

Smooth Pronoun Combos Answer Key

- Mia bought a new backpack, and she carried it to school.**
(Mia = singular antecedent → she / it)
- The students studied all night, and they were proud of their effort.**
(students = plural antecedent → they / their)
- Neither of the brothers wanted dessert, and he did not finish it.**
(neither = singular antecedent → he / it)
- The committee made a decision, and it shared it with the class.**
(committee = singular collective noun → it)
- Every child has a story, and it is special.**
(every child = singular antecedent → it)
- Somebody left a jacket, and he or she left it on the bench.**
(somebody = singular indefinite pronoun → his or her / it)
- The players won the game, and they celebrated it.**
(players = plural antecedent → they / it)
- Each of the paintings told a story, and it was unique.**
(each = singular antecedent → it)
- Maria and Sofia carried boxes, and they were heavy.**
(Maria and Sofia = plural antecedent → they)
- One of the pencils broke, and it could not be used.**
(one = singular antecedent → it)

Teacher Notes:

- Emphasize that **sentence combining** is not only about avoiding repetition, but also about making sure pronouns clearly and correctly replace nouns.
- Remind students to **find the true antecedent** before choosing a pronoun. Example: *Each of the paintings* → the true antecedent is "each" (singular), not "paintings."
- Encourage students to use **conjunctions (and, but, because, so)** to create smoother combined sentences.
- Extension idea: Have students **write their own two-sentence pairs** and swap with a partner to combine correctly.