PRONOUN TYPES

I. Subject v. Object Pronouns

A. With compound structures: try each PN by itself in the sentence.
   Ex.  Marge and she / her gave the car an oil change.
        Give more spaghetti to Hal and she / her.

B. After forms of the verb to be: ALWAYS use a SUBJECT PN.
   Ex.  It was I who telephoned.
        It may have been they at the door.

C. In comparisons using than or as: supply the missing words to decide.
   Ex.  You read faster than I.
        Our boss paid Monica more than me.

II. Relative Pronouns

A. Whose = possessive; who’s = contraction
   Ex.  Do you know whose umbrella this is?
        Do you know who’s coming to the party tonight?

B. The Great Who/Whom Debate  who = subj PN; whom = obj PN
   In questions: Replace the who/whom with another PN to decide.
   Ex.  Whom did you visit?  (I visited him/her.)
        Who do you think wrote the story?  (I think she wrote the
        story.)

   In dependent clauses: Is the PN a subject or object in the clause?
   Ex.  I don’t know who sideswiped my car.
        The suspect whom the police arrested finally confessed.

C. Use that, which, and who/whom correctly.
   1. who: refers to people  vs.  that, which: refer to things
      Ex.  The poet who read at Border’s is a professor in this
           department.

   2. that: used in clauses w/o commas vs. which: used w/ commas
      Ex.  The book that I lost was my favorite.
           White Noise, which I lost last week, was my favorite book.

III. Possessive Pronouns—NEVER TAKE AN APOSTROPHE!!
Avoid the stupid mistake to end all stupid mistakes: the its / it’s mistake.