

Pronouns Through Mythology

by Rose Williams

❖ SECTION I Demonstrative Pronouns ❖

Demonstrative (pointing out) pronoun IS

singular			plural		
masc	fem	neu	masc	fem	neu
Nom. is-he	ea-she	id-it	ei-they	ae-they	ea-they
Gen. eius-his	eius-hers	eius-its	eorum-their	earum-their	eorum-their
Dat. ei-to him	ei-to her	ei-to it	eis-to them	eis-to them	eis-to them
Acc. eum-him	eam-her	id-it	eos-them	eas-them	ea-them
Abl. eo-by him	ea-by her	eo-by it	eis-by them	eis-by them	eis-by them

When used as an adjective modifying a noun, this pronoun can be translated “that” or “this”

The pronouns **hic, haec, hoc**, “this, these” and **ille, illa, illud** “that, those” are very similar to **is**. Remember that the ones beginning with **h-** are forms of **hic** and those beginning with **ill-** are forms of **ille**.

As in English, the word for “this” refers to objects nearer the speaker, and the word for “that” refers to objects farther away. In some sentences both words are best used as “the.” Consult textbook for exact forms of **hic** and **ille**.

Apollo Et Phaethon



Apollo, deus solis, in terra Graeciae unum filium, Phaethon, habebat. Cotidie ille currum aureum cum equis quattuor ignis per caelum egit. Phaethon cum amicis eius equos et currum patris eius spectabat. “Hic est pater meus,” dixit Phaethon illis. Ei eorum amico non crediderunt, et dixerunt ei, “Fabula haec est falsa! Ille non est pater tuus.”

Is cum ira respondit, “Illa verba mea vera sunt. Filius eius sum. Illud probabo!” Statim Phaethon ad regiam illius dei properavit. Iter erat difficillimum et longissimum, sed hic puer tandem in illum locum venit. Apollo hunc puerum procul vidit, quod oculi eius omnia vident. “Cur in hunc locum venisti, mi fili?” ille deus rogavit. Puer respondit, “Illi pueri in terra dixerunt: ‘hic deus non pater tuus est.’” Apollo ei dixit: “Quid signum illis dabo? Quo modo veritatem eis demonstrabo?” “O pater,” is dixit, “Si currum tuum in caelo agam, signum eis erit. Dubitatio eorum placebitur.”

Analysis helps for “**Apollo et Phaethon**”

The most important word in a Latin sentence or clause is the verb. It is often found at the end of the sentence or clause. As stories tend to be told in third person, the verbs often take the subject “they” in which case the verb will end in -nt, or the subject “he, she or it” in which case the verb will end in -t. (Note: the next story, “**Pater et Filius**”, is a dialogue, and this helpful little device will not always apply. For most stories, however, it works.)

Look at the first sentence of “**Apollo et Phaethon**.” Find the two words that end in -t. Each is a verb which closes its clause or sentence. Since **deus soli** describes Apollo, Apollo is the subject of the verb **habebat**. Translate the first three words, translate **habebat** next, and then translate the rest of the sentence.

The second sentence has only one verb, which is found at the end of the sentence. It is the third principal part of **ago**. The first word in this sentence is an adverb; translate it, then look for subject and direct object, since the verb means “drive” and needs one of each.

The subject must be in the nominative case and the direct object in the accusative. **Ille**, the masculine nominative form of one of our new pronouns, is the subject. Remember that the most common singular accusative ending is -m. After sorting out the subject and direct object, all you have left are a pair of prepositional phrases.

Apply all of the above to the third sentence, adding the fact that -as, -os and -es are the three most common accusative plural endings. In this sentence you have one singular and one plural direct object. The rest of this sentence consists of two prepositional phrases, of which one has a stated preposition--**cum**-- and the other a preposition built in because the word is in the genitive case.

The fourth sentence is short, and will probably present only one problem--a built-in preposition. In the third sentence the noun with the built-in preposition was in the genitive, so the preposition was “of.” In this sentence the word **illis** is dative, so the built-in preposition is “to.”

In the fifth sentence you have three different forms of our new pronoun **is**. The first word in the sentence is nominative plural **ei**: the same word just before the quote is dative singular. Consult your chart for their respective meanings.

❖ SECTION II Personal Pronouns EGO and TU; Reflexive SE ❖

sing		plur		sing		plur	
Nom ego – I		nos – we		tu - you		vos – you	
Gen mei – my, mine		nostrum – our		tui – your		vestrum – your	
Dat mihi – to me		nobis – to us		tibi – to you		vobis – to you	
Acc me – me		nos – us		te – you		vos – you	
Abl me – by, with me		nobis – by, with us		te – by, with you		vobis – by, with you	

sing		plur	
Nom -----		-----	
Gen sui- of himself, herself, itself		sui – of themselves	
Dat sibi- to, for himself, etc		sibi – to, for themselves	
Acc se – himself, etc		se - themselves	
Abl se - by, with himself, etc		se- by, with themselves	

Pater Et Filius



Apollo: Pro hac causa, mi fili, mihi properavisti? Donum tibi dabo; hoc per flumen Stygium iuravi. Tu es filius meus, et ego te amo. Sed nemo debet rogare exitium suum. Quisque se amare, non delere debet. Roga, oro, donum non periculosum.

Phaethon: Non periculosum mihi est; equos tuos agere possum.

Apollo: Hoc desiderium tui est contra leges naturae. Puer es sed laborem dei rogas.

Phaethon: Ego hoc solum desidero. Tu iuravisti. Da mihi currum unum diem.

Apollo: Te delebis. Dolor, non honor tibi erit. Tristissime coronam radorum in capite tuo ponam.

Analysis helps: Since this is a conversation, and students have some acquaintance with the story from the paragraph studied above, this might be approached first orally, with half the class reading Apollo’s lines and half reading Phaethon’s. Remember that conversation usually involves first and second person verbs. Verbs ending in **-m** or **-o** will have the subject “I.”

❖ **SECTION III The Relative Pronoun** ❖

A RELATIVE pronoun RELATES the clause which it introduces to a particular word in the rest of the sentence. It takes its number (singular or plural) and its gender (masculine, feminine, or neuter) from the word to which it relates. It takes its case (nom. gen. etc) from its use in the clause which it introduces.

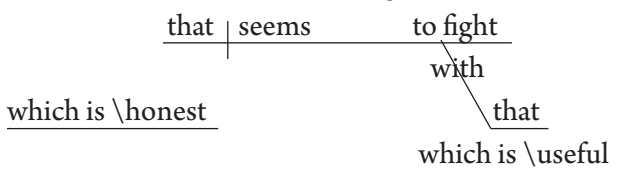
SINGULAR			PLURAL		
m	f	n	m	f	n
qui-who	quae- who	quod-which	qui-who	quae-who	quae- which
cuius-whose of whom	cuius-whose of whom	cuius-of which	quorum-whose of whom	quarum-whose of whom	quorum-of which
cui-to whom	cui-to whom	cui-to which	quibus-to whom	quibus-to whom	quibus to which
quem-whom(d.o)	quam-whom	quod-which	quos-whom(d.o)	quas-whom	quae-which
quo-by whom	qua-by whom	quo- by which	quibus-by whom	quibus-by whom	quibus-by which

IF A WORD IS MASCULINE OR FEMININE IN LATIN BUT NEUTER IN ENGLISH, **qui** OR **quae** MUST BE TRANSLATED “which”

When the preposition **cum** (with) is used with a relative pronoun, it is attached to the end of the pronoun: **quocum**, **quibuscum**-with whom or with which

Study this example sentence

That which is honest seems to fight with that which is useful.



Notice that the clauses which are introduced by the relative pronoun are like small sentences embedded in a larger one.

Translate the following:

1. That which is not honest is not useful.

2. Phaethon, whose father was Apollo, went to the palace of this god.

Phaethon Volat



Apollo, cuius filius currum solis agere desideravit, erat tristissimus. Pater, tamen, qui per flumen Stygium iuraverat, non filium eius negare potuit. Dea Aurora, quae cotidie equos ignis paravit, eos eduxit. Phaethon gratias patri cui laetitiam debebat egit. Apollo filium quem numquam iterum videret (he would see) complectus est (embraced).

Equi solis, qui territi sunt ab animalibus Zodiaci, ferociter cucurrerunt. Phaethon non potuit regere equos quibuscum volavit. Juppiter timens ignem in terra et caelo fulmen quod currum delevit iecit. Equi quorum frena deleta erant fugerunt. Phaethon in aquas quae erant infra eum cecidit.

Analysis helps:

Each sentence in this story is complex: each has one independent and one relative clause. Each sentence has two verbs. The last verb in each sentence is the main, or independent, verb. The embedded verb belongs to the relative clause. Underline each relative clause (which should run from the relative pronoun to the embedded verb).

Students may diagram the sentences or write them out in English.