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Indefinite Pronouns

Indefinite pronouns refer to people, places, animals, and things in general.

Everyone said goodbye.

Indefinite pronouns can be singular or plural.

| | | | | |
|-----------|-----------|----------|------------|---------|
| Singular: | someone | anyone | everyone | no one |
| | somebody | anybody | everybody | nobody |
| | something | anything | everything | nothing |

A singular indefinite pronoun needs an s-form verb.

| | | | | |
|---------|--------|------|---------|------|
| Plural: | both | all | several | many |
| | others | some | few | most |

A plural indefinite pronoun needs a plain form verb.

Underline the indefinite pronoun in each sentence.
Write S if it is singular or P if it is plural.

- ___ 1. Nothing is out of place in my room for once.
- ___ 2. Is anyone home?
- ___ 3. Several students were absent today.
- ___ 4. Most of the players handed in their uniforms today.
- ___ 5. Does anyone know what time it is?
- ___ 6. Somebody needs to show us how this machine works.
- ___ 7. Few people know the words to this song!
- ___ 8. My brother likes the rollercoaster better than the lazy river ride, but I think both are fun.
- ___ 9. Everyone looks forward to attending our family reunion each summer.
- ___ 10. My mother said that the others are on their way over now.
- ___ 11. No one came when I called.
- ___ 12. We won't know which one she wants unless someone asks her.

Misplaced Modifiers

A **modifier** is a word or group of words that tells you more about a thing or action. A modifier should be placed as close as possible to the word it describes or modifies.

Correct I saw my bracelet lying under my bed.

Incorrect Lying under my bed, I saw my bracelet.

Rewrite the sentences to correct the misplaced modifier.

1. Mauro gave a bowl to the boys filled with marbles.

2. The audience waited when the curtain got stuck patiently.

3. Hanging on a hook in the hallway, Ellie found her raincoat.

4. We reheated the food for lunch in the refrigerator.

5. Sierra found an old tire swimming in the pond.

6. DeShawn found his keys climbing the steps.

Combining Sentences: Who, Which, That

Sometimes sentences can be joined using the word who or that to refer to people. The word which or that can be used to refer to things.

Harriet Tubman was an escaped slave. She led other slaves north.

Harriet Tubman was an escaped slave (who or that) led other slaves north.

Here is the monument. It honors Abraham Lincoln.

Here is the monument (which or that) honors Abraham Lincoln.

Use who, which, or that to join each pair of sentences below.

1. The Empire State Building is a skyscraper in New York City. It was completed in 1931.

2. James Madison helped write the Constitution. It is the foundation of our government and its laws.

3. France and Germany are countries. They are part of the European Union.

4. Dwight Eisenhower was a WWII general. He became president in 1953.

5. There is the stairway. It leads to the attic.
