SUBJECT PRONOUNS

Third lesson – Troisième leçon
1. Introduction

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   3.1 Using « Tu » : you, informal
   3.2 Using « Vous » : you: formal/informal
   3.3 Using « On »
   3.4 Using « Il » : personal /impersonal
   3.5 Using « Ils & Elles »
1. Introduction

- Subject pronouns are used to indicate the person, object or things that causes the action of a verb.
## 1. Subject Pronouns: Forms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject pronoun</th>
<th>Translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1st person sg.</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Je/j’</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2nd person sg.</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tu</td>
<td>You (sing. informal)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3rd person sg.</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Il</td>
<td>He</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elle</td>
<td>She</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On</td>
<td>One, we, you…</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1st person pl.</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nous</td>
<td>We</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2nd person pl.</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vous</td>
<td>You (plural/ sing. formal)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3rd person pl.</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ils/elles</td>
<td>They (masc. &amp; fem.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. **Generalities**

- There is no neutral pronoun in French: a noun is masculine, feminine or plural.
3.1. ABOUT « TU »

- The 2nd person pronoun tu (you) is used to address one person.

- Its use is called « tutoiement ».

- It is used between people that know each other, or people of the same age or of the same social rank.

- It is **informal**.
3.2 About « VOUS »

- The 2nd person pronoun vous (you) is used to address more than one person.

- It is also used when talking to someone you don’t know, to an older person, to somebody in a formal situation or below you in rank (ex.: a president to his plumber would use « vous »).

- Its use is called « vouvoiement ».

- It is formal.
3.3 About « On »

- **On** is used in informal language to replace we, one, someone, they, everyone, people.

  On est ici. We are here.
3.3 About « ils / elles »

- **Ils** (they) and **elles** (they) refer to animate and inanimate group of nouns.

  Pierre et Paul → ils  
  Marie, Anne, Pumza → elles  
  Le chat (cat) et le chien (dog) → ils  
  Le livre (book) et le cahier (notebook) → ils
3.3 About « ils / elles »

- **Elles** replaces groups of people or things that are all feminine in gender.

   Marie, Anne et Pumza → elles
3.3 About « ils / elles »

- Ils replaces animates or things that are masculine in gender or any group that includes at least one male or masculine object.

  Pierre et Paul → ils
  Marie, Anne, Pumza et Pierre → ils
  Le chat (cat), le chien (dog), la vache (cow) → ils
C’est tout pour aujourd’hui!

Au revoir!

Merci!