

Grammatical Person - 1st 2nd and 3rd Person

- **Grammatical person** shows the relationship between the speaker and other participants in an event. More specifically, it is a reference to a participant in an event, such as the speaker, the addressee (recipient of the speaker’s communication), or others. Grammatical person usually defines the set of personal pronouns used by the speaker. It also frequently affects verbs, sometimes nouns, and possessive relationships as well.
- There are three grammatical persons in English:
 - 1) **First person.** This is **I** when used to talk about yourself. **I** is always singular. This is **we** when used to talk about a group in which **I** is a member. **We** is plural.
 - 2) **Second person.** This is **you**. Second person is used when referring to the addressee. The addressee may be singular or plural, depending on how many individuals are being addressed.
 - 3) **Third person.** This is **he, she, it, and they**. Third person is used when referring to any person, place, or thing other than the speaker and the addressee.
- Here is a table outlining personal pronouns and their grammatical persons:

<u>Pronoun</u>	<u>Person</u>	<u>Plurality</u>	<u>Gender</u>
I	first person	singular	-
You	second person	singular / plural	-
He	third person	singular	masculine / neutral
She	third person	singular	feminine
It	third person	singular	neutral
We	first person	plural	-
They	third person	plural / singular	-
You all / you guys / y’all (slang)	second person	plural	-

* (correctness of the singular usage of “they” is disputed)

Directions: Write the grammatical person used in each sentence in the space to the right.

Example: He walked to the grocery store.

third person singular

- 1) I want to go shopping.
- 2) They were very tired.
- 3) We did not go to the park.
- 4) You can use my calculator.
- 5) Jane watched a movie last night.
- 6) It is going to be a nice day.
- 7) You are so funny!
- 8) I thought he was joking.
- 9) I wonder why they didn’t come to the meeting.
- 10) Olivia knew John was in trouble.
- 11) “You are nice,” Mark said.
- 12) If one were to break the law, he should go to jail.
- 13) “I’m leaving!” she yelled.
- 14) “Are y’all coming to the football game?” I asked.



Directions: Now write one sentence in the first person, second person, and third person.

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____