

Using Case

What is case in writing?

Nouns and pronouns take different forms, or cases, to indicate their function in the sentence. There are three cases in English: Subjective, Objective, and Possessive.

Subjective Case...

⇒ **The subject of a verb**

These words are the subject of the sentence and commit actions.

Pronouns of subjective case are as follows: *I, you, he, she, it, we, they*, and *who*.

Subjective Case looks like...

- *Him is the best swimmer.*

- ***He is the best swimmer.***

Objective Case...

⇒ **The direct/indirect object of a verb or the object of a preposition**

Actions are committed upon these words.

Pronouns of objective case are as follows: *me, you, him, her, it, us, them*, and *whom*.

Objective Case looks like...

- *His mom took he to the grocery store.*

- ***His mom took him to the grocery store.***

Possessive Case...

⇒ **Denotes ownership**

This case can be difficult when using pronouns. Some pronouns in this case stand alone and others are used with a noun.

Stand alone pronouns are *mine, yours, his, hers, ours, theirs*, and *whose*. Pronouns that modify nouns are *my, your, his, her, its, our, their*, and *whose*.

In order to check one's case usage, try breaking the sentence apart and ignore any other subjects that can cause confusion in your sentence.

Possessive Case looks like...

- *John, Maria, Marty, and me went to the show.*

- ***John, Maria, Marty, and I went to the show.***

- *They threw I a party.*

- ***They threw me a party.***