

## Pronouns (cont'd)

that if the person is preceded by the preposition “à”, that person is an indirect object.

### Tonic Pronouns

Tonic pronouns are used for emphasis and in some special situations. They always refer to a **person**.

They are used mainly:

- after prepositions such as: *sans* (without), *pour* (for), *dans* (inside), *après* (after), *chez* (at someone’s place), *avec* (with), *devant* (in front), etc...
- when you have a double sub-

ject (*Paul et moi allons au cinéma ce soir* = Paul and I are going to the cinema this evening.)

- after the preposition “à” in many expressions (*être à* indicating possession, *faire attention à*, *penser à* – *Ce stylo est à moi* = This pen is mine, *C’est très gentil de penser à nous* = That’s very nice to think about us)

- alone in answer to a question or for emphasis (*Qui est là ? Moi !* = Who’s there ? *Me ! Lui, il est vraiment con !* = He is really stupid)

- together with “-même” (*moi-même* = myself, *lui-même* = himself)

- after *c’est* and *ce sont*: (*Ce*

*sont eux qui sont venus ici* = They are the ones who came here.)

- with the negative adverb *ne... que* and conjunction *ne... ni* : (*Je ne prends qu’elle dans mon équipe !* = I’m only taking her in my team!)

The tonic pronouns are as follows:

- Moi* = me
- Toi* = you
- Lui* = him
- Elle* = her
- Soi* = one
- Nous* = us
- Vous* = you
- Eux* = them (masc)
- Elles* = them (fem.)

**Note** that with the tonic pronouns, you must distinguish between masculine and feminine in the third person singular and plural

### Examples:

- Tu viens chez moi ?* = You’re coming to my place?
- Non, je vais chez elle !* = No, I’m going to her place!
- J’achète ce livre pour toi !* = I’m buying this book for you !
- Attention ! Devant toi, il y a une voiture !* = Careful! In front of you there is a car!
- Je suis vraiment bête, moi !* = I’m really stupid!
- Cette voiture est à vous, monsieur ?* = Is this your car, sir ?

Céline Anthonioz

## 1st Role Play—Beginner Level

Une maman parle de son fils à la maîtresse d’école.

A Mom is speaking about her son to the school teacher.

**La maman** : Bonjour, je voudrais vous poser quelques questions sur Jérôme.

**The mom**: Hello, I would like to ask a few questions about Jérôme.

**La maîtresse** : Allez-y, je vous en prie.

**The school teacher**: Go ahead, please.

**La maman** : Est-ce que Jérôme vous écoute bien en classe ?

**The mom**: Does Jérôme listen to you well?

**La maîtresse** : Non, il ne m’écoute pas toujours très bien. Il préfère parler avec ses amis en classe.

**The school teacher**: No, he doesn’t always listen well. He prefers to speak with his friends in class.

**La maman** : Ah bon ! Il parle beaucoup avec eux ?

**The mom**: Oh really! He speaks a lot with them?

**La maîtresse** : Oui, lui et deux autres enfants !

**The school teacher**: Yes, he and two other children.

**La maman** : Est-ce que vous lui dites quelque chose ?

**The mom**: Do you say anything to him?

**La maîtresse** : Oui, bien sûr ! De temps en temps, je lui donne un

**The school teacher**: Yes, of course! From time to time I give

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**La maîtresse** : Est-ce que il aime les bandes dessinées françaises ?

**The school teacher**: Does he read French comic strips?

**La maman** : Oh oui, il les aime bien !

**The mom**: Yes, he likes them a lot!

**La maîtresse** : Très bien, continuez à l’encourager...

**The school teacher**: Very well, continue to encourage him...

**La maman** : Ah merci, je suis rassurée pour son français !

**The mom**: Ah thank you! I am reassured for his French.

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