# Pronoun Path Check

Keep pronouns on the same path.

**CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.6.1c** "Recognize and correct inappropriate shifts in pronoun number and person.*"

NAME _____ DATE _____

**MATCH**

The pronouns stay with the same person and number. A singular noun needs a singular pronoun, and a plural noun needs a plural pronoun.

The violinists tuned their instruments quietly.

**SHIFT**

The sentence changes person or number without a reason. Watch for a switch from words like one or a student to you or your.

A writer should use your strongest evidence.

## 1 SORT

8 items

Circle MATCH or SHIFT for each sentence.

1. The twins finished their poster. MATCH SHIFT
2. When a student solves a problem, you should show the steps. MATCH SHIFT
3. One should proofread your writing before turning it in. MATCH SHIFT
4. If you enjoy mysteries, you may borrow this novel. MATCH SHIFT
5. Jordan forgot his lunch at home. MATCH SHIFT
6. We planted our seeds in small pots. MATCH SHIFT
7. A coach should tell your team the plan. MATCH SHIFT
8. The captain checked her map before the race. MATCH SHIFT

## 2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

**ITEM #** _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

**ITEM #** _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

## 3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new sentence that is a MATCH and one new sentence that is a SHIFT.

**MATCH** _____

**SHIFT** _____

**CHALLENGE**

Rewrite this sentence so the pronouns stay consistent, then explain your change: "Each inventor should test your model carefully."

**ANSWER KEY**

# Pronoun Path Check



## PART 1 · SORT

| # | ITEM | CATEGORY | WHY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | The twins finished their poster. | **MATCH** | The plural noun twins matches the plural pronoun their. |
| 2 | When a student solves a problem, you should show the steps. | **SHIFT** | The sentence shifts from third-person singular, a student, to second person, you. |
| 3 | One should proofread your writing before turning it in. | **SHIFT** | The sentence shifts from one to your. |
| 4 | If you enjoy mysteries, you may borrow this novel. | **MATCH** | The sentence stays in second person with you. |
| 5 | Jordan forgot his lunch at home. | **MATCH** | Jordan is singular, and his is singular third person. |
| 6 | We planted our seeds in small pots. | **MATCH** | The sentence stays in first-person plural with we and our. |
| 7 | A coach should tell your team the plan. | **SHIFT** | The sentence shifts from third-person singular, a coach, to second person, your. |
| 8 | The captain checked her map before the race. | **MATCH** | The singular noun captain matches the singular pronoun her. |

## PART 2 · PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

## PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **MATCH**: The astronauts fastened their helmets before launch.
- **SHIFT**: Each actor should memorize your lines.

**Challenge:** Each inventor should test his or her model carefully. I changed your to his or her so the pronouns stay third-person singular.

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item. For Part 2, accept any two correctly sorted items if the student names the pronouns and explains the person or number match or shift. Items 2, 3, and 7 shift from a third-person general noun or pronoun to second person.