SOUTHERN PROVINCIAL DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

English Language Improvement Activities

Grade 8

GRAMMAR: REFLEXIVE PRONOUNS

We use a reflexive pronoun when we want to refer back to the subject of the sentence. Reflexive pronouns end in "-self" (singular) or "-selves" (plural).

There are 8 reflexive pronouns.

Reflexive Pronouns with Objects

We use verb + reflexive pronoun + object when we do something for ourselves.

She **cooked herself** (a fish curry).

We taught ourselves (English).

We use verb + object + reflexive pronoun when we want to emphasize that another person did not do the action (or assist).

I repaired (the tire) myself.

They did (the homework) themselves.

My brother spoke (to his boss) himself about a raise.

By + Reflexive Pronouns

We use by + myself/yourself/himself etc when we are alone or not with another person.

Jacob went to the party by himself.

Emma was sitting by herself.

ACTIVITY 1

Rearrange the words to form correct sentences to use reflexive pronouns as objects.

- 1. herself / does / always / she / things / by
- 2. a / I / dictionary / myself / bought
- 3. of / made / cup / himself / he / a / tea
- 4. a / circle / they / in / arranged / themselves
- 5. defended / the / dog / against / kitten / our / itself

ACTIVITY 2

Follow the example and mark with ^ the position where you can use the word given within brackets. Copy them to your writing book.

- * I ^ prepared the meals . [myself]
- 1. The teacher telephoned my mother . [herself]
- 2. My father grows these vegetables. [himself]
- 3. They built a house. [themselves]
- 4. The kitten cleaned. [itself]
- 5. We cooked the meals. [ourselves]

Extra: 6. She painted the picture. [herself]

- 7. We baked the cake. [ourselves]
- 8. He killed before the police came. [himself]
- 9. I will do it . [myself]

- 10. Father washed the car. [himself] 11. Please, fill the application. [yourself] **ACTIVITY** 3 Underline the suitable reflexive pronouns. 1.Dad and I painted the picture . [myself / himself / itself / ourselves] 2. The children made Vesak decorations by ______. [itself / ourselves / themselves / their selves] 3. We enjoyed _____ playing badminton. [ourself / yourself / ourselves / myself] 4. Some people only think about ______. [himself / ourselves / theirselves / themselves] 5. My little sister can dress ______. [himself / itself / herself / yourself] **ACTIVITY 4** Write the words given within brackets in the plural form. were covered with some fungi. 2. I like to read English.....[story] very much. 4. There were some **deer**] eating in a field. 5. Mother washed all the[potato] well before cutting them. 6. I watched two[video] of the accident yesterday. 7. Our cat caught five big[mouse] only last week.
 - 9. There are many[woman] who work hard in factories.
 - 10. Some[baby] do not like to drink milk.

8. I don't like those[photo] of the party.

ACTIVITY 5

Fill in the blanks with the correct passive form of the verb. I am in Grade 8 C. Our classroom 1).....[sweep] daily by the girls. The desks and chairs 2).....[arrange] by the boys. Usually the register 3).....[bring] the class monitor. However, yesterday, it 4).....[bring] by the monitor was absent. The teacher's me as table 5).....[arrange] by Devika. Our class has a flower bed. It 6).....[water] by a group of boys. It is one of the cleanest classrooms in our school. **ACTIVITY 6** Fill in the blanks with the with the correct passive form of the verbs given within brackets. Use The Simple Present, The Simple Past or The Simple Future passive forms. 1. The gate[paint] by some children last week. 2. A Photographic Exhibition[hold] next week. 3. Vesak festival [celebrate] all around the world. 4. The class room[sweep] by the girls every day. 5. The letter [post] last Monday. 6. The trip to Kandy[cancel] due to bad weather. Principal announced it yesterday. 7. A cricket tournament[hold] in our school next month. 8. The gates [open] an hour ago. 9. I [not invite] to the party as I was in hospital with my grandfather. 10. Teachers[respect] by students.

Activity 7

Complete the following note.

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