

41. Personal pronouns (5) - Disjunctive pronouns

1 Definition

Disjunctive pronouns are pronouns that do not stand directly with the verb as its subject or object. They are: *moi, toi, lui, elle, nous, vous, eux, elles, soi*.

2 Use

Disjunctives are used:

2.1 After most prepositions and the conjunction *comme*, to replace nouns referring to both people and things:

Pour un ancien soldat **comme lui**, ce n'est pas un problème
For a former soldier like him, it's not a problem
Ma carte de crédit? Je ne sors jamais sans **elle**!
My credit card? I never leave home without it!

2.2 When a pronoun is emphasized or contrasted:

Moi, je n'en sais rien - *I don't know anything*
Non, c'est ton avis à **toi** - *No, that's your opinion*
Il ne fait rien, **lui** - *He doesn't do anything*
Vous êtes à un bout de la maison, **eux** à l'autre
You're at one end of the house, they're at the other

2.3 When a pronoun is followed by *aussi* or *seul*:

Moi aussi, je les ai vus **Lui** seul le savait
I saw them as well He alone knew

2.4 When a pronoun is the only word in a sentence:

Qui a parlé? - **Moi**
Who spoke? Me

2.5 When a pronoun is used with *et*, *où* or *ni*:

Pierre et **moi** avons décidé d'acheter une nouvelle voiture
Pierre and I have decided to buy a new car

2.6 When a pronoun is used after *il y a* or *c'est*:

Il n'y a que **moi** dans la salle
There's only me in the room
C'est **moi**
It's me
Ce n'est pas **eux** qu'il cherche
It's not them he's looking for