

4.3 Clarity - Singular Indefinite Pronouns

Words that are probably singular indefinite pronouns are printed in **BOLDFACE**.

Examples: any, every, one (except when referring to "1"), somebody, anybody, everybody, someone, anyone, everyone, nobody, something, anything, everything, none (except when referring to zero), each, another, either, neither

All verbs and pronouns that relate to indefinite pronouns must be SINGULAR.

This analysis prints only those sentences with singular indefinite pronouns.

More Information

Example

EACH have graduated and have their diploma.

EACH (singular) have (plural) graduated and have (plural) their (plural) diploma (singular).

Revision

EACH (singular) has graduated and has (singular) his or her (singular) diploma (singular).

(To avoid sexist language, use "his or her" with indefinite pronouns.)

Example

At the ceremony, **EVERY** student knows that the President will give him or her a diploma.

Revision

No revisions needed.

At the ceremony, **EVERY** (singular) student knows (singular) that the President will give him or her (singular) a diploma (singular).

Writer's Workbench found **10 singular indefinite pronouns**.

It is not enough in this play to simply watch **ONE** art work emerge Shakespeare's own but we somehow see art in greater depth as Prospero himself creates **ANOTHER** art work within the play and even **ANOTHER** small play within his own.

If this is true, then **ONE** can consider the play as Prospero's own artifact and thus trace his development as an artist in the progression of the play itself.

The characters are at odds, the the natural elements are in chaos - in fact, the entire situation lacks control of **ANY** kind.

A tension in the physical situation itself parallels **ANOTHER** tension on the artistic level.

Living on a primitive island for twelve years, Prospero has done **NOTHING** but indulge his whims in "rough magic."

He has done much, but **NONE** of his activities been able to effect order where it was most needed.

As the scene fades, the total impression is **ONE** of seeming disintegration and chaos.

The characters scatter, losing contact with **EACH** other.