

## I. my/mine

Note the uses of *my* versus *mine* in the passages below, and comment on whether the variation is regular or not.

Where is mine Host?

(Merry Wives of Windsor IV.5.73. Abbott 160).

...unto my hostess of the tavern

(I Henry IV I.2.53. Abbott 160).

By my honour / He shall depart untouched

(Julius Caesar III.1.141. Abbott 160).

My ear should catch your voice, my eye your eye

(Midsummer Night's Dream I.1.188. Abbott 160, Blake 75).

Helena: Haue you not set Lysander, as in scorne To follow me, and praise my eies and face?

(Midsummer Night's Dream III.ii.222-23; Abbott 160, Blake 76).

Shallow: Knight, you haue beaten my men, kill'd my / deere, and broke open my Lodge

(Merry Wives of Windsor I.i; cited Franz 293, section 247).

Falstaff: Shall I not take mine ease in mine Inne, / but I shall haue my Pocket pick'd? I haue lost a Seale-Ring / of my Grand-fathers, worth fortie Marke

(I Henry IV, III.iii; cited Franz 293, section 247).

Antipholus of Syracuse: I'll prove mine honour and mine honesty

Against thee, with my life, if thou dar'st stand it

(Comedy of Errors V.i; cited Franz 293, section 247).

## II. ye/thou

Note the uses of the second person pronouns in the following passages, and comment on the social registers revealed by the singular versus the plural forms.

Prince: Yea marry, dost thou heare Balthasar? I pray / thee get vs some excellent musick: for to morrow night / we would haue it at the Lady Heroes chamber window.

Balthasar: The best I can, my Lord (Much Ado About Nothing II.iii; Mulholland 153).

Prince: I warrant thee Claudio, the time shall not goe / dully by vs (Much Ado About Nothing II.i; Mulholland 153).

Leonato: coosins, / you know what you haue to doe (Much Ado About Nothing I.ii; Mulholland 153).

Lear: [I] Made you my Guardians, my Depositories (King Lear II.ii; Mulholland 153).

Bullman's wife [to Syllynge]: Noughtie pak [= an insult]

Styllyng [to Bullman's wife]: What nowtynes [i.e. naughtiness, wickedness] know you by me? I am neither goossteler nor steg [i. e. gander] steiler, I would you knew ytt

Bullman's wife [to Syllynge]: What, noughty hoore, caull thou me goose steiler?

Styllyng [to Bullman's wife]: Nay, mayry, I know thee for no such, but I thank you for your good report, whills you and I talk further (Durham University/Surtee Society Case 139 [c. 1565-1573], Deposition of 'Agnes Wheitley. . . of Segefield, aged 33 years'; cited Hope 88).

James Walton: What makes you so hye Sr Richerd?

[Richard Mylner aunswerd that he had bein about a grement, and declared again the matter as he had said immediatly byfore to this examinate]

James Walton: What have ye adoo with that?

Richard Mylner: Yeis I have to do therwith, bycause they ar my parishioners

[James Walton replied still to the contrary, for that one of the parties was boundon to peac, and swore by God's name yf yt wer his matter, he, the said Sir Richerd, shuld have nothing to doo therein]

Richard Mylner: Yees yf the partie greved sought to me, I wold have to doo therein by the auctorite I have under my Lord of Durham, to bringe them to good order and quietness

James Walton: Wawd [i. e. would] thou, thou drouken horemonger preist?

Richard Mylner: James, I have bein punished for my hordom, and the part I dyd; saing yee are my neighbors, a good fellow and nowe an honest man, I pray yow to leave such talke

[James Walton contynewed in his raidge, bragging and swerynge, and said that he wold "whapp his coott," and willed the said Sir Richerd the appoint the plac, and he wold meit hym in any place he durste]

Richard Mylner: Nay, I am a man of peace

James Walton: This drouken horemr[. i.e., whoremonger] priest that is busye in every man's matter

Richard Mylner: Goo thy way, thou art an evill man

James Walton: Yee thou drouken villan, come again, if thou dare, and feight with me yf thou darr

Richard Mylner: Nay I am a man of peace; but I will come to the perchance, when thou are in better mind (Durham University/Surtee Society Case 314 [c. 1575-1577], Deposition of Thomas Robinson, yeoman and servingman, aged c. 32 years; cited Hope 89-90).

Then the said Sr. Peter, seminge to be verie angrie, said unto her, the said Mr. Whitmore, his wif, "Your husband is an undewtifull subject to his Prince" (Durham University/Surtee Society Case 342 [c. 1588], Deposition of "Leonard Ripley [. . .] yoman, aged about 51 years"; cited Hope 92).

Mr. Antony: "Dyd not thou promess me that thou wold tell me and the parson of Hunstonworth who sold George Whitfield sheep?"

Roger Donn: "I need not unless I woll"

Mr. Ratcliff: "Thou breaks promess"

Roger Donn: "You will know yt soon enowgh, for your man, Nicoll Dixson, stole them, that ther stands, upon Thursday bifore Christenmas then last past"

'Donn said that [Ratcliff] shuld never be able to prove hym a theif...'

Roger Donn: "For although ye be a gent., and I a poore man, my honestye shalbe as goode as yours"

Mr. Ratcliff: "What saith thou? liknes thou thy honestye to myn?" (Case 61 [c. 1572-74], from the deposition of 'Christofer Egleston, of Hunstonworth, yoman,' aged 40 years, cited Hope 86).

and when I was brought before [the magistrate] because I did not putt off my hatt and saide thou to him hee askt the man whether I was not Mased or fonde ['mad or imbecile']: and he said noe: itt was my principle (Journal of George Fox [1624-91], founder of the Society of Friends, cited Barber, Early Modern English 155-56).

Foresight: Give me leave to contradict / you, and tell you, you are ignorant. /

Sir Sampson Legend: [. . .] Ignorant!--I tell you, I have travel'd old / Fircu, and know the Globe. I have seen the Antipodes, where / the Sun rises at Midnight, and sets at Noon-day. /

Fore. But I tell you, I have travell'd, and travell'd in the Coelestial / Spheres, know the Signs and the Planets, and their Houses. / Can judge of Motions Direct and Retrograde, of Sextiles, Quadrates, / Trines and Oppositions, Fiery Trignons and Aquatical Trignons. / Know whether life shall be long or short, Happy, or Unhappy, / Whether Diseases are Cureable or Incureable. It Journeys / shall be prosperous, Undertakings successful; or Goods stoll'n / recover'd, I know---

Sir Samp. I know the length of the Emperour of China's Foot; / have kiss'd the Great Mogull's Slipper, and rid a Hunting upon an / Elephant with the Cham [i. e., Khan] of Tartary,---Body of me, I have / made a Cuckold of a King, and the present Majesty of Bantam is / the Issue of these Loyns. /

Fore. I know when Travellers lye or speak Truth, when they / [200] don't know it themselves. /

Sir Samp. I have known an Astrologer made a Cuckold in the / twinckling of a Star; and seen a Conjurer, that cou'd not keep / the Devil out of his Wives Circle. /

Fore. What does he twit [i. e., taunt] me with my Wife too, I must be better / Inform'd of this,---(Aside.)---Do you mean my Wife, Sir Sampson? / Tho' you made a Cuckold of the King of Bantam, yet by the Body / of the Sun---

Sir Samp. By the Horns of the Moon, you wou'd say, Brother / Capricorn. /

Fore. Capricorn in your Teeth, thou Modern Mandevil; Ferdinand / Mendez Pinto was but a Type of thee, thou Lyar of the / first Magnitude. Take back your Paper of Inheritance; send / your Son to Sea again. I'll wed my Daughter to an Egyptian / Mummy, e're she shall Incorporate with a Contemner of Sciences, / and a defamer of Vertue. /

Sir Samp. Body of me, I have gone too far;--- [. . .] I wou'd my Son were an Egyptian / Mummy for thy sake. What, thou art not angry for a Jest, / my good Haly---I Reverence the Sun, Moon and Stars with all / my heart.--What, I'll make thee a Present of a Mummy: Now / I think on't, Body of me, I have a Shoulder of an Egyptian King, / that I purloyn'd from one of the Pyramids, powder'd with Hieroglyphicks, / [225] thou shalt have it sent home to thy House, and make / an Entertainment for all the Philomaths, and Students in Physick / and Astrology in and about London. /

Fore. But what do you know of my Wife, Sir Sampson? /

Sir Samp. Thy Wife is a Constellation of Vertues; she's the / Moon, and thou art the Man in the Moon: Nay, she is more Illustrious / than the Moon; for she has her Chastity without her Inconstancy, / 'S'bud [i.e., 'God's blood,' an oath] I was but in Jest. [. . .]

Fore. Nay, if you were but in Jest... (Congreve, Love for Love [1695], cited Barber, Early Modern English 156).

To. : Why then build me thy fortunes vpon the basis of / valour. Challenge me the Counts youth to sight with him / hurt him in eleuen places, my Neece shall take note of it, / and assure thy selfe, there is no loue-Broker in the world, / can more preuaile in mans commendation with woman, / then report of valour. [. . .] Go, write it in a martial hand, be curst and briefe: / it is no matter how wittie, so it bee eloquent, and full of / inuention: taunt him with the license of Inke: if thou / thou'st him some thrice, it shall not be amisse (Shakespeare, Twelfth Night III.ii; Barber, Early Modern English 154; Brown and Gilman, "The Pronouns of Power and Solidarity," 275; Hussey 120; Blake 6).

All that he did, was at thy instigation, thou viper; for I thou thee, thou traitor (Sir Edward Coke to Sir Walter Raleigh at Raleigh's trial in 1603; cited Brown and Gilman, "The Pronouns of Power and Solidarity," 275).

Tamburlaine: Here, Turk, wilt thou have a clean trencher?

Bajazeth [the imprisoned Turkish emporer]: Ay, tyrant, and more meat.

Tamburlaine: Soft, sir, you must be dieted; too much eating will make you surfeit (Marlowe, Tamberlaine IV; cited Brown and Gilman, "The Pronouns of Power and Solidarity," 275).

Desdemona: Will you come to bed, my Lord?

Othello: Haue you pray'd to night, Desdemon?

Des. I my Lord.

Oth. If you bethinke your selfe of any Crime  
Vnreconcil'd as yet to Heauen, and Grace,  
Solicite for it straight.

Des. Alacke, my Lord,

What may you meane by that?

Oth. Well, do it, and be breefe, I will walke by:

I would not kill thy vnprepared Spirit,

No, Heauens fore-fend) I would not kill thy Soule.

Des. Talke you of killing?

Oth. I, I do.

Des. Then Heauen haue mercy on mee.

Oth. Amen, with all my heart.

Des. If you say, I hope you will not kill me.

Oth. Humh.

Des. And yet I feare you: for you're fatall then  
When your eyes rowle so.

Why I should feare, I know not,

Since guiltinesse I know not: But yet I feele I feare.

Oth. Thinke on thy sinnes.

Des. They are Loues I beare to you.

Oth. I, and for that thou dy'st.

[. . .]

Æmilia: [125] I do beseech you

That I may speake with you. Oh good my Lord.

Othello: I had forgot thee: oh come in Æmilia.

Soft, by and by, let me the Curtaines draw.

Where art thou? What's the matter with thee now?

Enter Æmilia.

...

Æmil. [150] Oh who hath done this deed?

Des. No body: I my selfe, farewell:

Commend me to my kinde Lord: oh farewell.

Oth. Why, how should she be murdered?

Æmil. Alas: who knowes?

Oth. You heare her say her selfe, it was not I.

Æmil. She said so: I must needs report the truth.

Oth. She's like a Liar gone to burning hell,

'Twas I that kill'd her.

Æmil. Oh the more Angell she, and you the blacker / Diuell. /

Oth. She turn'd to folly: and she was a whore.

Æmil. Thou do'st bely her, and thou art a diuell.

Oth. She was false as water.

Æmil. Thou art rash as fire, to say

That she was false. Oh she was heavenly true

(Othello V.ii; cf. Brown and Gilman, "Politeness Theory and Shakespeare's Four Major Tragedies," 177-78).

Hostesse. O, my Lord, my Lord. /

Falst. Heigh, heigh, the Deuill rides vpon a Fiddle-sticke: / what's the matter? /

Hostesse. The Sherife and all the Watch are at the / doore: they are come to search the House, shall I let / them in? /

Falst. [475] Do'st thou heare Hal, neuer call a true peece of / Gold a Counterfeit: thou art essentially made, without / seeming so. /

Prince. And thou a naturall Coward, without instinct. /

Falst. I deny your Maior: if you will deny the / Sherife, so: if not, let him enter. If I become not a Cart / as well as another man, a plague on my bringing vp: I / hope I shall as soone be strangled with a Halter, as another. /

Prince. Goe hide thee behinde the Arras, the rest / walke vp aboue. Now my Masters, for a true Face and / good Conscience. /

Falst. Both which I haue had: but their date is out, / and therefore Ile hide me. /

Exit.

Prince. Call in the Sherife. /

Enter Sherife and the Carrier.

Prince. Now Master Sherife, what is your will with / mee? /

She. First pardon me, my Lord. A Hue and Cry hath / followed certaine men vnto this house. /

Prince. What men? /

She. One of them is well knowne, my gracious Lord, / a grosse fat man. /

Car. As fat as Butter. /

Prince. The man, I doe assure you, is not heere,

For I my selfe at this time haue imploy'd him:

And Sherife, I will engage my word to thee,

[500] That I will by to morrow Dinner time,

Send him to answer thee, or any man,

For any thing he shall be charg'd withall:

And so let me entreat you, leaue the house.

She. I will, my Lord: there are two Gentlemen

Haue in this Robberie lost three hundred Markes.

Prince. It may be so: if he haue robb'd these men,

He shall be answerable: and so farewell

(1 Henry IV II.iv; Barber, *The English Language: A Historical Introduction*, 183ff.).

### III. ye/you

Which of the following passages maintain the historical distinction between *ye* versus *you*?

Gonerill [to Lear]: Why might not you my Lord, receiue attendance  
From those that she calls Seruants, or from mine?

Regan: Why not my Lord?

If then they chanc'd to slacke ye,

We could comptroll them; if you will come to me,

(For now I spie a danger) I entreate you

To bring but fiue and twentie, to no more

Will I giue place or notice (King Lear II.iv; Mulholland 153).

Catesby [to Richard]: Ye shall, my Lord (Richard III, IV.ii; Mulholland 153).

Well sir I'll bring you to our master (King Lear IV.iv.50; Mulholland 153).

Steward: Helpe hoa, murther, murther. /

Bastard: How now, what's the matter? Part.

Kent: With you Goodman Boy, if you please, come, / Ile flesh ye, come on yong Master. /

Gloucester: Weapons? Armes? what's the matter here? (King Lear II.ii; Mulholland 153).

Dolphin: And come ye now to tell me Iohn hath made

His peace with Rome? (King John V.ii; Mulholland 153).

Iohn: Are not you signior Benedicke? (Much Ado About Nothing II.i; Mulholland 153).

Lear: Old fond eyes,

Beweepe this cause againe, Ile plucke ye out,

And cast you with the waters that you loose

To temper Clay. Ha? Let it be so. (King Lear I.iv; Mulholland 153).

Pedro: my deere friend Leonato, hath / inuited you all (Much Ado About Nothing I.i; Mulholland 153).

But what d'ye take ill, if he has done nothing? (Wycherly, Country Wife, cited Barber, Early Modern English, 149).

Blessed are ye when men reuyle you / and persecute you / and shall falsely say all manner of yvell saynges  
agaynst you for my sake [. . .] ye are the salt of the erthe [. . .] ye are the light of the worlde (from the Book of  
Matthew, William Tyndale's Translation of the New Testament [1675], cited Barker, Early Modern English  
149).

What mean you... do ye not know? . . . If, therefore, at the first sight ye doe give them to understand that you  
are come hither. . . do you not think? Therefore, if you looke. . ." (North's Plutarch, 170. Abbott 159).

I never loved you much; but I ha' prais'd ye (Antony and Cleopatra II.6.78. Abbott 159).

Prospero: Ye Elues of hils, brooks, stading lakes & groues,

And ye, that on the sands with printlesse foote

Doe chase the ebbing-Neptune, and doe flie him

When he comes backe: you demy-Puppets, that  
By Moone-shine doe the greene sowre Ringlets make,  
Whereof the Ewe not bites: and you, whose pastime  
Is to make midnight-Mushrumps, that reioyce  
To heare the solemne Curfewe, by whose ayde  
(Weake Masters though ye be) I haue bedymn'd  
The Noone-tide Sun, call'd forth the mutenous windes,  
And twixt the greene Sea, and the azur'd vault  
Set roaring warre: To the dread ratling Thunder  
[50] Haue I giuen fire, and rifted Ioues stowt Oke  
With his owne Bolt (Tempest I.I.33ff. Abbott 159; Hussey 121).

Therein, ye gods, you make the weak most strong (Julius Caesar I.3.91. Abbott 159, Blake 79).

I' the name of truth, / Are ye fantastical? . . . My noble partner / You greet with present grace." (Macbeth I.3.53.55. Abbott 159).

And Pharaoh said, I will let you go, that ye may sacrifice to the LORD your God in the wilderness; only ye shall not go very far away: intreat for me (Exodus 8:28. King James Bible, 1611).

And he stood and cried unto the armies of Israel, and said unto them, Why are ye come out to set your battle in array? am not I a Philistine, and ye servants to Saul? choose you a man for you, and let him come down to me (I Samuel 17:8, King James Bible).

Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you (John 15:16, King James Bible).

No doubt but ye are the people, and wisdom shall die with you (Book of Job, King James Bible; cited Baugh and Cable).

Caliban: A southwest wind blow on ye and blister you all over! (*The Tempest*; cited Baugh and Cable).

Stand, sirs, and throw us that you have about thee (*Two Gentlemen of Verona*; cited Baugh and Cable).

## IV.other case forms

Each of the following passages illustrates other variants or irregular usages of pronouns.

It was she / First told me that thou wast mad  
(Twelfth Night V.i; cited Franz 249, section 282).

The earth hath swallow'd all my hopes but she  
(Romeo and Juliet I.ii; cited Franz 252, section 287a).

Steward: Prythee, if thou lou'st me, tell me. /  
Kent: I loue thee not. /  
Ste. Why then I care not for thee  
(King Lear II.ii.4ff; Mulholland 153).

And yet no man like he doth grieve my heart (Romeo and Juliet III.v.84; Abbott 140).

Macb. There's blood vpon thy face.  
Mur. 'Tis Banquo's then.  
Macb. 'Tis better thee without, then he within. Is he dispatch'd?  
Mur. My Lord his throat is cut, that I did for him (Macbeth III.iv.14. Abbott 140).

Aufidius: Him [whom] I accuse / By this the city ports hath enter'd (Coriolanus V.vi; Abbott 140; Franz 250, section 250).

Oli. Know you before whom [you] sit?  
Orl. [Aye], better then him I am before knowes mee (As You Like It I.i; Abbott 140; Franz 250, section 284).

All debts are cleared between you and I (Merchant of Venice III.ii.321).

You know my Father hath no childe, but I, nor / none is like to haue (As You Like It I.ii; Abbott 141; Franz 252, section 287a).

Unless you would devise some virtuous lie  
And hang some praise upon deceased I (Shakespeare, Sonnet 72. Abbott 141).

Caliban: Which may make this island  
Thine own for ever, and I, thy Caliban,  
For eye [i.e. ever] thy foot-licker (Tempest IV.i.217; Abbott 141).

Is she as tall as me? (Antony and Cleopatra III.iii.14; Abbott 141).

So saucy with the hand of she here -- what's her name? (Antony and Cleopatra III; Abbott 141).

Praise him that got [i.e., begot] thee, she that gave thee suck (Troilus and Cressida II.2.25; Abbott 141).

Othello: Yes, you haue seene Cassio, and she together (Othello IV.ii; Abbott 141).