

Name : _____

Read and Discover

Compound Personal Pronouns

Lesson 25

8

We shouldn't boast about ourselves.

I myself am a talented singer, but I don't brag about it.

Circle the word in the first sentence that tells whom we shouldn't boast about. Underline the word in the second sentence that emphasizes the subject.

A **compound personal pronoun** ends in *-self* or *-selves*. It usually shows that the subject of a sentence is doing something to itself. (*I poured myself some milk.*) Sometimes it gives emphasis. (*He made the meal himself. Lin herself grew the flowers.*) A compound personal pronoun refers back to the subject of the sentence. The noun or pronoun that a pronoun refers to is its **antecedent**.

Remember to use this information when you speak, too.

See Handbook Section 17e

Part 1

Circle each compound personal pronoun in the sentences below. Draw a box around the antecedent of each pronoun you circle.

1. If you lived in ancient Greece, you would know better than to think yourself above a god or goddess.
2. A young weaver named Arachne, however, was as foolish as she was talented; she openly declared that the goddess Athena could not weave as well as she herself could.
3. Athena, upon hearing Arachne's words, pulled herself away from important business on Mount Olympus and came to Earth to punish Arachne.
4. Athena offered the girl a chance to prove herself and survive—the two would have a weaving contest.
5. On the fateful day, people came from all over the land to squeeze themselves into the meadow near Arachne's home.
6. Zeus himself did not deign to attend the match, but he undoubtedly watched it from above.
7. Arachne was sitting at her loom in front of her cottage when Athena appeared through the clouds and seated herself high on a nearby hilltop.
8. Arachne was the first to weave her tapestry, and so swiftly and deftly did her fingers move that they themselves seemed to be part of the loom.
9. The crowd made itself heard as it applauded the beauty of Arachne's work.
10. When Athena began weaving, the web in which Arachne had trapped herself became all too clear.
11. Athena's tapestry was breathtaking: the goddess used the sky itself to color her threads.
12. That tapestry foretold how we mortals would destroy ourselves through our pride and willfulness.
13. When Athena finished, the people threw themselves to the ground in a demonstration of respect, and Arachne knew she had lost.
14. Rather than end Arachne's life, Athena turned her into a spider that could spin webs for itself.

