CHAPTER 8 Agreement Identifying Pronouns

A pronoun is a word that takes the place of a noun or another pronoun. The specific noun or pronoun that the pronoun refers to is called its **antecedent**.

We looked for the moon, but it had already entered the earth's shadow. [Moon is the antecedent of the pronoun it.]

Peter, who is an old friend, called to say "Happy Birthday." [Peter is the antecedent of the pronoun who.]

EXERCISE In each of the following sentences, underline the pronouns once and underline the antecedent twice.

EXAMPLE: The dog sat down and extended its paw.

- 1. A cowboy must overcome his fears before he enters the rodeo competition.
- 2. Many people who visit California later move there.
- 3. Beginning next year, speeders will find themselves facing stiff fines.
- 4. Elaine just received her membership card for the United States Tennis Association.
- 5. Lee Ann once visited the Three Mile Island power plant, which was closed in 1979.
- 6. José read the book. The information in it helped him lose weight.
- 7. Karen avoided talking to Maureen, who had a problem.
- 8. Ray has autographs from Sally Field, Dustin Hoffman, Melvyn Douglas, and Meryl Streep. They won Oscars in 1979.
- 9. While their brother washed his hands, Susan and Terry set the table.
- 10. Ms. Tramiel is going to the opera. It doesn't start until 8 P.M.
- 11. Ms. Evans, to whom Eric addressed the letter, is the president of the company.
- 12. After the refrigerator was repaired, it ran perfectly.
- 13. The book that has all the answers is the one Rita wants.
- 14. My dad was happy for Tanya, whose science project just won first prize.
- 15. The actors performed better than expected, and they were invited back.