

Indefinite Pronouns

An indefinite pronoun refers to a non-specific person or thing.

The most common ones

are *all, any, anyone, anything, each, everybody, everyone, everything, few, many, nobody, none, one, several, some, somebody, and someone.*

Like all pronouns, an indefinite pronoun is a substitute for a noun.

Examples of Indefinite Pronouns

Here are some examples of indefinite pronouns (shaded):

- A classic is something that everybody wants to have read and nobody wants to read. (Mark Twain, 1835-1910)
- Of those who say nothing, few are silent. (Thomas Neill)
- Everything is funny as long as it is happening to somebody else. (Will Rogers, 1879-1935)
- Everybody likes a kidder, but nobody lends him money. (Arthur Miller, 1915-2005)
- I don't know anything about music. In my line, you don't have to. (Elvis Presley, 1935-1977)

The Difference between Indefinite Pronouns and Indefinite Adjectives

When a word like *all, any, anyone*, etc. is used as an adjective, it is known as an indefinite adjective. (In the examples below, the indefinite pronouns are shaded.)

- All in the lobby must remain seated. (This is an indefinite pronoun.)
- **All** personnel in the lobby must remain seated. (This is an indefinite adjective. It modifies *personnel*.)
- Please take some to Mrs Chandler. (indefinite pronoun)

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- Please take **some** lemons to Mrs. Chandler. (This is an indefinite adjective. It modifies *lemons*.)

Indefinite Pronouns Singular or Plural?

The biggest issue with indefinite pronouns is determining whether they are singular or plural. Here is a list:

Singular Indefinite Pronouns	Plural Indefinite Pronouns	Indefinite Pronouns Which Can be Singular or Plural
Another Anybody Anyone Anything Each Either Enough Everybody Everyone Everything Less Little Much Neither Nobody No-one Nothing One Other Somebody Someone Something	Both Few Fewer Many Others Several	All Any More Most None Some Such

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