

The cat. The word "cat." The dog. The word "dog." The boy. The word "boy," etc.

The object of this exercise is to give the child a distinct idea of the difference between a noun and an object of thought. A noun is always a word. An object of thought is never a word, except when it is a word of which we are thinking. For example: Think of the word "John." Now what becomes the object of our thought?

Answer.—A word.

EXERCISE II.

Write ten sentences each containing at least two nouns. Underline the nouns. Exchange slates and correct.

EXERCISE III.

Select the nouns in the following extract from the writings of Edward Everett:

"It was a mild, serene, midsummer's night; the sky was without a cloud; the winds were quiet; the Pleiades, just above the horizon, shed their sweet influence in the east. At length the timid approach of twilight became more perceptible; the intense blue of the sky began to soften; the smaller stars, like little children, went first to rest. Hands of angels, hidden from mortal eyes, shifted the scenery of the heavens; the glories of night dissolved into the glories of dawn."—*Sunrise*.

QUESTIONS ON EXERCISE III.

When is midsummer? What are the Pleiades? How many are there? Can you find them in the heavens on a starry night? (If not, tell the children in what part of the heavens to look for them, and at what time.) Why should Tennyson, speaking of the Pleiades, say they

"Glitter like a swarm of fireflies
Tangled in a silver braid."

What is the horizon? What do we mean by twilight? Does it occur at night or in the morning? "What does 'perceptible' mean? Why does the author say the smaller stars went 'to rest'?" How many of the children go to rest before the older members of the family? Why should children retire early? The meaning of "mortal eyes?" "dissolved?" "dawn?" Is the author living? If not, where did he live? For what is he noted? How many would like to read something else by the same author? Look in your Readers, and perhaps you will find other selections from Everett's writings.

(This clue followed out may lead to a life-long interest in such writings.)

EXERCISE IV.

Select all the nouns in your reading-lesson for the day. Count them, and observe that a large part of the words on a page are nouns.

Topic: Pronoun.

Definition: A pronoun is a word used in place of a noun.

Method: First illustrate the need of such words,

Whose hat is this?

Ans.—John's.

Whose hand is this?

Ans.—Yours.

Who teaches John?

Ans.—You do.

Then whose teacher am I?

Ans.—John's teacher.

Whose head is this?

Ans.—John's head.

What has John's teacher done with John's hat?

Ans.—She has put it on John's head.

I will write on the board what John's teacher has done. Thus: John's teacher took John's hat in John's teacher's hand and put John's hat on John's head.

Would you tell me what I have done, in the same way? No? Then you may cross out any word you would change, and write another in its place. Now read.

Answer.—John's teacher took John's hat in her hand, and put it on his head.

What kind of words are all these crossed out?

Answer.—Nouns.

Then the new words are used in place of what words?

Answer.—A word used in place of a noun is a pronoun. Define.

EXERCISE I.

Select the pronouns in the following sentences:—

1. I was once a barefoot boy.
2. Be thou a hero.
3. These are my jewels.
4. How dismal you look!
5. Every sin brings its punishment with it.
6. Leaves have their time to fall.
7. I am afraid to do a mean thing.
8. Our influence has no nights and keeps no Sabbaths.
9. Nothing is impossible to him who wills.
10. Blessed is the man who has found his work.
11. If you bring a smiling visage to the glass, you meet a smile.
12. We do not seek God; God seeks us.
13. He giveth His beloved sleep.
14. Drive thy business; let not thy business drive thee.
15. What no one with me shares seems scarce my own.
16. Earth, with her thousand voices, praises God.
17. They ne'er pardon who have done the wrong.
18. For his gayer hours she has a voice of gladness.

EXERCISE II.

Select pronouns from the reading-lesson.

EXERCISE III.

Count all the nouns and all the pronouns on one page of your Readers. Count the remaining words.

OBJECTIONABLE EXPRESSIONS.

Cut under, for undersell.

Corporeal, for corporal.

Dicker, for barter.

Directly, for as soon as.

Donate, for present.

Don't for doesn't. "Dont" should be used only where it would be correct to use "do not."

Down upon, for opposed to.

Down cellar, for down in the cellar.

Dragged out, for fatigued.

Draw the wool over the eyes, for deceive.

Dreadful, for very; as "dreadful nice."

Elegant, for excellent; as, "elegant apples."

Fork over, for pay.

Give in, for yield.

Go through the mill, for acquire experience.

Go under, for succumb or perish.

Goner, for one who is lost.

Grand, for excellent or beautiful; as, "a grand time."

Great big, for very large.

Guess, for suppose.

Hain't, for have not. [ly.

Hand-running, for consecutive.

Hang-fire, for halt or delay.

Hang-around, for loiter.

Hard-case, for worthless person.

Hold on, for wait.

Hopping mad, for very angry.

How? for What did you say?

Hung, for hanged; as, "the murderer was hung."

Hush up, for be silent.

Illy, for ill.

It was her, for it was she.

It was me, for it was I.

Keep a stiff upper lip, for be firm.

Kick up a row, for create a disturbance.

—At Home and Abroad.