

Chapter Eight

Personal Pronouns

Vocabulary

First Person

	Singular			Plural	
N	ἐγώ	I		ἡμεῖς	we
G	ἐμοῦ (μου)	of me, my		ἡμῶν	of us, our
A	ἐμοῦ (μου)	from me		ἡμῶν	from us
D	ἐμοί (μοι)	to/for me		ἡμῖν	to/for us
L	ἐμοί (μοι)	in me		ἡμῖν	in us
I	ἐμοί (μοι)	by me		ἡμῖν	by us
Ac	ἐμέ (με)	me		ἡμᾶς	us

Second Person

	Singular			Plural	
N	σύ	you		ὕμεις	you
G	σοῦ (σου)	of you, your		ὕμῶν	of you, your
A	σοῦ (σου)	from you		ὕμῶν	from you
D	σοί (σοι)	to/for you		ὕμῖν	to/for you
L	σοί (σοι)	in you		ὕμῖν	in you
I	σοί (σοι)	by you		ὕμῖν	by you
Ac	σέ (σε)	you		ὕμᾶς	you

Third Person - Masculine

	Singular			Plural	
N	αὐτός	he		αὐτοί	they
G	αὐτοῦ	of him, his		αὐτῶν	of them, their
A	αὐτοῦ	from him		αὐτῶν	from them
D	αὐτῷ	to/for him		αὐτοῖς	to/for them
L	αὐτῷ	in him		αὐτοῖς	in them
I	αὐτῷ	by him		αὐτοῖς	by them
Ac	αὐτόν	him		αὐτούς	them

Third Person - Neuter

	Singular			Plural	
N	αὐτό	it		αὐτά	they
G	αὐτου	of it, its		αὐτῶν	of them, their
A	αὐτου	from it		αὐτῶν	from them
D	αὐτω	to/for it		αὐτοῖς	to/for them
L	αὐτω	in it		αὐτοῖς	in them
I	αὐτω	by it		αὐτοῖς	by them
Ac	αὐτό	it		αὐτά	them

Third Person - Feminine

	Singular		Plural	
N	αὐτή	she	αὐταί	they
G	αὐτῆς	of her, her	αὐτῶν	of them, their
A	αὐτῆς	from her	αὐτῶν	from them
D	αὐτῇ	to/for her	αὐταῖς	to/for them
L	αὐτῇ	in her	αὐταῖς	in them
I	αὐτῇ	by her	αὐταῖς	by them
Ac	αὐτήν	her	αὐτάς	them

Personal Pronouns

Personal pronouns are declined like nouns and consist of case, gender, and number. Like English, personal pronouns are used to replace nouns, avoiding the monotony of the repeated use of the noun. The word pronoun comes from the Latin *pro* meaning “before, for” and *nomen* meaning “a name.”

Usage

Pronouns function with the case in the same way nouns do. For example When I do something, the pronoun is said to be in the nominative case. When something is done to me, the pronoun is in the accusative case. Pronouns such as *my*, *her*, and *their* are in the genitive case.

The pronoun is the subject of the sentence.	Nominative	<i>He</i> sees the house
The pronoun is the object of the sentence.	Accusative	John sees <i>her</i>
The pronoun possesses something.	Genitive	That is <i>her</i> house

Examples:

λέγει αὐτῇ Ἰησοῦς - Jesus said to her (John 20:16)

ἐγώ εἰμι ἡ ὁδὸς καὶ ἡ ἀλήθεια καὶ ἡ ζωὴ - I am the way and the truth and the life (John 14:1)

τὸν λόγον μου – the word of me (“my word” - possessive) (John 5:19)

The use of αὐτός in the nominative

The third person pronoun αὐτός is seldom used in the nominative as a personal pronoun. It may be found used in the following ways:

Attributive. In the attributive position it is translated as “same,” whether in the nominative or another case. For example, αὐτὸς δὲ ὁ Ἰωάννης – And the same John (Mat. 3:4).

Predicate. In the predicate position, translate in the intensive sense as “self.” For example, *οτι αυτος εγω ειμι* “that it is I myself” (Luke 24:39).

Present Indicative of εἰμί

Singular		Plural	
εἰμί	I am	ἐσμέν	we are
εἶ	you are	ἐστέ	you are
ἐστί(ν)	he/she/it is	εἰσί(ν)	they are

Present Infinitive of εἰμί

εἶναι to be

Notice that the verb does not have voice associated with it. This is because it shows “state of being,” not action! Greek differs from English in that the verb “to be” does not have to be included in a sentence if it is understood from the context. When omitted, the subject will not always be first in the sentence. For example, *ἀγάπη ὁ θεός* is translated “God *is* love.” The italicized “is” is supplied because this verb is understood by context and the reader understands that God is the subject since it has an article.¹

Practice

A. Parse and translate the verbs below in the following format: tense, mood, person, number, root, translation (e.g., εἰμί – P.I.1Sg. from εἰμί – I am).

1. ἐσμέν 2. ἐστίν 3. ἐστέ 4. εἶσι

B. Translate the following sentences.

1. ἐγώ εἰμι ὁ ἄρτος (the bread) ὁ ζῶν (the living one) (John 6:51).
2. ἐγώ οὐκ εἰμι ἐκ τοῦ κόσμου τούτου (this) (John 8:23).
3. πρὶν (before) Ἀβραάμ (Abraham) γενέσθαι (was) ἐγώ εἰμί (John 8:58).
4. ἐγώ εἰμι τὸ φῶς (light) τοῦ κόσμου (John 8:12).
5. ἐγώ ἐν τῷ πατρὶ (father) μου καὶ ὑμεῖς ἐν ἐμοὶ κἀγὼ (and I) ἐν ὑμῖν (John 14:20).

¹ Ray Summers, *Essentials of New Testament Greek* (Nashville:Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1995), p. 42