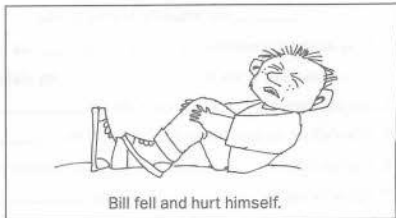


1 Look at these examples:



You can use a reflexive pronoun to show that you did something to or for yourself:

I bought the car for **myself**. (= not for you. I will use it)

He was talking to **himself**. (=not to anyone)

2 The singular form of the reflexive pronoun is -self, and the plural is -selves. Match the reflexive pronouns to the right subject pronouns:

I ...	It ...	yourself	itself
You ...	We ...	himself	herself
He ...	You ...	ourselves	myself
She ...	They ...	yourself	themselves

3 Verbs like wash and shave do not normally take reflexive pronouns in English. You can use reflexive pronouns for special emphasis:

I washed very quickly and went downstairs.

We taught Harry to wash himself when he was two.

It was cold so we undressed quickly and got into bed. It's very difficult to undress yourself with a broken arm.



4 You often use reflexive pronouns with these verbs:

blame cut dry enjoy help hurt introduce teach

Helen taught herself Japanese from a book.

You mustn't blame yourself for the bad result: it wasn't your fault.

'Can I have a drink of water?' 'Help yourself!'



The man introduced himself as 'Little John.'

5 You can also use the reflexive pronoun to underline that you did something without help:

I made the table myself! (=I didn't buy it)

I'm not going to pay anyone to paint the house, I'll do it myself! (=I will paint the house)

'What a lovely card! Did you make it yourself?'

If you do something by yourself, you do it alone:

Paul was sitting by himself in a corner.

A Complete the sentences using the words in brackets:

- Everyone looked at _____ when I fell over and hurt _____. (myself/me)
- John often sings to _____. I think I'll ask _____ why he does it. (him/himself)
- Unfortunately a lot of young people kill _____ because they think no-one loves _____ . (them/themselves)
- Because nobody introduced _____ to the other people at the party, we had to introduce _____ . (us/ourselves)
- My daughter was four when I showed _____ how to dress _____. (herself/her)
- This computer will program _____ when you switch _____ on . (it/itself)
- I hope _____ will enjoy _____ tonight . (yourselves/you)
- Help _____ to anything _____ want in the kitchen. (yourself/you)

B Match the two parts of these short dialogues:

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| 1 Can I borrow a pen and some paper? | No, I made it myself. |
| 2 Where did you learn to paint? | Enjoy yourselves. |
| 3 We're off to the party now. | Sure, help yourself. |
| 4 What did you say? I didn't hear. | Let me introduce myself. |
| 5 Sorry, who are you? | I taught myself, actually. |
| 6 Did you buy that table? | I was talking to myself. |
| 7 Why is he wearing a bandage on his finger? | I think they did it themselves. |
| 8 Who cut their hair? | He burnt himself. |

C Complete the sentences using *by myself/ for yourself/ to himself etc.*

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| 1 Can I help you with that? | No thanks, I want to do it _____ . |
| 2 Did Jim go with Paul? | No, he went _____ . |
| 3 Do you like holidays with friends? | No, we prefer holidays _____ . |
| 4 Who bought the books for him? | Actually, he bought them _____ . |
| 5 Are you self-employed? | That's right, we work _____ . |
| 6 Does she live with her parents? | No, she lives _____ . |
| 7 Will you order something for me, please? | No, you should order _____ . |
| 8 Let me buy you something. | No, keep your money _____ . |