Possessive pronouns are sometimes called possessive adjectives. No matter what you call them, their use is clear and simple. Just like reflexive pronouns, possessive pronouns have personal pronoun counterparts. Look at this table of pronouns to see the relationship:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Object</th>
<th>Possessive 1</th>
<th>Possessive 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>me</td>
<td>my</td>
<td>mine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>you</td>
<td>you</td>
<td>your</td>
<td>yours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>he</td>
<td>him</td>
<td>his</td>
<td>his</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>she</td>
<td>her</td>
<td>her</td>
<td>hers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>it</td>
<td>it</td>
<td>its</td>
<td>its</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>we</td>
<td>us</td>
<td>our</td>
<td>ours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>they</td>
<td>them</td>
<td>their</td>
<td>theirs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There is a difference in the use of the possessive pronouns 1 and 2. The possessive pronoun 1 always stands before a noun and modifies it. The possessive pronoun 2 replaces a possessive pronoun 1 and a noun, when the noun is understood. Look at these examples:

- *My gift is unusual.*  
  *Which gift is mine?* (my gift)

- *Is this your brother?*  
  *The seat on the right will be yours.* (your seat)

- *Our friends live here.*  
  *These two dogs are ours.* (our dogs)

- *His aunt is a doctor.*  
  *His is a doctor.* (his aunt)

- *Her dress is very nice.*  
  *Hers is very nice.* (her dress)

Possessive pronouns tell to whom or to what something belongs.
Exercise 17-1

*Change the possessive pronoun 1 to a possessive pronoun 2 and omit the noun.*

**EXAMPLE:** She has my book.

*She has mine.*

1. The car on the corner is my car.

2. Was this your house?

3. The invading soldiers searched their house.

4. Did Dee find her briefcase?

5. Our relatives have lived in Brazil for a long time.

6. His boss is fair with everyone.

7. These problems are entirely his problems.

8. I need your advice.

9. My landlord is going to raise the rent.

10. Their long conversations made no sense.
Exercise 17-2

Change the italicized word or phrase to the possessive pronoun counterpart of the subject of the sentence.

EXAMPLE: He likes the new car.
          He likes his new car.

1. The women want to visit some relatives in Europe.

2. She takes the children for a long walk.

3. Do you have the tools in the truck?

4. I sent the address and telephone number to the office.

5. We want this one.

6. The picture fell out of the frame.

7. They spend a lot of time in Canada.

8. Are you selling these?

9. I left some papers in the apartment.

10. Jose found the wallet under the bed.

Exercise 17-3

Circle the boldface word that best completes each sentence.

1. Did you leave yours/mine/your keys on the desk?

2. Her brother met his/her/their wife in Paris.
3. This book is our/his/her, and that one belongs to Smita.

4. Where did they buy theirs/blouse/its?

5. I believe I forgot mine/her/my again.

6. My sister gave mine/her/its watch to me.

7. I saw your tickets, but where are her/my/ours?

8. Hers/Theirs/His uncle is coming to America to live.

9. The fox hurt its/hers/front foot in a trap.

10. May I have hers/my/mine dinner now?