

Possessive pronouns

Class objective: To learn about *possessive determiners* and *possessive pronouns* in Portuguese, which both serve the function of expressing possession or ownership of something.

Concept A: Introduction to Possessive pronouns

In English, we use **my, your, his, her, their**, and **our** as possessive determiners and **mine, yours, his, hers, theirs**, and **ours** as possessive pronouns. Possessive determiners **precede** the noun they are modifying. They tell you to whom a specific item belongs. For example, in the sentence “It is my cat”, you can tell that the word “my” is a determiner because it needs to be followed by a noun (“cat”). “It is my” would not be a complete sentence.

Possessive pronouns **replace** the noun they are modifying. They convey ownership without telling what exactly is being owned. For example, in the sentence “It is mine”, you can tell that the word “mine” is a possessive pronoun because it can stand on its own in place of a noun.

Concept B: Vocabolario

| Person | Determiner/Pronoun | English |
|--------|---|--------------------------|
| Eu | o meu / a minha / os meus / as minhas | my or mine |
| Tu | o teu / a tua / os teus / as tuas | your or yours (informal) |
| Ele | o seu / a sua / os seus / as suas | his |
| Ela | o seu / a sua / os seus / as suas | her or hers |
| Você | o seu / a sua / os seus / as suas | your or yours (formal) |
| Nós | o nosso / a nossa / os nossos / as nossas | our or ours |
| Vocês | o vosso / a vossa / os vossos / as vossas | your or yours (plural) |
| Eles | o seu / a sua / os seus / as suas | their or theirs |
| Elas | o seu / a sua / os seus / as suas | their or theirs |

Concept C: Examples

Meu , minha, meus, minhas

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