What is a reciprocal pronoun?

They love each other.  The men were fighting one another.
Reciprocal Pronouns
7 min

We use a reciprocal pronoun when each of two or more subjects is acting in the same way towards the other(s). There are 2 reciprocal pronouns: 'each other' and 'one another'. In theory, we use 'each other' for 2 people and 'one another' for 3 or more people, but this distinction is no longer made much. 'each other' is more commonly used.

Examples:
Andrea loves Jason and Jason loves Andrea: they love each other.
The 5 children were blaming one another.

It is possible to use the possessive with reciprocal pronouns.
Example:
They looked at each other's faces.

Writing Exercise
5 min

Complete the sentences with one of the 2 choices.

1. For Christmas, my friend and I gave ____________ gifts. (each other / ourselves)
2. We went to Las Vegas, but we did not enjoy _____________. (each other / ourselves)
3. My cousins don't get along, they never call___________. (one another / themselves)
4. Matt and Wendy kissed _____________. (each other / one another)
5. Heather and Liam went skiing and hurt _____________. (each other / themselves)
Speaking Exercise with the Teacher
5 min

Use a reciprocal pronoun to describe the pictures below.
Example:

To motivate
They are motivating one another.

1 Pictures for 'to look at' and 'to talk' from photostock / FreeDigitalPhotos.net
Picture for 'to communicate' from jscreationzs / FreeDigitalPhotos.net
With this song, you will practice using different pronouns, including reciprocal pronouns.

Watch the video:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RDwsEdlSMJY

Watch it again and answer the questions.

1. Which reciprocal pronoun is repeated many times in the song?
   ______________

2. Complete the lyrics with the missing pronouns:
   Is it getting better
   Or do ______ feel the same
   Will ______ make it easier on you now
   You got someone to blame
   You say...

   One love
   One life
   When it's one need
   In the night
   One love
   ______ get to share it
   Leaves you baby if you
   Don't care for ______

   Did ______ disappoint you
   Or leave a bad taste in ______ mouth
   You act like you never had love
   And you want ______ to go without
   Well it's...

   Too late
Tonight
To drag the past out into the light
We're one, but we're not the same
We get to
Carry ______________
Carry ______________
One...

Have you come here for forgiveness
Have you come to raise the dead
Have you come here to play Jesus
To the lepers in _______ head

Did ______ ask too much
More than a lot
You gave me nothing
Now it's all I got
________'re one
But we're not the same
Well we
Hurt ______________
Then we do it again
You say
Love is a temple
Love a higher law
Love is a temple
Love the higher law
You ask _______ to enter
But then you make me crawl
And I can't be holding on
To what you got
When all you got is hurt

One love
One blood
One life
You got to do what _______ should
One life
With ____________
Sisters
Brothers
One life
But we’re not the same
We get to
Carry ____________
Carry ____________

One...life

One
Quiz
5 min

True or False?

1. There are many reciprocal pronouns.  true  false
2. We use a reciprocal pronoun when each of two or more subjects is acting in the same way towards the other(s).  true  false
3. 'each other' is more commonly used than 'one another'.  true  false
4. It is not correct to use 'each other' for 2 people.  true  false

Choose the correct pronoun:

1. We speak to __________ every week. (each other / us)
2. They don’t know __________. (themselves / one another)
3. He is looking at __________ in the mirror. (each other / himself)
4. Beth and I call __________ for our birthdays. (each other / ourselves)
5. Teenagers communicate with __________ by text messages. (themselves / one another)