

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 ben (di)	-	your head
		ei ben (e / o)	-	his head
trwyn	-	dy drwyn (di)	-	your nose
		ei drwyn (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 ddesg (di)	-	your desk
		ei ddesg (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 chath (hi)	-	her cat
	pen	-	ei phen (hi)	-	her head
	trwyn	-	ei thrwyn (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 henw (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 trê.
 I can't **hear you**.
 - Dw i ddim yn **dy glywed di**.
 Does he **love her**?
 - Ydy e / o'n **ei charu hi**?