

5.7 Nominative Case and Objective Case Pronouns

Personal **pronouns** have three cases: **nominative**, **objective**, and **possessive** (See lesson 1.4). The way a pronoun is used in a sentence determines its case.

NOMINATIVE CASE

A **pronoun** used as the **subject** of a sentence or as a **predicate nominative** (See lesson 4.4) is a **nominative case pronoun**. The **nominative case pronouns** are **I**, **you**, **he**, **she**, **it**, **we**, and **they**.



Subject

He ate the banana.

Marjorie and **I** went shopping.

We picked wildflowers.

Predicate Nominative

The winner is **she**.

The singers will be Evelyn and **I**.

Our neighbors are **they**.

OBJECTIVE CASE

A **pronoun** used in the **predicate** part of the sentence as a **direct object**, **indirect object**, or an **object of the preposition** is an **objective case pronoun**. The **objective case pronouns** are **me**, **you**, **him**, **her**, **it**, **us**, and **them**.



Direct Object

Our puppy likes him.

Grandma watched John and me.

Dad took them to the airport.

Indirect Object

Hand her the keys.

Mom cooked Dad and us dinner.

Give it some water.

Object of a Preposition

You can ride with me.

I will sit by Joy and you.

That belongs to us.

Notice how the pronouns **it** and **you** are both **nominative case** and **objective case pronouns**.

6.8 Gerunds and Gerund Phrases

A **gerund** is a **verb** that ends in **-ing** used as a **noun**. Gerunds can be used anywhere that a noun is used in a sentence. Gerunds can be the **subject** of a sentence, a **direct object**, a **predicate nominative**, or the **object** of a **preposition**.

Subject: **Writing** is an important skill.

**Direct
Object:** Darion enjoys **writing**.



**Predicate
Nominative:** His favorite task is **writing**.

**Object of a
Preposition:** He was praised for his **writing**.

More examples:

That dog started **barking**.
(The gerund **barking** is a **direct object**.)

Blake's hobby is **reading**.
(The gerund **reading** is a **predicate nominative**.)

She is famous for **dancing**.
(The gerund **dancing** is the **object** of the preposition **for**.)

A **gerund phrase** is a **gerund** and its related words (modifiers and objects) that are used together to act as a **noun**.

Subject: **Writing an essay** is an important skill.

Direct

Object: Darion enjoys **writing for fun**.

Predicate

Nominative: His favorite task is **writing about sports**.

Object of a

Preposition: He was praised for **writing a biography**.

In these examples, **writing an essay**, **writing for fun**, **writing about sports**, and **writing a biography** are **gerund phrases** used as the **subject**, **direct object**, **predicate nominative**, and **object of the preposition** in these sentences. **Writing** is the **gerund** in each phrase.

More examples:

That dog started **barking for attention**.

(The gerund phrase **barking for attention** is a **direct object**.)

Blake's hobby is **reading interesting books**.

(The gerund phrase **reading interesting books** is a **predicate nominative**.)

She is famous for **dancing on stage**.

(The gerund phrase **dancing on stage** is the **object** of the preposition **for**.)