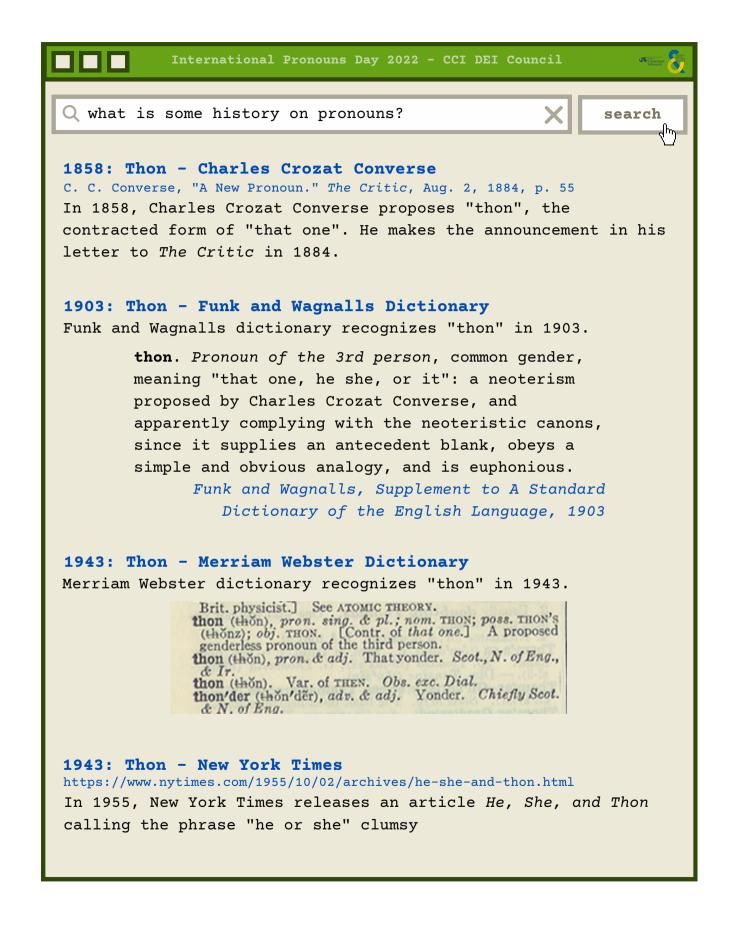


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Q what is some history on pronouns?
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1375: William and the Werewolf - Oxford English Dictionary
https://www.oed.com/view/Entry/200700#eid18519864
In 1375, the singular "they" is first used in the medieval
romance novel William and the Werewolf.
They is a pronoun that can refer to one person or many people:
 Alex sent me an email. I need to respond to them.
 The students looked stressed during their exam today.
1660: George Fox and the Singular You - Fox's Epistle 191
https://languagelog.ldc.upenn.edu/nll/?p=2732
In 1660, George Fox, the founder of Quakerism, wrote a book,
Fox's Epistle 191, labeling anyone who used singular "you" an
idiot or a fool
Singular (one person):
 He is a fool
 She is a fool
 You are a fool
Plural (many people):
 He and she are fools
 We are fools
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Q what is some history on pronouns?

**1991: Solving The Great Pronoun Problem - Kelly Ann Sippell** Sippell, K. A. Solving the Great Pronoun Problem: The Acceptability of the Singular "They." UMI, 1993, https://books.google.com/books?id=xtu8nQEACAAJ. Kelly Ann Sippell writes her master's thesis Solving the Great Pronoun Problem where she listed over 80 proposed gender neutral pronouns proposed over the prior 150 years

search

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## **1994: Merriam Webster's Dictionary**

"We must remember that the English pronoun system is not fixed. Several centuries ago the objective plural you drove the nominative and objective singulars thou and thee and the nominative plural ye out of general use. It appears to have happened for social reasons, not linguistic reasons. They, their, them have been used continuously for six centuries, and have been disparaged in such use for about two centuries." Merriam Webster's Dictionary of English Usage

