

Myself/yourself/themselves etc.

A

Study this example:

Steve **introduced himself** to the other guests.We use **myself/yourself/himself** etc. (*reflexive pronouns*) when the *subject* and *object* are the same:

Steve	introduced	himself
subject		object

The reflexive pronouns are:

<i>singular:</i>	myself	yourself (<i>one person</i>)	himself/herself/itself
<i>plural:</i>	ourselves	yourselves (<i>more than one person</i>)	themselves

- ☐ I don't want you to pay for me. I'll pay for **myself**. (*not I'll pay for me*)
- ☐ Amy had a great holiday. **She** really enjoyed **herself**.
- ☐ Do **you** talk to **yourself** sometimes? (*said to one person*)
- ☐ If **you** want more to eat, help **yourselves**. (*said to more than one person*)

Compare:

- ☐ It's not our fault. **You** can't blame **us**.
- ☐ It's our own fault. **We** should blame **ourselves**.

B

We do not use **myself** etc. after **feel/relax/concentrate/meet**:

- ☐ I **feel** nervous. I can't **relax**.
- ☐ You must try and **concentrate**. (*not concentrate yourself*)
- ☐ What time shall we **meet**? (*not meet ourselves, not meet us*)

We normally use **wash/shave/dress** *without myself* etc. :

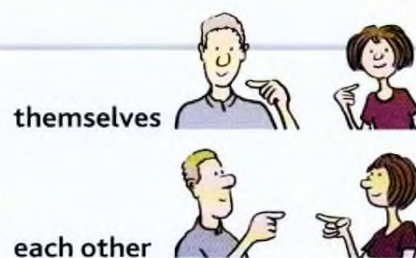
- ☐ He got up, **washed, shaved and dressed**. (*not washed himself etc.*)

You can also say **get dressed** (He **got dressed**).

C

Compare **-selves** and **each other**:

- ☐ Kate and Joe stood in front of the mirror and looked at **themselves**. (= *Kate and Joe looked at Kate and Joe*)
- ☐ Kate looked at Joe; Joe looked at Kate. They looked at **each other**.

You can use **one another** instead of **each other**:

- ☐ How long have you and Ben known **each other**? or ... known **one another**?
- ☐ Sue and Alice don't like **each other**. or ... don't like **one another**.
- ☐ Do you and Sarah live near **each other**? or ... near **one another**?

D

We also use **myself/yourself** etc. in another way. For example:

- ☐ 'Who repaired your bike for you?' 'I repaired it **myself**.'

I repaired it myself = I repaired it, not anybody else. Here, **myself** is used to emphasise 'I' (= it makes it stronger). Some more examples:

- ☐ I'm not going to do your work for you. **You** can do it **yourself**. (= you, not me)
- ☐ **Let's** paint the house **ourselves**. It will be much cheaper.
- ☐ **The film itself** wasn't very good, but I loved the music.
- ☐ I don't think Lisa will get the job. **Lisa herself** doesn't think so. (or **Lisa** doesn't think so **herself**.)

Exercises

82.1 Complete the sentences using **myself/yourself** etc. + these verbs (in the correct form):

blame burn enjoy express hurt ~~introduce~~ put

- 1 Steve introduced himself to the other guests at the party.
- 2 Ben fell down some steps, but fortunately he didn't _____.
- 3 It isn't Sue's fault. She really shouldn't _____.
- 4 Please try and understand how I feel. _____ in my position.
- 5 The children had a great time at the beach. They really _____.
- 6 Be careful! That pan is very hot. Don't _____.
- 7 Sometimes I can't say exactly what I mean. I wish I could _____ better.

82.2 Put in **myself/yourself/ourselves** etc. or **me/you/us** etc.

- 1 Amy had a great holiday. She enjoyed herself.
- 2 It's not my fault. You can't blame _____.
- 3 What I did was really bad. I'm ashamed of _____.
- 4 We've got a problem. I hope you can help _____.
- 5 'Can I take another biscuit?' 'Of course. Help _____!'
- 6 You must meet Sarah. I'll introduce _____ to her.
- 7 Don't worry about us. We can take care of _____.
- 8 Don't worry about the children. I'll take care of _____.
- 9 I gave them a key to our house so that they could let _____ in.

82.3 Complete these sentences. Use **myself/yourself** etc. only where necessary. Use these verbs (in the correct form):

concentrate defend dry feel meet relax ~~shave~~

- 1 Martin decided to grow a beard because he was fed up with shaving.
- 2 I wasn't very well yesterday, but I _____ much better today.
- 3 I climbed out of the swimming pool and _____ with a towel.
- 4 I tried to study, but I couldn't _____.
- 5 If somebody attacks you, you need to be able to _____.
- 6 I'm going out with Chris this evening. We're _____ at 7.30.
- 7 You're always rushing around. Why don't you sit down and _____?

82.4 Complete the sentences with **ourselves/themselves** or **each other**.

- 1 How long have you and Ben known each other?
- 2 If people work too hard, they can make _____ ill.
- 3 I need you and you need me. We need _____.
- 4 In Britain friends often give _____ presents at Christmas.
- 5 Some people are very selfish. They only think of _____.
- 6 Tracy and I don't see _____ very often these days.
- 7 We couldn't get back into the house. We had locked _____ out.
- 8 They've had an argument. They're not speaking to _____ at the moment.
- 9 We'd never met before, so we introduced _____ to _____.

82.5 Complete the answers to the questions using **myself/yourself/itself** etc.

- 1 Who repaired the bike for you?
- 2 Who cuts Brian's hair for him?
- 3 Do you want me tell Amy about your idea?
- 4 Who told you that Linda was going away?
- 5 Can you phone John for me?

- Nobody. I repaired it myself.
- Nobody. He cuts _____.
- No, I'll _____.
- Linda _____.
- Why can't you _____?

A friend of mine my own house on my own / by myself

A

A friend of mine / a friend of yours etc.

We say '(a friend) **of mine/yours/his/hers/ours/theirs**'.

A friend of mine = one of my friends:

- ☐ I'm going to a wedding on Saturday. **A friend of mine** is getting married. (*not* a friend of me)
- ☐ We went on holiday with **some friends of ours**. (*not* some friends of us)
- ☐ Mike had an argument with **a neighbour of his**.
- ☐ It was **a good idea of yours** to go to the cinema.

In the same way we say '(a friend) **of my sister's**' / (a friend) **of Tom's**' etc. :

- ☐ That woman over there is **a friend of my sister's**. (= one of my sister's friends)
- ☐ It was **a good idea of Tom's** to go to the cinema.

B

My own ... / your own ... etc.

We use **my/your/his/her/its/our/their** before **own**:

my own house your own car her own room
(*not* an own house, an own car etc.)

My own ... / your own ... etc. = something that is only mine/yours, not shared or borrowed:

- ☐ I don't want to share a room with anybody. I want **my own room**.
- ☐ Vicky and Gary would like to have **their own house**.
- ☐ It's a shame that the apartment hasn't got **its own parking space**.
- ☐ It's **my own fault** that I've got no money. I buy too many things I don't need.
- ☐ Why do you want to borrow my car? Why don't you use **your own**? (= your own car)

You can also say 'a room **of my own**', 'a house **of your own**', 'problems **of his own**' etc. :

- ☐ I'd like to have a room **of my own**.
- ☐ He won't be able to help you with your problems. He has too many problems **of his own**.

C

We also use **own** to say that we do something ourselves instead of somebody else doing it for us.

For example:

- ☐ Brian usually cuts **his own hair**.
(= he cuts it himself; he doesn't go to a barber)
- ☐ I'd like to have a garden so that I could grow **my own vegetables**.
(= grow them myself instead of buying them from shops)



D

On my own / by myself

On my own and **by myself** both mean 'alone'. We say:

on { my / your
his / her / its
our / their } **own**

=

by { myself / yourself (*singular*)
himself / herself / itself
ourselves / yourselves (*plural*) / themselves

- ☐ I like living **on my own / by myself**.
- ☐ 'Did you go on holiday **on your own / by yourself**?' 'No, with a friend.'
- ☐ Jack was sitting **on his own / by himself** in a corner of the cafe.
- ☐ Learner drivers are not allowed to drive **on their own / by themselves**.

Exercises

83.1 Write new sentences with the same meaning. Change the underlined words and use the structure in Section A (**a friend of mine** etc.).

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1 I am meeting <u>one of my friends</u> tonight. | I'm meeting a friend of mine tonight. |
| 2 We met <u>one of your relatives</u> . | We met a |
| 3 Jason borrowed <u>one of my books</u> . | Jason |
| 4 Lisa invited <u>some of her friends</u> to her flat. | Lisa to her flat. |
| 5 We had dinner with <u>one of our neighbours</u> . | |
| 6 I went on holiday with <u>two of my friends</u> . | |
| 7 Is that man <u>one of your friends</u> ? | |
| 8 I met <u>one of Jane's friends</u> at the party. | at the party. |
| 9 It's always been <u>one of my ambitions</u> to travel round the world. | to travel round the world. |

83.2 Complete the sentences using **my own** / **our own** etc. + the following:

~~bedroom~~ business opinions private beach words

- I share a kitchen and bathroom, but I have my own bedroom.
- Gary doesn't think the same as me. He's got
- Julia is fed up with working for other people. She wants to start
- In the test we had to read a story, and then write it in
- We stayed at a luxury hotel by the sea. The hotel had

83.3 Complete the sentences using **my own** / **your own** etc.

- Why do you want to borrow my car? Why don't you use your own car ?
- How can you blame me? It's not my fault. It's
- She's always using my ideas. Why can't she use ?
- Please don't worry about my problems. You've got
- I can't make his decisions for him. He must make

83.4 Complete the sentences using **my own** / **your own** etc. Use the following verbs:

bake clean ~~cut~~ make write

- Brian never goes to a barber.
He cuts his own hair.
- Helen doesn't often buy clothes.
She usually
- We don't often buy bread.
We usually
- I'm not going to clean your shoes.
You can
- Paul and Joe are singers.
They sing songs written by other people, but they also

83.5 Complete the sentences using **my own** / **myself** etc.

- Did you go on holiday on your own ?
- I'm glad I live with other people. I wouldn't like to live on
- The box was too heavy for me to lift by
- 'Who was Tom with when you saw him?' 'Nobody. He was by
- Very young children should not go swimming by
- I don't think she knows many people. When I see her, she is always by
- I don't like strawberries with cream. I like them on
- Do you like working with other people or do you prefer working by ?
- We had no help decorating the flat. We did it completely on
- I went out with Sally because she didn't want to go out on

A

Study this example:



We use **there** ... when we talk about something for the first time, to say that it exists:

- ☐ **There's** a new restaurant in Hill Street. (*not* A new restaurant is in Hill Street)
- ☐ I'm sorry I'm late. **There was** a lot of traffic. (*not* It was a lot of traffic)
- ☐ Things are more expensive now. **There has been** a big rise in the cost of living.

It = a specific thing, place, fact, situation etc. (but see also section C):

- ☐ We went to the new restaurant. **It's** very good. (**It** = the restaurant)
- ☐ I wasn't expecting them to come. **It** was a complete surprise. (**It** = that they came)

Compare **there** and **it**:

- ☐ I don't like this town. **There's** nothing to do here. **It's** a boring place.

There also means 'to/at/in that place':

- ☐ When we got to the party, there were already a lot of people **there** (= at the party).

B

You can say **there will be** / **there must be** / **there might be** / **there used to be** etc. :

- ☐ Will you be busy tomorrow? **Will there be** much to do?
- ☐ 'Is **there** a flight to Rome tonight?' 'There **might be**. I'll check the website.'
- ☐ If people drove more carefully, **there wouldn't be** so many accidents.

Also **there must have been**, **there should have been** etc. :

- ☐ I could hear music coming from the house. **There must have been** somebody at home.

Compare **there** and **it**:

- ☐ They live on a busy road. **There must be** a lot of noise from the traffic.
- ☐ They live on a busy road. **It must be** very noisy.
- ☐ **There used to be** a cinema here, but it closed a few years ago.
- ☐ That building is now a supermarket. **It used to be** a cinema.

You can also say **there is sure** / **bound** (= sure) / **likely** to be Compare **there** and **it**:

- ☐ **There's sure to be** a flight to Rome tonight. (*or* **There's bound to be** ...)
- ☐ There's a flight to Rome tonight, but **it's sure to be** full. (**it** = the flight)

C

We also use **it** in sentences like this:

- ☐ **It's** dangerous **to walk in the road**.

We do not usually say 'To walk in the road is dangerous'. Normally we begin with **It**

Some more examples:

- ☐ **It** didn't take us long **to get** here.
- ☐ **It's** a shame (**that**) **you can't come to the party**.
- ☐ Let's go. **It's** not worth **waiting any longer**.

We also use **it** to talk about distance, time and weather:

- ☐ How far is **it** from here to the airport?
- ☐ What day is **it** today?
- ☐ **It's** a long time since we saw you last.
- ☐ **It** was windy yesterday. (*but* **There was** a cold wind.)

Exercises

84.1 Put in **there is/was** or **it is/was**. Some sentences are questions (**is there ... ? / is it ... ?** etc.) and some are negative (**isn't/wasn't**).

- The journey took a long time. There was a lot of traffic.
- What's this restaurant like? Is it good?
- Is there something wrong with the computer. Can you check it for me?
- I wanted to visit the museum, but wasn't enough time.
- 'What's that building? Is it a hotel?' 'No, it's a theatre.'
- How do we get across the river? Is there a bridge?
- A few days ago was a big storm, which caused a lot of damage.
- I can't find my phone. Is it in my bag – I just looked.
- It's often cold here, but isn't much snow.
- 'How was your trip?' ' Was it a disaster. Everything went wrong.'
- Was there anything on television, so I turned it off.
- ' Is there a bookshop near here?' 'Yes, there is one in Hudson Street.'
- When we got to the cinema, was there a queue outside. It was a very long queue, so we decided not to wait.
- I couldn't see anything. It was completely dark.
- Is it difficult to get a job right now. There is a lot of unemployment.

84.2 Read the first sentence and then write a sentence beginning **There ...**

- The roads were busy yesterday. There was a lot of traffic.
- This soup is very salty. There was in the soup.
- The box was empty. There was in the box.
- The film is very violent. There was
- The shopping mall was crowded. There was
- I like this town – it's lively. There is

84.3 Complete the sentences. Use **there will be**, **there would be** etc. Choose from:

will may ~~would~~ wouldn't should used to (be) going to

- If people drove more carefully, there would be fewer accidents.
- 'Do we have any eggs?' 'I'm not sure. There are some in the fridge.'
- I think everything will be OK. I don't think there will be any problems.
- Look at the sky. There will be a storm.
- 'Is there a school in the village?' 'Not now. There was one, but it closed.'
- People drive too fast on this road. I think there should be a speed limit.
- If people weren't aggressive, there wouldn't be any wars.

84.4 Are these sentences right or wrong? Change it to **there** where necessary.

- They live on a busy road. It must be a lot of noise. There must be a lot of noise.
- It's a long way from my house to the nearest shop. It is
- After the lecture it will be an opportunity to ask questions. There will be
- I like where I live, but it would be nicer to live by the sea. It would be
- Why was she so unfriendly? It must have been a reason. There must have been
- It's three years since I last went to the theatre. It was
- A: Where can we park the car?
B: Don't worry. It's sure to be a car park somewhere. There is
- It was Ken's birthday yesterday. We had a party. There was
- The situation is still the same. It has been no change. There has been
- It used to be a church here, but it was knocked down. There used to be
- I was told that it would be somebody to meet me at the station, but it wasn't anybody. There would be
- I don't know who'll win, but it's sure to be a good game. There will be