

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Answer Key: Grammar Guardian's Quest: Advanced Pronoun Mastery for 8th Grade

Learners tackle case, number, and shifts to ensure syntactic precision during independent practice or high-stakes review sessions.

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**1. In the sentence, 'The astrophysicists published their findings once they had verified the data,' which describes the relationship between the underlined pronouns and the antecedent?**

**Answer:** C) The pronouns maintain number and person agreement with 'astrophysicists'.

'Their' and 'they' are plural, third-person pronouns that correctly refer back to the plural, third-person antecedent 'astrophysicists.'

**2. Choose the correct pronoun to complete the formal expression: 'Between you and \_\_\_\_, the architect's vision for the skyscraper is quite ambitious.'**

**Answer:** B) me

The pronoun follows the preposition 'between' and must be in the objective case ('me'), not the nominative case ('I').

**3. In the sentence 'Neither of the senators has cast their vote yet,' the pronoun 'their' is used correctly according to standard formal grammar rules.**

**Answer:** B) False

'Neither' is a singular indefinite pronoun and traditionally requires a singular pronoun like 'his or her' in formal writing, though 'their' is becoming more common in speech.

**4. Identify the intensive pronoun in this sentence: 'The director herself presented the award to the lead violinist.'**

**Answer:** B) herself

An intensive pronoun emphasizes its antecedent; if 'herself' is removed, the sentence still makes sense.

**5. Select the pronoun that correctly completes this complex comparison: 'The championship swimmers are much faster than \_\_\_\_.'**

**Answer:** B) we

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In an elliptical comparison, the pronoun is the subject of the implied verb 'are' (than we are), requiring the nominative case.

**6. The sentence 'Whom shall I say is calling?' uses the interrogative pronoun correctly.**

**Answer:** B) False

'Who' should be used because it is the subject of the verb 'is calling.' 'Whom' is reserved for the objective case.

**7. Which sentence contains a vague pronoun reference that needs to be corrected for clarity?**

**Answer:** A) After the delegates met with the diplomats, they signed the treaty.

'They' is vague because it is unclear whether it refers to the delegates or the diplomats.

**8. Determine which relative pronoun correctly introduces the clause: 'The muralist \_\_\_ the city commissioned has finally finished the installation.'**

**Answer:** C) whom

The pronoun is the object of the verb 'commissioned' (the city commissioned whom), so the objective case 'whom' is correct.

**9. Which of the following sentences exhibits a pronoun-person shift that should be avoided?**

**Answer:** B) When a person travels, you should always keep a detailed journal.

This sentence shifts from the third-person ('a person') to the second-person ('you'), creating an inconsistent point of view.

**10. In the sentence 'The committee gave its final approval,' the pronoun 'its' is used correctly because 'committee' is a collective noun acting as a single unit.**

**Answer:** A) True

Collective nouns take singular pronouns when the group is acting as a single, unified entity.