

THE POSSESSIVE CASE – APOSTROPHE “S”

WHAT IS THE APOSTROPHE S?

The Apostrophe S is normally used to show possession, that there is a relationship between two things or that something belongs to another.

- John's car (= The car of John. The car belongs to John)

SINGULAR NOUNS

Add -'S

- We went to Ange's house last night.
- Have you seen the dog's bone?

PLURAL NOUNS ENDING IN -S

Only add the apostrophe -'

- I went to my friends' party. (= the party of your friends)
- My cousins' house is always a mess. (= your cousins)

PLURAL NOUNS NOT ENDING IN -S

Add -'S

- The children's toys are all over the room.
- The men's toilet was disgusting.

SINGULAR NOUNS ENDING IN -S

Add -'S

- The actress's role was very difficult.
- Mr Lewis's dog always comes onto our property.

AS A PART OF A PHRASE

Add -'S or only the -' depending on the rules above

- The President of Chile's speech was too long.
- I had to give two weeks' notice I was leaving.

NO NOUN

Sometimes the noun after -'S is not necessary when the meaning is clear.

- My car is older than John's. (= John's car)

FORMING POSSESSIVE NOUNS			
Singular Nouns		Plural Nouns	
 If it's a common noun, add "s"	• Dog's house  • Book's words  • Girl's dolls  • Bird's chicks  • Car's engine  • Sister's room  • Jim's pen  • My mom's bag 	If the noun ends in "s", add '	• Boys' ball  • Tables' legs  • Girls' hands 
		If the noun doesn't end in "s", add '	• Women's bag  • Children's dolls  • Men's shoes 

Practice 1:

Connect the sentences by using the possessive forms. Use the references given above.

1. The student has a pen. The pen is on the table.

The student's pen is on the table.

2. The man has a car. The car is in the garage.

3. My friends had a party. The party was fun.

4. The women have kids. The kids are playing.

5. India has a population. The population is very large.

6. The children have a mother. The mother is over there.

7. My sisters have friends. The friends are interesting.

8. The teachers had a meeting. The meeting was last week.

Practice 2:

Complete these sentences by choosing the correct use of the possessive case: 'S or S'.

1. This car is my car, and that car is
a) Tom
b) Toms
c) Tom's
2. We need some pens. Where are your ...?
a) pens
b) pen's
c) pens'
3. Do these books belong to Alex? Are they ...?
a) his'
b) he's
c) his
4. My ... like to go swimming at a lake near our home.
a) brother's
b) brothers'
c) brothers
9. Monday was their last ... to study before their test on Tuesday.
a) days'
b) day's
c) day
10. How many ... did the children eat at the park?
a) chocolate
b) chocolate's
c) chocolates
11. ... bicycle is broken, so he's going to take a bus to work today.
a) Robert's
b) Roberts'
c) Robert
12. The ... teacher is standing at the front of their classroom.
a) student's
b) students'
c) students

5. My ... favorite food is pizza. They both share one every week.
a) brother's
b) brothers'
c) brothers
6. How many ... did you ride your bicycle last week?
a) times
b) time's
c) times'
7. My ... house is over there. They live just across the street.
a) cousins'
b) cousins
c) cousin's
8. (A) How many ... do you have?
(B) Two.
a) apple's
b) apples
c) apples'
13. Next ... English class will begin at two o'clock, not three o'clock.
a) Thursdays'
b) Thursdays
c) Thursday's
14. Those are my ... toys on the floor. They didn't put them away.
a) children's
b) childrens
c) childrens'
15. There are many students and many ... at the college.
a) classrooms'
b) classroom's
c) classrooms
16. (A) What is your ... name?
(B) Leonardo.
a) friends'
b) friend's
c) friends

Zero and First Conditional

ZERO CONDITIONAL

FORM:

If + present simple + present simple

USE:

We use this structure for facts that are generally true.

e.g. If I eat too much, I feel sick.

FIRST CONDITIONAL

FORM:

If + present simple + will/won't

USE:

We use this structure to talk about things that may happen in the future.

e.g. If I don't hurry, I'll miss the bus.

Complete these facts in the zero conditional.

- 1- Water evaporates if you _____ (boil) it.
- 2- If you smoke, your skin _____ (age) more quickly.
- 3- If it _____ (not/rain), plants cannot grow.
- 4- If you mix red and white, you _____ (get) pink.

Complete these sentences using the correct tense of the verbs in brackets (first conditional)

1. If it _____ (rain), we _____ (not/ go) out.
2. If she _____ (post) the letter now, they _____ (get) it tomorrow.
3. _____ (Sally/be) angry if John _____ (arrive) late again?
4. You _____ (learn) a lot if you _____ (take) this course.

Complete the sentences with the correct tense of the verbs in brackets (zero or first conditional)

1. My cat feels very happy if he _____ (see) me.
2. You get fat if you _____ (not/ exercise).
3. If she arrives early, we _____ (go) to the cinema.
4. If I _____ (need) you, I will call you.
5. If you study hard, you _____ (pass) the exam.

Complete these sentences using your own ideas (zero or first conditional).

1. If you obey the rules, _____
2. If we go to Paris, _____
3. Call me if _____
4. If he doesn't tell the truth, _____
5. Do not go out if _____
6. If you buy a second hand car, _____
7. If he receives the money, _____
8. If they travel first class, _____
9. If he does some exercise, _____
10. If you feel depressed, _____

