Pronoun Match Hunt

Sort pronoun agreement, then show your evidence.

7.LU.1.B "Recognize and use pronoun-antecedent agreement, including indefinite, reflexive, and relative pronouns, when speaking and writing."

NAME _____ DATE _____

MATCH

The pronoun agrees in number with its antecedent, the word the pronoun replaces. A singular antecedent needs a singular pronoun, and a plural antecedent needs a plural pronoun.

A violinist polished her bow.

MISMATCH

The pronoun does not agree in number with its antecedent. Change the pronoun so it matches the word it replaces.

My parrots taught herself songs.

1 SORT

8 items

Read each sentence, circle MATCH or MISMATCH, then choose two items and explain how the pronoun and antecedent do or do not agree.

1. Each hiker packed his or her lunch. **MATCH** **MISMATCH**

2. The players congratulated itself after the game. **MATCH** **MISMATCH**

3. The mural that hangs in the library has lost its color. **MATCH** **MISMATCH**

4. Neither twin remembered his or her locker code. **MATCH** **MISMATCH**

5. The robot repaired themselves. **MATCH** **MISMATCH**

6. The scientists who presented shared their findings. **MATCH** **MISMATCH**

7. Everyone brought his or her ticket. **MATCH** **MISMATCH**

8. The dogs chased its tails. **MATCH** **MISMATCH**

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 MATCH sentence and one new MISMATCH sentence. Underline the antecedent and circle the pronoun in each sentence.

MATCH _____

MISMATCH _____

CHALLENGE

Write one correct sentence with an indefinite antecedent and a reflexive pronoun that agree.

ANSWER KEY

Pronoun Match Hunt

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Each hiker packed his or her lunch.	**MATCH**	The singular indefinite antecedent each matches the singular pronoun phrase his or her.
2	The players congratulated itself after the game.	**MISMATCH**	Players is plural, so the reflexive pronoun should be themselves.
3	The mural that hangs in the library has lost its color.	**MATCH**	Its refers to the singular noun mural.
4	Neither twin remembered his or her locker code.	**MATCH**	The singular indefinite antecedent neither matches the singular pronoun phrase his or her.
5	The robot repaired themselves.	**MISMATCH**	Robot is singular, so the reflexive pronoun should be itself.
6	The scientists who presented shared their findings.	**MATCH**	Their refers to the plural antecedent scientists.
7	Everyone brought his or her ticket.	**MATCH**	The singular indefinite antecedent everyone matches the singular pronoun phrase his or her.
8	The dogs chased its tails.	**MISMATCH**	Dogs is plural, so the possessive pronoun should be their.

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 gardeners watered their seedlings.
- **MISMATCH**: A squirrel hid themselves in the tree.

Challenge: Each actor prepared himself or herself before the show.

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item. For Part 2, students should name the antecedent and pronoun and explain whether both are singular or both are plural. Accept different correct Part 3 sentences when the category and agreement explanation are accurate. In the MISMATCH rule example, plural parrots requires themselves. For original responses, accept standard singular they/their when the intended singular person is clear; do not demand a gendered pronoun.