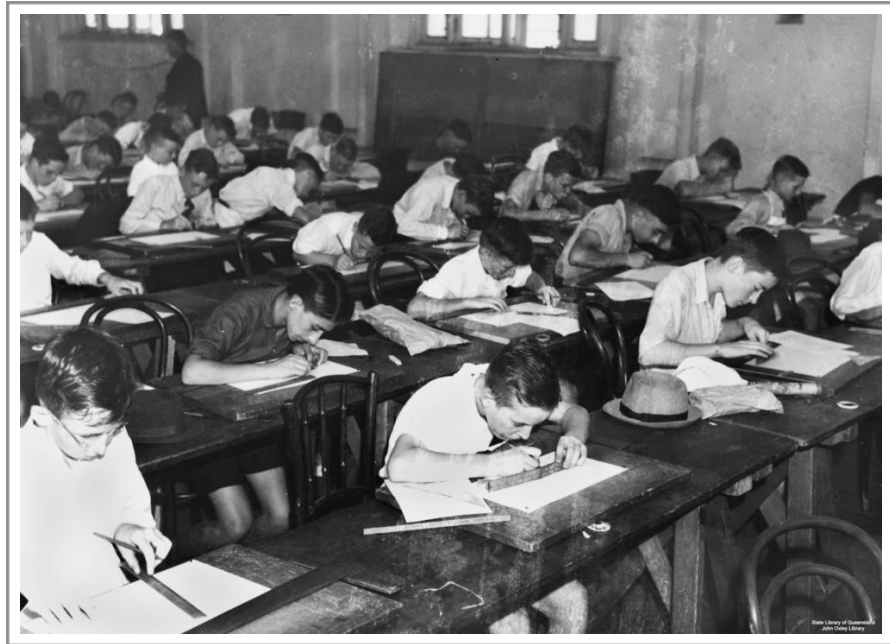


Grammar 2: Usage

Assignment 6

- Complete Chapter 6 on relative and indefinite pronouns, except the test.
- Take the chapter Test 5, scan it and email to me by Tuesday morning. Remember that I want the answers on *one* page.



- You may want to start preparing for our first unit test, which will be in three weeks (after chapter 8).
- Above is a picture of a classroom with Gentleman Wombley as a student. He is pictured in the very far right (hardly visible). On the second page is a painting of Censor (the man with the beard) instructing a boy on the Franco-Prussian War. (Gentleman Wombley inherited the painting.) Censor, so Gentleman Wombley tells me, was an expert in European history as well as grammar.

MORE ADVICE FROM CENSOR, GENTLEMAN WOMBLEY'S TEACHER (1837)

Don't say *don't* for *does not*. *Don't* is a contraction of *do not*, not of *does not*. Hence, "He don't" is not permissible. Say "He doesn't," or use the words in full.

Don't say *aziz't* for *t'sn't*, and, above all, *don't* say *'tain't*.¹ Say *aren't* for *are not*, *isn't* for *is not*: do not use *ain't* at all, which is possibly an abbreviation of *aren't*, but a distasteful phrase under all circumstances.

Don't say "I done it," "he done it," "they done it." This is a very gross error, yet it is

¹ Here again the compiler has been accused of going below the class which he addresses; but, in truth, he has heard this phrase from people of excellent literary and social standing. No doubt, it was spoken carelessly rather than ignorantly, but this makes a reminder none the less necessary. (Censor's note)

often made by people who ought to know better. “I did it,” “he did it,” “they did it,” is, it ought to be unnecessary to say, the correct form.

Don't say “I seen,” say “I saw.”

This error is commonly made by the same people who say “I done it.” A similar error is, “If he had went,” instead of “If he had gone.”

Don't say “It is hz'm,” or “It is me,” say “It is he,” and “It is I.” The pronoun in these instances must be in the nominative case.

Don't say “He is older than me,” say “He is older than I.” “I am taller than he,” not “I am taller than him.”

Don't say “Charles and *me* are going to church.”

The proper form is “Charles and *I* are going,” etc.

Don't say “Between you and *I*.” By an ingenious perversity, the same people who insist, in the instances we have cited, upon using the objective case where the nominative is called for, in this phrase reverse the proceeding. They should say, “Between you and *me*.”

Don't, in referring to a person, say *he* or *she* or *him*, but always mention the name. “Mrs. *Smith* thinks it will rain,” not “*she* thinks it will rain.” There are men who continually refer to their wives as *she*, and wives who have commonly no other name than *he* for their husbands. This is abominable.

