

The antecedent of a pronoun is the noun or nouns to which the pronoun refers.

After Tanya finished <sup>pronoun</sup> her homework, <sup>pronoun</sup> she went outside to play.  
 antecedent

- The antecedent doesn't have to be in the same sentence as the pronoun.

I must hurry home to feed my puppy. <sup>pronoun</sup> He will be hungry.  
 antecedent

- A pronoun must agree with the antecedent in both gender and number.

**Correct:**

*Maggie* picked up her **backpack**.  
*She* put **it** over her shoulder.

**Incorrect:**

*Maggie* picked up her **backpack**.  
*He* put **them** over her shoulder.

Pronouns & Antecedents

# Pronouns and Antecedents

Rule  
12

Circle the pronouns in these sentences. Draw a line from each pronoun to its antecedent.

- 1.** Terri invited Sue to her birthday party.
- 2.** Maggie claimed she was too busy to do her homework last night.
- 3.** Mario and Lee went to the aquarium. They wanted to see the new exhibit.
- 4.** After Jamal and Tamara cleaned the garage, Mr. Tan gave them five dollars.
- 5.** The farmer harvested corn. He sold it for cattle feed.
- 6.** Antonio was too big for his old bike, so he sold it at the flea market.
- 7.** My cousin Jeff and I were the first in line because we were hungry.
- 8.** The children served themselves before the adults.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# Write the Right Word

**A** Fill in the blank in each sentence with a noun or a pronoun. Circle the word that names the word you wrote.

1. James picked up \_\_\_\_\_ books **pronoun** **antecedent**  
and carried them home.
2. The two \_\_\_\_\_ barked whenever **pronoun** **antecedent**  
people passed their yard.
3. Mr. and Mrs. Ramirez flew to Hawai'i for **pronoun** **antecedent**  
\_\_\_\_\_ vacation.
4. An \_\_\_\_\_ zoomed overhead. It made **pronoun** **antecedent**  
a deafening roar.
5. Suzie and Mina are best friends. \_\_\_\_\_ **pronoun** **antecedent**  
do everything together.

**B** Write two sentences. Each sentence must have a pronoun and an antecedent.

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

