

Reading-Writing Connection

Deepen your understanding of the excerpt from *Exploring the Titanic* by responding to these prompts. Then complete the **Grammar and Writing** exercise.

WRITING PROMPTS	SELF-CHECK
<p>A. Short Response: Write a Description How would you describe the state of mind of the passengers and crew when the <i>Titanic</i> first set sail? Write one paragraph, describing how people felt that day. Include details from the selection.</p>	<p>An effective description will . . .</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• include passengers' impressions of the ship• include quotations from eye-witnesses or newspapers
<p>B. Extended Response: Give an Evaluation What was your opinion of the behavior of the <i>Titanic</i>'s builder, captain, and crew before and during the disaster? Could more lives have been saved if responses to warnings or evacuation efforts had been conducted differently? Write two or three paragraphs, giving your evaluation.</p>	<p>A convincing evaluation will . . .</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• make a judgment about whether more lives could have been saved• give reasons and evidence why or why not

GRAMMAR AND WRITING

USE CORRECT PRONOUN CASE People often confuse the **subject** and **object cases** of personal pronouns. If a pronoun is functioning as a subject, then you should use a **subject pronoun**, such as *I, she, he, we, or they*. If a pronoun is functioning as an object, then you should use an **object pronoun**, such as *me, her, him, us, or them*. (*You* and *it* function as both subject and object pronouns.)

Original: **Him** and his crew should have been more careful.

Revised: **He** and his crew should have been more careful.
(*The pronoun is a subject, so it should be he, not him.*)

PRACTICE Choose the correct pronouns in the following sentences.

1. The crew knew about the icebergs. The captain had warned (they, them) about the possibility of floating ice.
2. Despite everything, the crew didn't pay attention to (he, him).
3. The radio operator was especially to blame. (Him, He) and his assistant didn't pass on messages to the captain.
4. (They, Them) should've communicated better with each other.

For more help with pronoun cases, see page R53 in the *Grammar Handbook*.