Myself/yourself/themselves etc.

A

Study this example:





Steve introduced himself to the other guests.

We use **myself/yourself/himself** etc. (*reflexive pronouns*) when the *subject* and *object* are the same:

Steve	introduced	himself
subject		object

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singular: myself yourself (one person) himself/herself/itself plural: yourselves (more than one person) themselves

- ☐ I don't want you to pay for me. I'll pay for myself. (not I'll pay for me)
- Amy had a great holiday. She really enjoyed herself.
- Do **you** talk to **yourself** sometimes? (said to one person)
- If you want more to eat, help yourselves. (said to more than one person)

Compare:

- It's not our fault. You can't blame us.
- It's our own fault. We should blame ourselves.

В

We do not use myself etc. after feel/relax/concentrate/meet:



- I feel nervous. I can't relax.
- You must try and **concentrate**. (*not* concentrate yourself)
 What time shall we **meet**? (*not* meet ourselves, *not* meet us)

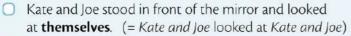
We normally use wash/shave/dress without myself etc.:

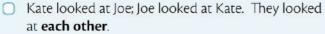
He got up, washed, shaved and dressed. (not washed himself etc.)

You can also say get dressed (He got dressed).

C

Compare -selves and each other:





themselves







You can use one another instead of each other:

- ☐ How long have you and Ben known **each other**? *or* ... known **one another**?
- Sue and Alice don't like each other. or ... don't like one another.
- Do you and Sarah live near **each other**? or ... near **one another**?

D

We also use myself/yourself etc. in another way. For example:

'Who repaired your bike for you?' 'I repaired it myself.'



I repaired it myself = \underline{I} repaired it, not anybody else. Here, myself is used to emphasise 'I' (= it makes it stronger). Some more examples:

- I'm not going to do your work for you. **You** can do it **yourself**. (= you, not me)
- Let's paint the house ourselves. It will be much cheaper.
- The film itself wasn't very good, but I loved the music.
- I don't think Lisa will get the job. Lisa herself doesn't think so. (or Lisa doesn't think so herself.)

Exercises

82.1 Complete the sentences using myself/yourself etc. + these verbs (in the correct form):

blame	burn	enjoy	express	hurt	introdu	ce pu	
2 Ben fell	down son	ne steps, bu		he didn't			*
4 Please to5 The chil	y and und dren had a	derstand ho a great time	e at the beac	h. They re	eally		in my position.
			not. Don't y what I meai				beti
			ves etc. or m				
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6 You mu 7 Don't w 8 Don't w	st meet Sa orry abou orry abou	arah. I'll int t us. We ca t the childi	'Of course. croducean take care ren. I'll take o	of	to h	er. 	Sec.
			use so that th	2250			
Complete correct for		tences. Us	e myself/yo	u rself etc.	only where	e necessar	y. Use these verbs (in
concent		lefend	dry feel	meet	relax	-shave	<u>e</u> -
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			eard because	he was fee	d up with		
2 I wasn't	very well y	yesterday, b	out I	he was fee	d up with	***************************************	much better today.
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