

English Grammar: "you and I" vs "you and me"

Question: Which is correct : “you and I” or “you and me”?

Answer: Both! It depends on the grammatical structure.

1) Subject of a verb

You should use “**you and I**” as the **subject** of a verb (before the verb).

- **You** like Mary.
- **I** like Mary.
- **You and I** like Mary.
- **You and I** are going to be good friends.
- Did you know that **you and I** have been selected to compete in the Olympics?
- **You and I** can sit together in our history class.

Simple test: Change “you and I” to “I” and see if it still makes sense!

2) You should use “**you and me**” as the **object** of a verb (after the verb).

- Mary likes **you**.
- Mary likes **me**.
- Mary likes **you and me**.
- Our neighbours have invited **you and me** to dinner tomorrow night.
- The airline gave **you and me** \$50 to buy a meal.
- The sparks from the fire hit **you and me** because we were too close.

Simple test: Change “you and me” to “me” and see if it still makes sense!

The same rules apply to “he/him”, “she/her”, etc.

Examples:

- **He and I** will go out tomorrow to celebrate our anniversary.
Our neighbours have invited **him and me** to dinner tomorrow night.
- **She and I** will go out tomorrow to celebrate our anniversary.
Our neighbours have invited **her and me** to dinner tomorrow night.
- **He and she** will go out tomorrow to celebrate their anniversary.
Their neighbours have invited **him and her** to dinner tomorrow night.

Similarly with names:

- **John and I** like Mary.
- Mary likes **John and me**.
- **She and Bob** like Mary.
- Mary likes **her and Bob**.

Exercise. State if the following are grammatically correct or not ('Y' or 'N'):

1. Our maths teacher likes you and I. _____
2. Maybe John and me should get engaged. _____
3. John and Mary are lovely people. He and she are friends of my parents. _____
4. My wife and me are thinking of travelling to Europe next year. _____
5. Do you understand him and I when we speak fast? _____
6. Him and I are good friends. _____
7. I have been teaching him and she English for over a year. _____
8. My mum loves to see you and me speaking English. _____