

4.4 Clarity - Plural Pronoun Reference

The **SorP?** flag precedes three plural personal pronouns:

SorP?they SorP?them SorP?their

Check to be sure that these plural pronouns clearly refer to plural nouns.

If they refer to singular nouns,

change the plural pronoun to a singular pronoun OR

change the singular noun and verb to their plural forms OR

change the pronoun to a specific noun or noun phrase.

The analysis prints both the sentence that includes a flagged pronoun and the preceding sentence.

More Information

Example

Our high school graduation is scheduled to Saturday.

At the ceremony, **a** student (singular) knows (singular) that the President will give **SorP?them** (plural) a diploma (singular).

Revision

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

At the ceremony, students (plural) know that the President will give **them** (plural) diplomas (plural).

Example

As sports writer for our local paper, I am sometimes asked to feature a particular player.

For example, the center (singular) on our women's basketball team want (plural) **SorP?their** (plural) name in my sports column.

Revision

The center (singular) on our women's basketball team wants (singular) her (singular) name in my sports column.

Example

Spring came early this year. As **SorP?they** came, I enjoyed both the pleasant ones and the stormy ones.

Revision

As **each day** came, I enjoyed both the pleasant ones and the stormy ones.

Writer's Workbench found **3 plural pronouns**.

The devastating power of passion becomes clear in the action of the King's men, especially Antonio and Sebastian.

SorP?They have no patience and demand immediate measures to be taken without due consideration.

Throughout the play, these men work against the simple vision which finds good in all things.

As such, **SorP?they** represent the antithesis of art.

SorP?Their role is to bring about confusion where there is an need for the unity which art can provide.