had work hard. They are praised by their teacher.

Both Sita and Savitri are tired; they have gone home.

But when two Singular Nouns joined by and refer to the same person or thing, the Pronoun used must of course be Singular; as, The Secretary and Treasurer is negligent of his duty.

1. When two Singular Nouns joined by and are preceded by each or every, the Pronoun must be Singular; as,

Every soldier and every sailor was in his place.

1. When two or more Singular Nouns are joined by or or either...or, neither... nor, the Pronoun is generally Singular; as, Rama or Hari must lend his hand.

Either Sita or Amina forgot to take her parasol.

Neither Abdul nor Karim has done his lesson.

1. When a Plural Noun and a Singular Noun are joined by or or nor, the Pronoun must be in the Plural; as

Either the manager or his assistants failed in their duty.

1. When a pronoun refers to more than one noun or pronoun of different persons, it

must be of the first person plural in preference to the third; as, You and I have done our duty.

You and Hari have idled away your time.

1. Good manners require that we should say-

'You and I' not 'I and you'.

'You and he' not 'he and you'.

'Hari and I' not 'I and Hari'.

'He and F not T and he'.

You and I must work together.

You and he must mend your ways.

Hari and I are old school friends.

He and I can never pull on together.

1. Each of the personal pronouns, I, he, she, we, they, has a different form for the accusative case, namely, me, him, her, us, them. It is a common mistake to use / for me, when the pronoun is connected by a conjunction (and, or) with some other word in the accusative case.

Study the following correct sentences :- The presents are for you and me (Not, I) My uncle asked my brother and me to dinner..

1. Note that but is a preposition in the following sentence:

Nobody will help you but me. (not: I) Take care to use the accusative form after but in such cases.

## REFLEXIVE AND EMPHATIC PRONOUNS

132. When -self is added to my, your, him, her, it, and -selves to our, your, them, we get what are called Compound Personal Pronouns.

They are called Reflexive Pronouns when the action done by the subject turns back

(reflects) upon the subject; as, I hurt myself.

We hurt ourselves.

You will hurt yourself.

You hurt yourselves.

He hurt himself. She hurt herself.

They hurt themselves.

The horse hurt itself.

It will be noticed that each of these Reflexive Pronouns is used as the Object of a verb, and refers to the same person or thing as that denoted by the Subject of the verb.

1. Sometimes, in older English, especially in poetry, a simple pronoun was used reflexively; as;

Now I lay me down to sleep.

1. The word self is sometimes used as a Noun; as, To thine own self be true.

He cares for nothing but self.

He thinks much for self.

### Emphatic Pronouns

135. Now look at the following sentences:- I will do it myself.

I myself saw him do it.

We will see to it ourselves.

You yourself can best explain.

He himself said so.

She herself says so.

It was told so by the teacher himself.

We saw the Prime Minister himself.

The town itself is not very large.

They themselves admitted their guilt.

It will be seen that here Compound Personal Pronouns are used for the sake of emphasis, and are therefore called Emphatic Pronouns.

## DEMONSTRATIVE, INDEFINITE AND DISTRIBUTIVE PRONOUNS

136. Consider the following sentences:- This is a present from my uncle.

These are merely excuses,

Both cars are good; but this is better than that

Mumbai mangoes are better than those of Bangalore.

Make haste, that's a good boy. [Here that - one who makes haste.]

There is no period in ancient-Indian history so glorious as that of the Guptas. [Do not write, “as the Guptas”]

My views are quite in accordance with those of the University Commission.

I may have offended, but such was not my intention.

He was the representative of the King, and as such (= the representative of the King) they honoured him.

The stranger is welcomed as such.

That is the Red Fort.

It will be noticed that the Pronouns in italics are used to point out the objects to which they refer, and are, therefore, called Demonstrative Pronouns. (Latin demonstrare, to show clearly).

1. This, that, etc. are (Demonstrative) Adjectives when they are used with nouns; as, This book is mine.

That pen is yours.

These books are mine.

Those pens are yours.

What was that noise?

This horse is better than that horse., All such people ought to be avoided.

1. This refers to what is close at hand, and nearest to the thought or person of the speaker; that refers to what is 'over there', farther] away, and more remote. This is better than that.

1. That, with its plural those, is used to avoid the repetition of a preceding Noun; as, The climate of Belgaum is like that of Pune.

The streets of this city are worse than those of Ahmedabad.

Our soldiers were better drilled than those of enemies. The rivers of America are larger than those of Europe.

1. When two things which have been already mentioned are referred to, this refers to the thing last mentioned, that to the thing first mentioned; as,

Virtue and vice offer themselves for your choice; this (i.e., vice) leads to misery, that

(i.e., virtue) to happiness,

Alcohol and tobacco are both injurious; this perhaps, less than that.

## Indefinite Pronouns

141. Consider the following sentences:

One hardly knows what to do.

One does not like to say so, but it is only too true.

One cannot be too careful of one's (not, his) good name.

One must not boast of one's own success.

One must use one's best efforts if one wishes to succeed.

One must not praise one's self.

None of his poems are well known.

None but fools have ever believed it.

[None is a shortened form of not one; yet it is commonly used with plural verbs].

They (= people in general) say he has lost heavily.

They say that one of the local banks has stopped payment. [They say = it is said by some persons.] All were drowned.

Some are born great.

Some say he is a sharper.

Somebody has stolen my watch.

Nobody was there to rescue the child.

Few escaped unhurt.

Many of them were Gurkhas.

We did not see any of them again.

One or other of us will be there.

Do good to others.

Did you ask anybody to come?

What is everybody's business is nobody's business.

His words are in everyone's mouth.

All these Pronouns in italics refer to persons or things in a general way, but do not refer to any person or thing in particular. They are, therefore, called Indefinite Pronouns.

1. Most of these words may also be used as Adjectives.
   * I will take you there one day.
   * Any fool can do that.
   * He is a man of few words.
   * Some milk was spilt.

1. In referring to anybody, everybody, everyone, anyone, each etc., the pronoun he or she is used according to the context; as,

I shall be glad to help everyone of my boys in his studies.

Note that today it is more usual to use a plural pronoun (they/ them/their) except in very formal English.

Anybody can do it if they try.

Each of them had their share.

## Distributive Pronouns

1. Consider the following sentences:- • Each of the boys gets a prize.
   * Each took it in turn.
   * Either of these roads leads to the railway station.
   * Either of you can go.
   * Neither of the accusations is true.

Each, either, neither are called Distributive Pronouns because they refer to persons or things one at a time. For this reason they are always singular and as such followed by the verb in the singular.

Note:- Each is used to denote every one of a number of persons or things taken singly.

* + Either means the one or the other of two.
  + Neither means not the one nor the other of two. It is the negative of either.

Hence either and neither should be used only in speaking of two persons or things. When more than two are spoken of, any, no one, none should be used.

1. The position of the pronoun each should be noticed. It may have three positions.

1. Each of the men received a reward.

Each of these horses cost five thousand rupees.

I bought each of these mangoes for three rupees.

1. These men received each a reward.

These horses cost each five thousand rupees.

1. These horses cost five thousand rupees each.

I bought these mangoes for three rupees each.

The third order is usual after a numeral. We do not say, 'The men received a reward each'; but we say, 'The men received five hundred rupees each'.

1. In the following sentences, each, either and neither are used as Adjectives; they are followed by nouns of the singular number:- Each boy took his turn. Neither accusation is true.

At either end was a marble statue. (Here either = each or both.)

1. Study the following sentences :- 1. The two men hate each other.

2. They cheated one another.

If we analyse them, they mean-

1. The two men hate, each hates the other.
2. They cheated, one cheated another.

Each and one really belong to the subject, other and another are objects. But each other and one another have become in practice compound pronouns (called Reciprocal Pronouns) and are rarely separated even by a preposition. Thus we say:

The brothers quarrelled with each other.

They all gave evidence against one another.

Note - The one-time rule that each other should be used in speaking of two persons or things, one another in speaking of more than two is no longer strictly observed. 'The three brothers quarrelled with each other' is now accepted as idiomatic.

## RELATIVE PRONOUNS

Read the following pairs of sentences:

1. I met Hari. Hari had just returned.
2. I have found the pen. I lost the pen.
3. Here is the book. You lent me the book.

Let us now combine each of the above pairs into one sentence. Thus :-

1. I met Hari who had just returned.
2. I have found the pen which I lost.
3. Here is the book that you lent me.

Now let us examine the work done by each of the words, who, which and that.

The word who is used instead of the noun Hari. It, therefore, does the work of a Pronoun. The word who joins or connects two statements. It, therefore, does the work of a Conjunction.

The word who, therefore, does double work-the work of a Pronoun and also the work of a Conjunction.

We might, therefore, call it a Conjunctive Pronoun.

It is, however, called a Relative Pronoun because it refers or relates (Le., carries us back) to some noun going before (here, the noun Hari), which is called its Antecedent.

Let the pupil show why which and that are also Relative Pronouns in the second and third sentences.

* What is the Antecedent of which in the second sentence?
* What is the Antecedent of that in the third sentence?

## Forms of the Relative Pronouns

1. The Relative Pronoun who has different forms for Accusative and Genitive. --- Singular and Plural

Nominative -- who

Genitive -- whose

Accusative -- whom/who (who replaces whom in informal English.)

* + This is the boy (or girl) who works hard.
  + This is the boy (or girl) whose exercise is done well.
  + This is the boy (or girl) whom / who all praise.
  + These are the boys (or girls) who work hard.
  + These are the boys (or giris) whose exercises are done well.
  + These are the boys (or girls) whom / who all praise.

It will be noticed that the forms are the same for singular and plural, masculine and feminine.

The Relative Pronoun which has the same form for the Nominative and Accusative cases.

* + This is the house which belongs to my uncle.
  + The house which my uncle built cost him Rs. 3,50,000

The Relative Pronoun which has no Genitive Case, but whose is used as a substitute for 'of which'; as

A triangle whose three sides are equal is called an equilateral triangle.

1. The Relative Pronoun that has the same form in the Singular and Plural, and in the Nominative and Accusative. It has no Genitive case.

He that is content is rich.

They that touch pitch will be defiled.

Take anything that you like.

1. The Relative Pronoun what is used only in the Singular, and has the same form in the Nominative and Accusative.
   * What has happened is not clear.
   * I say what I mean.
   * He failed in what he attempted.

## Use of the Relative Pronouns

1. As a general rule, who is used for persons only. It may refer to a Singular or a Plural Noun.
   * The man who is honest is trusted.
   * Blessed is he who has found his work.
   * He prayeth best who loveth best.
   * He who hesitates is lost.
   * They never fail who die in a great cause.
   * They are slaves Who dare not be
   * In the right with two or three.

Who is sometimes used in referring to animals.

Whose (the Possessive form of who) is used in speaking of persons, animals and also things without life (see § 150); as,

The sun, whose rays give life to the earth, is regarded by some people as a god.

This is the question whose solution has baffled philosophers of all ages.

[More properly, 'This is the question the solution of which has baffled philosophers of all ages'.]

1. Which is used for things without life and for animals. It may refer to a Singular or Plural Noun.
   * The moment which is lost is lost for ever.
   * The books which help you most are those which make you think most.
   * The horse which I recently bought is an Arab.

Which was formerly used to refer to persons; as,

Our Father, which art in heaven.

Which may also refer to a sentence; as,

The man was said to be drunk, which was not the case.

He said he saw me there, which was a lie.

He is here, which is fortunate.

Note- The relative pronouns who and which can be used-

1. To restrict, limit, or define more clearly the antecedent; that is; where the clause introduced by a relative pronoun is restrictive or non-defining; as,
2. The man who had cheated me was yesterday arrested by the police. The book which you see on the table cost me ninety rupees.

1. To give some additional information about the antecedent; that is, where the clause introduced by a relative pronoun is continuative or defining; as,

The teacher sent for the boy, who (= and he) came at once.

I gave him a rupee, which (= and it) was all I had with me.

Note that non-defining clauses are separated from the main clause by commas. Compare:

* My brother who is a doctor has gone to America.
* My brother, who is a doctor, has gone to America.

The first sentence implies that the speaker has several brothers, and the clause who is a doctor distinguishes a particular one of them. In the second, the clause does not define and the implication is that the speaker has only one brother.

1. That is used for persons and things. It may refer to a Singular or a Plural Noun. (See § 151).

That has no genitive case and it is never used with a preposition preceding.

* + This is the boy that I told you of.
  + I know the house that he lives in.
  + Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown.
  + I have lost the watch that you gave me.
  + Thrice is he armed that hath his quarrel just.
  + A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid.
  + He that is not with me is against me.
  + Happy is the man that findeth wisdom.
  + He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty.
  + The crowd that gathered cheered him to the echo.
  + Who that has met him can escape his influence ?
  + All that I said had no effect on him.
  + He was the most eloquent speaker that I ever heard.

It will be noticed that the relative pronoun that is used only in defining clauses, i.e., clauses that restrict, limit, or define the antecedent.

1. That may be used as an adverbial accusative = on which, in which, at which; as, I remember the day that he came.

On the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

157. As the Relative Pronoun that has a restrictive force it sometimes becomes unsuitable as the substitute for who or which. Thus I cannot say-

My father that is a schoolmaster is fifty years old.

I must say-

My father who is schoolmaster, is fifty years old.

But if I happen to have more than one sister, I can say- My sister that has been adopted by my uncle is ill.

158. The Relative Pronoun that is used in preference to who or which-

1. After Adjectives in the Superlative Degree; as, • He was the most eloquent speaker that I ever heard.
   * The wisest man that ever lived made mistakes.
   * This is the best that we can do.

1. After the words all, same, any, none, nothing, (the) only; as,
   * All is not gold that glitters.
   * He is the same man that he has been.
   * It is only donkeys that bray.
   * It was not for nothing that he studied philosophy.
   * Man is the only animal that can talk.

1. After the Interrogative Pronouns who, what; as,
   * Who that saw her did not pity her?
   * Who am I that I should object?
   * What is it that troubles you so much?
   * What is there that I do not know ?

1. After two antecedents, one denoting a person and the other denoting an animal or a thing; as,

The boy and his dog that had trespassed on the club premises were turned out.

159. What refers to things only. It is used without an antecedent expressed, and is equivalent to that which (or the thing which).

What (= that which) cannot be cured must be endured.

I say what (= that which) T mean.

T mean what I say.

What is done cannot be undone.

What man has done man can do.

What is one man's meat is another man's poison.

Give careful heed to what I say.

What I have written, I have written.

He found what he was looking for.

It will be noticed that what is used in the Nominative and Accusative singular only.

160. In older English the word as was used as a relative pronoun after such; as, Tears such as angels weep burst forth.

These mangoes are not such as I bought yesterday.

He is such a man as I honour.

We have never had such a time as the present.

His answer was such as I expected him to give.

The word as can be used as a relative pronoun after same; as, My trouble is the same as yours [is].

This is not the same as that [is].

[But] I played with the same bat that you did.

‘The same as’ usually means ‘of the same kind’.

‘The same...that’ means ‘one and the same’.

What was it all about?

What is sweeter than honey?

What are those marks on your coat?

1. In such expressions as, 'What are you?' 'What is he?' What is this man?' the word what does not refer to the person but to his profession or employment (Today it is more usual to say, ‘What do you do?’ etc).

What are you? --- I am a doctor.

What is he? --- He is an engineer.

But-

Who is he? (= What is his name and family?) -He is Mr. K.P. Roy.

1. In the following sentences which and what are used as Interrogative Adjectives:- • Which book are your reading?
   * Which way shall we go?
   * What books have you read?
   * What pranks are you playing?
   * What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?

1. In the following sentences the words in italics are used as Compound Interrogative

Pronouns :- Whoever told you so?

Whatever are you doing?

Note.- The forms whoever, whichever, whatever, are intensive.