

PRONOUNS: INDEFINITE (*-body, -one, -thing, -where*)

Somebody, anyone, everything, etc. are indefinite pronouns. We use *-body, -one, -thing, -where* to refer to people, places and things in a general way. We write them as one single word, apart from *no one*, which can be written as two separate words or with a hyphen (*no-one*).

<i>somebody</i>	<i>someone</i>	<i>something</i>	<i>somewhere</i>
<i>anybody</i>	<i>anyone</i>	<i>anything</i>	<i>anywhere</i>
<i>nobody</i>	<i>no one</i>	<i>nothing</i>	<i>nowhere</i>
<i>everybody</i>	<i>everyone</i>	<i>everything</i>	<i>everywhere</i>

SOMEBODY, SOMEONE, SOMETHING, SOMEWHERE

These words refer to a person, thing or place, without identifying which person, thing or place.

somebody / someone: an unidentified person

something: an unidentified thing

somewhere: an unidentified place

Alice says 'there's something I want to ask you.' She is saying that she has a question, but she hasn't yet identified the topic of the question. When she says: 'There's somebody else, isn't there?' this is a positive statement, followed by a question tag. Alice is saying that she believes that Paul is seeing another woman, but she doesn't know who.

ANYBODY, ANYONE, ANYTHING, ANYWHERE

These words are used in questions and negative sentences, to refer to a person, thing or place, without identifying which person, thing or place.

anybody / anyone: an unidentified person

anything: an unidentified thing

anywhere: an unidentified place

'any-' words are also used to express conditions:

'You can park anywhere' = 'if you need a place to park, use one of these spaces.'

'It's easy to find. Ask anyone' = 'if you can't find it, ask someone: everybody knows where it is.'

NOBODY, NO-ONE, NOTHING, NOWHERE

These words are used in positive sentences, but they have negative meanings: they refer to an absence of people, things or place.

No-one is written with a hyphen between the two 'o's.

Nobody knows where it is.

No-one came to the party.

He says he knows nothing about the crime.

They are homeless. They have nowhere to live.

EVERYBODY, EVERYONE, EVERYTHING, EVERYWHERE

These words are used to refer to all people, things or places. Everybody and everyone have the same meaning.

Everybody likes chocolate.

Everything closes at the end of the holiday season.

We need to tidy up. There's rubbish everywhere.