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Pronouns

PRONOUNS L5 – POSSESSIVE PRONOUNS

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Video Lesson:

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WHAT ARE POSSESSIVE PRONOUNS?

Possessive pronouns show ownership or belonging and replace a previously mentioned noun. They are *mein*, *dein*, *sein*, *ihr*, *unser*, *euer*, *ihr*, and the declined forms.

Examples:

- „Ist das dein Koffer?“ – „Ja, das ist **meiner**!“
- „Wem gehört die Katze?“ – „Das ist **meine**!“

POSSESSIVE ARTICLES & POSSESSIVE PRONOUNS

Difference between **Possessive Articles** and **Possessive Pronouns**:

- „Wem gehört der Ball?“ – „Das ist **mein** Ball.“
→ Possessive article because there is a noun behind it.
- „Wem gehört der Ball?“ – „Das ist **meiner**.“
→ Possessive pronoun because there is no noun behind it.

CONSTRUCTION

The "owner" (*ich*, *du*, *er*, *sie*, *es*, *wir*, *ihr*, *sie*, *Sie*) determines the base form.

The gender and number of the noun that is "owned", as well as the case, tell you which ending you have to use.

= 100% JUST LIKE THE POSSESSIVE ARTICLES

„Wem gehört der Ball?“ (Gender = masculine)

Person	Base Form	Pronoun	Case
ich	mein	→ „Das ist meiner !“	Always nominative because the possessive pronoun is the subject. → Nominative (m) = "d er " → Ending " er "
du	dein	→ „Das ist deiner !“	
er	sein	→ „Das ist seiner !“	
sie	ihr	→ „Das ist ihrer !“	
es	sein	→ „Das ist seiner !“	
wir	unser	→ „Das ist unserer !“	
ihr	euer	→ „Das ist eurer !“	
sie/Sie	ihr/Ihr	→ „Das ist ihrer/Ihrer !“	

DECLENSION

The declension is related to the possessive article's declension.

But: Pronouns always take the ending of the definite article, including in the nominative case (m/n) and accusative case (m).

	Gender	Nominative	Accusative	Dative	Genitive
Singular	Masculine	meiner	meinen	meinem	meines
	Neuter	mein(e)s	mein(e)s	meinem	meines
	Feminine	meine	meine	meiner	meiner
Plural		meine	meine	meinen	meiner

Exception:

euer Haus → euer**es**! / euer**s**

euer Ball → euer**er**!

If you add an ending to "euer", you must drop the "e" in the middle. (Unless you only add "s").

USAGE

It is used as a substitute for a previously mentioned noun when asking about affiliation.

- „Wem gehört das Auto?“ – „Das ist **mein(e)s**!“

We use it mostly after the question of who owns something. If you repeat the noun, it is no longer a possessive pronoun anymore but a possessive article.

SUMMARY

- If there is a noun behind it, it's a possessive article. If not, it's a possessive pronoun.
- The construction is the same as the one of the possessive article.
- But possessive pronouns also get an ending in the nominative case (m/n) and accusative case (n).

TASK



- Write down ten sample phrases, first with the possessive article and then the same one with a possessive pronoun.
- Check your own language! Do you have possessive pronouns? How do you use them?

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