

Questão 17

OUR WORD OF THE YEAR FOR 2019 IS **THEY**

English lacks a gender-neutral singular pronoun to correspond with singular pronouns like *everyone* or *someone*, and as a consequence *they* has been used for this purpose for over 600 years. Recently



though, *they* has also been used to refer to a person whose gender identity is nonbinary, a sense that is increasingly common in published text, social media, and in daily personal

interactions between English speakers. There's no doubt that its use is established in the English language, which is why it was added to the Merriam-Webster dictionary in September of 2019.

Nonbinary *they* was also prominent in the news in 2019. Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal (WA) revealed in April that her child is gender-nonconforming and uses *they*. And the American Psychological Association's blog officially recommended that singular *they* be preferred in professional writing over "he or she" when the reference is to a person whose gender is unknown or to a person who prefers *they*.

(Adaptado de <https://www.merriam-webster.com/words-at-play/word-of-the-year/they>. Acessado em 29/04/2020.)

De acordo com o texto, o fato de uma palavra simples, como o pronome "they", ter sido escolhida como a palavra do ano de 2019 se justifica pela necessidade de

- a) fazer justiça a uma palavra que já é usada há mais de 600 anos.
- b) legitimar os sentidos recentes dessa palavra que permeiam diversas instâncias da vida social.
- c) esclarecer dúvidas quanto ao emprego gramatical adequado dessa palavra em textos escritos.
- d) atender às recomendações de órgãos oficiais quanto ao uso dessa palavra em textos escritos.

RESPOSTA

ALTERNATIVA: B

Lê-se a resposta a partir das diversas instâncias da vida social que se usa o pronome *they*: "*they has also been used to refer to a person whose gender identity is nonbinary*"; "*her child is gender-nonconforming and uses they*" e "*And the American Psychological Association's blog officially recommended that singular they be preferred in professional writing over "he or she"*".