

Practice 18 Possessive Adjectives and Pronouns

EXAMPLE	EXPLANATION
That is my book. Our apartment is small.	The possessive adjective must come before a noun. We can't use it alone or without a noun.
That book is mine . (mine = my book) That apartment is ours . (ours = our apartment)	The possessive pronoun takes the place of a noun. It never comes before a noun.

Language Notes: 1. Be careful with *his* and *her*:

I have a married *brother*. *His* wife is very nice.

The *bride* looks beautiful. *Her* father looks proud.

2. When we use a possessive pronoun, we omit the noun.
Her dress is white. → *Yours* is blue.

3. Compare subject pronouns, possessive adjectives, and possessive pronouns:

SUBJECT PRONOUN	POSSESSIVE ADJECTIVE	POSSESSIVE PRONOUN
<i>I</i>	<i>my</i>	<i>mine</i>
<i>you</i>	<i>your</i>	<i>yours</i>
<i>he</i>	<i>his</i>	<i>his</i>
<i>she</i>	<i>her</i>	<i>hers</i>
<i>it</i>	<i>its</i>	—
<i>we</i>	<i>our</i>	<i>ours</i>
<i>they</i>	<i>their</i>	<i>theirs</i>

EXERCISE 1 For each underlined pair of adjectives or pronouns, circle the correct possessive form.

Example Put your / yours coat on. It's cold outside!

- This bag is not mine. I think it's your / yours.
- She is a doctor. Her / Hers sister is a lawyer.
- Is this mine or your / yours?
- That's his office. It's not my / mine.
- I don't know their / theirs address.
- I think that house is their / theirs.
- This table is our / ours.
- Your / Yours MP3 player is broken. Why don't you borrow my / mine?
- Our / Ours car is white. They / Theirs is red.
- Her / Hers hair is the same length as my / mine.
- Do you want me to take yours / your picture?
- His mother is from my / mine country.

EXERCISE 2 Rewrite each sentence. Replace the underlined portion with the correct possessive pronoun or possessive adjective.

Example This is a picture of John and Anne's new baby.

This is a picture of their new baby.

1. The boys' clothes are in the washing machine.

2. That suitcase isn't your suitcase.

3. The little girl's kitten ran away.

4. The next day, the kitten returned to the little girl's family's house.

5. My pen ran out of ink, so I'm going to use your pen.

6. She announced that Jim's flight would arrive early.

7. Jeanne's flight arrived earlier than our flight.