

F. Rhagenwau - Pronouns

1. The singular possessive pronouns cause mutations.

Sometimes a 'confirming' pronoun is used after the noun. This happens more often in the spoken language - but it can be omitted.

However, if the 'possessor' needs to be emphasized, it is this confirming pronoun which is stressed in Welsh.

e.g. Dyma fy llyfr **i** a dacw dy lyfr **di** ar y bwrdd.
- Here's **my** book and there's **your** book on the table.

(a) 'fy' (my) is followed by an Nasal Mutation. See *N.M. rule 2*.

The confirming pronoun for 'fy' is 'i'.

e.g.	cath	-	fy nghath (i)	-	my cat
	pen	-	fy mhen (i)	-	my head
	trwyn	-	fy nhrwyn (i)	-	my nose
	gardd	-	fy ngardd (i)	-	my garden
	brawd	-	fy mrawd (i)	-	my brother
	desg	-	fy nesg (i)	-	my desk

c, p, t, g, b and **d** are the only letters that mutate. Other letters remain unchanged.

e.g.	ffrind	-	fy ffrind (i)	-	my friend
	ysgol	-	fy ysgol (i)	-	my school
	llaw	-	fy llaw (i)	-	my hand

(b) 'dy' (your) and 'ei'(his) cause a Soft Mutation. See *S.M. rule 11*.

The confirming pronoun for 'dy' is 'di'.

The confirming pronoun for 'ei'(his) is 'e' in South Wales and 'o' in North Wales.

e.g.	cath	-	dy gath (di)	-	your cat
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		ei gath (e / o)	-	his cat
pen	-	dy b en (di)	-	your head
		ei b en (e / o)	-	his head
trwyn	-	dy d rvyn (di)	-	your nose
		ei d rvyn (e / o)	-	his nose
gardd	-	dy ardd (di)	-	your garden
		ei ardd (e / o)	-	his garden
brawd	-	dy frawd (di)	-	your brother
		ei frawd (e / o)	-	his brother
desg	-	dy dd ^{esg} (di)	-	your desk
		ei dd ^{esg} (e / o)	-	his desk
llaw	-	dy law (di)	-	your hand
		ei law (e / o)	-	his hand
rhosyn	-	dy rosyn (di)	-	your rose
		ei rosyn (e / o)	-	his rose
mam	-	dy fam (di)	-	your mother
		ei fam (e / o)	-	his mother

c, p, t, g, b, d, ll, rh and **m** and are the only letters that mutate.
Other letters remain unchanged.

e.g.	chwaer	-	dy chwaer (di)	-	your sister
	nith	-	ei nith (e / o)	-	his niece

(c) 'ei' (her) causes an Aspirate Mutation. See *A.M. rule 4*.

The confirming pronoun for 'ei' is 'hi'.

e.g.	cath	-	ei ch ath (hi)	-	her cat
	pen	-	ei ph en (hi)	-	her head
	trwyn	-	ei th rvyn (hi)	-	her nose

c, p, and t are the only letters that mutate. Other letters remain unchanged.

e.g.	brawd	-	ei brawd (hi)	-	her brother
	gwaith	-	ei gwaith (hi)	-	her work

'ei' (her) causes a vowel to grow before a vowel. (Remember that 'w' and 'y' are vowels in Welsh.)

e.g.	enw	-	ei h enw (hi)	-	her name
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acen - ei **h**acen (hi) - her accent

(d) The plural possessive pronouns '**ein**' (our), '**eich**' (your) **and** '**eu**' (their) do not cause mutations.

But like '**ei**' (her), both '**ein**' (our) and '**eu**' (their) cause an '**h**' to grow before a vowel.

The confirming pronoun for '**ein**' (our) is '**ni**'.

The confirming pronoun for '**eich**' (your) is '**chi**'.

The confirming pronoun for '**eu**' (their) is '**nhw**'.

e.g.	ysgol	-	ein h ysgol (ni)	-	our school
	enw	-	eich enw (chi)	-	your name
	iaith	-	eu h iaith (nhw)	-	their language

2. When a personal pronoun (me / you / him / her / it / us / them) is used immediately after a 'long' verb (i.e. it is the object of that verb) then in Welsh we must also use the possessive pronouns (see No. 1 above) in front of the verb-noun.

Remember that a 'long' verb is one made up of the verb 'to be' linked by 'yn' or 'wedi' to a verb-noun.

e.g. I will be **telephoning her** tonight.
 - Fe / Mi fydda' i'n ei **ffonio hi** heno.
 We don't **know them**.
 - Dyn ni ddim yn eu **nabod nhw**.
 Have they **answered you**?
 Ydyn nhw wedi **eich ateb chi**?

The possessive pronouns will cause the verb-nouns to undergo the different mutations mentioned above.

e.g. She was **reading it** (the book - masc.) on the train.
 - Roedd hi'n ei **ddarllen e / o** ar y trêb.
 I can't **hear you**.
 - Dw i ddim yn **dy glyweddi**.
 Does he **love her**?
 - Ydy e / o'n ei **charu hi**?