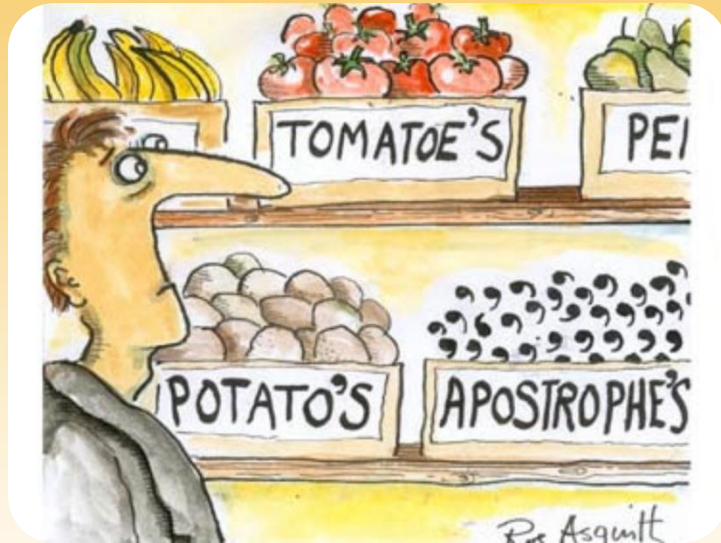


# Apostrophe



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# Main Uses of Apostrophes:

## 1. To form a contraction:

don't      can't      wouldn't

## 2. To show possession

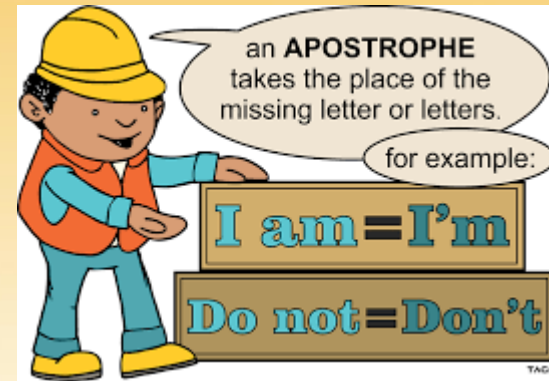
John's car      the boy's bike



# Contraction

In a contraction, two words are combined into one shorter form.

you +  
are → you're



The **apostrophe** almost always marks where a letter or letters have been taken out to form the new word.



# Example :-



do + not



don~~o~~t



don't



# Common Contractions

aren't = are not

can't = can not

didn't = did not

he's = he is

I'd = I would, I had

it's = it is

let's = let us

she'll = she will

we've = we have

would've = would have

you're = you are

Won't = will not



# Possession

- **Possessives** are words used to show ownership or belonging. Like contractions, they're also formed with the apostrophe.
- **Example:** Dr. Perera's laptop
  - the laptop **belongs** to Dr. Perera
  - Dr. Perera **owns** the laptop.



Notice that the apostrophe in possessive words does NOT stand for an omitted letter like it does in contractions.

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**contraction:**

don't (missing o)

**possessive:**

dog's tail  
(no missing letter, the tail belongs to the dog)



# Rules for adding an apostrophe to form a possessive

1. If a word ends in -s already, add only the apostrophe:

The students' bags were stolen from the classroom during the interval.

- If the word does not end in -s, add 's:

The instructor's parking permit was stolen.






- Boy's School
- Dog's legs

- Boys' school
- Dogs' legs

**Possessive NOUNS**  
Find the plural error or the possessive error.  
Fix it and write the correct answer.


Sam's teacher asks  
very good question's.

 5.

**Possessive**  
Write the possessive form of the noun in bold.


the lid of the **pan**

the \_\_\_\_\_ lid

**NOUNS**  6.


**Possessive NOUNS**  
Is the noun a plural noun or a singular possessive noun?  
Write the answer.

The \_\_\_\_\_ smile is warm  
and friendly.

**ladies      lady's**  7.

**Possessive NOUNS**  
Is the noun a plural noun or a plural possessive noun?  
Write the answer.

Bring \_\_\_\_\_ to the  
campsite.

**flashlights      flashlights'**  8.





Some words are possessive without the apostrophe. These words are the **possessive pronouns**:

Tip:

Be careful not to confuse *it's* and *its*.

**it's = it is**

my, mine

its

his

her, hers

your, yours

our, ours

their, theirs

whose



**My** bicycle

**His** car

**Your** book

**Their** house

**Our** class

**Her** hair



His

Hers



Its

Mine



Ours

Theirs



Yours



1. This is..... book. (*Peter*)
2. Let's go to the ..... (*Smiths*)
3. The ..... room is upstairs. (*children*)
4. ....sister is twelve years old. (*John*)
5. ....and.....school is old. (*Susan – Steve*)



1. ....shoes are on the second floor. (*men*)
2. My ..... car was not expensive. (*parents*)
3. ....CD player is new. (*Charles*)
4. This is the ..... bike. (*boy*)
5. These are the..... pencils. (*boys*)



Fill in the blanks using words with an apostrophe. The example shows you how:

The leaves belong to the tree. The tree's leaves were falling off.

1. The ball belonged to the children. The .....ball was lost in the garden.
2. The pen belongs to the teacher. The ..... pen is lying on the floor.
3. The flower belonged to Emily. ....flower was beautiful.
4. Tim had a house. ....house was spacious.
5. Father had a hobby. ....hobby was painting.



Use the right spelling for the contractions. Remember the apostrophe takes the place of the missing letter or letters.

1. I (did not) .....have a pencil yesterday.

2. (You are) .....my best friend.

3. (He would) ..... often come to my garden.

4. (She is) ..... the most intelligent girl in her class.

5. We (can not) .....miss our English lesson.



6. (I had) .....not bought a house yet.

7. (We have) .....to meet her tomorrow.

8. (I will) .....give her a gift on her birthday.

9. You (will not) .....tell her our secret.

10. I (would not) .....make such a mistake.

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## Using the apostrophe

We use an apostrophe to;

1) • Show the omission of a letter (contraction) – positive

I am – I'm

You are – You're

He is – He's

She is – She's

It is – It's

We are – We're

Who is – Who's

Here is – Here's

Let us- Let's

That is – That's

There is – There's

They are – They're

• Show the omission of a letter (contraction) – negative + question

Are not – Aren't

Is not – Isn't

Do not – Don't

Should not – Shouldn't

• Show the omission of letters (contraction) – positive

I have – I've

I will – I'll

I would – I'd

• Show the omission of letters (contraction) – negative + question

Will not – Won't

Cannot – Can't

2) • Show possession/ ownership

e.g. :- Rahal's bat

Abdul's book

Ann's pencil

Yoga's bicycle

• We don't use the apostrophe with the following possessive pronouns

Yours

His

Hers

Ours

Theirs

Its ( belonging to it)



1). Rewrite the following using apostrophes.

1. I am -

6. Plays of Shakespeare -

2. You are -

7. Will not -

3. I have -

8. Help of everyone -

4. Photo of my mother -

9. A captain of a ship -

5. Should not -

10. The speech of the Chief Guest -



2). Underline the correct answer.

1. Damhiru's ..... name is Toga. ( dog's / dogs' )
2. Saveen studies in a ..... school. (boy's / boys')
3. My ..... house is in the Central Province.  
(grandparent's / grandparents')
4. Himaya's ..... car is for sale. (father's/ fathers')
5. My ..... hobby is reading. (mother's/ mothers')
6. The train to Jaffna is very crowded. .... moving  
very fast. (It's / Its')
7. .... you cleaning the class today?  
(Aren't/ Arent')
8. You ..... have the cake and eat it. (can't/ cant')



