

# Reflexive pronouns

## Lesson objectives

The objective of this lesson is to introduce you to reflexive pronouns.

## Reflexive pronouns

### Subject pronouns

### Reflexive pronouns

|        |                  |                 |             |
|--------|------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| I      | <b>je</b>        | Myself          | <b>me</b>   |
| You    | <b>tu</b>        | Yourself        | <b>te</b>   |
| He/She | <b>il/elle</b>   | Himself/herself | <b>se</b>   |
| We     | <b>nous</b>      | Ourselves       | <b>nous</b> |
| You    | <b>vous</b>      | Yourselves      | <b>vous</b> |
| They   | <b>ils/elles</b> | Themselves      | <b>se</b>   |

## Notes

Reflexive verbs are verbs whose direct object refers to the subject of the same verb.

In French, **George** (the subject) is **washing** (the verb) **himself** (the reflexive pronoun) would be: **George se lave** ('se' refers back to George — the verb is 'se laver' \*reflexive verbs in their infinitive form have se in front).

\***Je, te, me** and **se** become **j', t', m'** and **s'** before a vowel or mute 'h'.

## Examples

She is washing herself in the bathroom: **Elle se lave dans la salle de bains.**

We are looking at ourselves in front of the mirror: **Nous nous regardons devant le miroir.**

I am putting on some perfume: **Je me mets du parfum.**

\*Some verbs can be both reflexive and non-reflexive (For example: **laver** (to wash) and **se laver** (to wash oneself)).

## Exercise

Translate:

1. I am preparing myself for tonight.
2. He is talking to himself.
3. They are showing themselves.

Answers:  
 1. Je me prépare pour ce soir.  
 2. Il se parle.  
 3. Ils/elles se montrent.