Pronoun Pair Check

Sort sentences by how their pronouns fit.

6.LL.19.c "Compose and revise writing by using various pronouns and their antecedents correctly."

NAME _____ DATE _____

NUMBER MATCHES

The pronoun matches its antecedent in number. A singular noun takes a singular pronoun, and a plural noun takes a plural pronoun.

The robin spread **its** wings.

NUMBER CLASHES

The pronoun and its antecedent do not match in number. One is singular, and the other is plural.

The otters brushed **its** fur.

1 SORT

8 items

For Part 1, circle MATCH or CLASH for each sentence; for Part 2, pick one sentence from each group and explain how its bold pronoun fits or clashes with its antecedent.

1. The drums made **their** first sound. MATCH CLASH

2. The helmet lost **their** strap. MATCH CLASH

3. The kites tugged at **its** strings. MATCH CLASH

4. The camera flashed **its** light. MATCH CLASH

5. The dancers checked **their** shoes. MATCH CLASH

6. The bakery opened **its** doors. MATCH CLASH

7. The tickets showed **its** prices. MATCH CLASH

8. The puppies chased **their** tails. MATCH CLASH

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick one sentence from each group and explain how its bold pronoun fits or clashes with its antecedent.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new sentence in which a pronoun matches its antecedent and one in which a pronoun clashes with its antecedent.

MATCH _____

CLASH _____

CHALLENGE

Revise your CLASH sentence so the pronoun matches its antecedent without changing the antecedent.

ANSWER KEY

Pronoun Pair Check

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	The drums made **their** first sound.	**MATCH**	Drums and their are both plural.
2	The helmet lost **their** strap.	**CLASH**	Helmet is singular, but their is plural.
3	The kites tugged at **its** strings.	**CLASH**	Kites is plural, but its is singular.
4	The camera flashed **its** light.	**MATCH**	Camera and its are both singular.
5	The dancers checked **their** shoes.	**MATCH**	Dancers and their are both plural.
6	The bakery opened **its** doors.	**MATCH**	Bakery and its are both singular.
7	The tickets showed **its** prices.	**CLASH**	Tickets is plural, but its is singular.
8	The puppies chased **their** tails.	**MATCH**	Puppies and their are both plural.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Task: Pick one sentence from each group and explain how its bold pronoun fits or clashes with its antecedent.
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 windows rattled in their frames.
- **CLASH**: The violin lost their bow.

Challenge: The violin lost its bow.

For Part 2, students should name the antecedent and compare its number with the pronoun's number. For example, in item 2, helmet is singular, but their is plural.