Reflexive Pronouns

Definition:
The reflexive pronoun indicates that the sentence subject also receives the action of the verb.

Explanation/Examples:
When pronouns are combined, the reflexive will take either the first person

- Jane, Bob, and I have deceived ourselves into running the marathon.

or, when there is no first person, the second person:

- You and Bob have deceived yourselves.

The indefinite pronoun one has its own reflexive form (oneself), but the other indefinite pronouns use either herself, himself, or themselves as reflexives.

List of Reflexive Pronouns: myself, yourself, himself, herself, itself, oneself, ourselves, themselves, yourselves.

Be aware: Do not use untriggered reflexive pronouns. Myself is the main culprit.

Incorrect: Jane and myself are responsible for this decision.
Correct: Jane and I are responsible for this decision.

It is correct to use myself when you are both the subject and the object of a sentence.

Incorrect: I see me playing marimbas.
Correct: I see myself playing marimbas.

Practice (fill in the blanks):

1. I'll have to help Bob fill in her form, but Jane can do it _______, because her English is excellent.
2. Their new business can’t possibly pay for ________.
3. One must have faith in ________.
4. He is not ________ today.
5. I made coffee for Helen and ________ after dinner.
6. I'm going to treat ________ to a mud bath.

Key: 1. herself 2. itself 3. oneself 4. himself 5. myself 6. myself