

# 5/ My, your; mine, yours

## 1 Look at these sentences:

*This car belongs to me.  
It's my car. It's mine.*

## 2 Now look at this table:

OBJECT PRONOUN	POSSESSIVE ADJECTIVE	POSSESSIVE PRONOUN
me	my	mine
you	your	yours
him	his	his
her	her	hers
it	its	its
us	our	ours
you	your	yours
them	their	theirs

## 3 my, your, etc.

- We use **my, your, etc.** with nouns:  
*my book his hands their house*
- We say:  
*Tony and his wife.* (NOT ... *her wife*.)  
*Sara and her husband.*  
(NOT ... *his husband*.)
- We use possessive adjectives with parts of the body:  
*Her hair is red. My hands are cold.*

## 4 mine, yours, etc.

- We use **mine, yours, etc.** instead of **my book, your keys, etc.**  
*My flat is in the centre of town. Where's yours?* (*yours* = your flat)

- We often use possessive pronouns in comparative sentences:

*Our cat is smaller than theirs.*  
(*theirs* = their cat)  
*Your house is older than mine.*  
(*mine* = my house)

- We use **a/some + noun + of + possessive pronoun** to talk about one of a number of people or things:  
*I went to the club with a friend of mine.*  
(= one of my friends)

## 5 We do not use **a/an** or **the** with possessive adjectives or pronouns:

*It's a my bag. They're the ours.*

## 6 's or s'

- We use **'s** with singular nouns or names:  
*When is the team's next game?*  
*I went to Sam's house.*
- We use **s'** with plural nouns that end with **s**:  
*She borrowed her parents' car.*
- We use **'s** with plural nouns that do not end with **s**:  
*Many people's jobs are difficult.*
- Remember that **its** and **it's** are different:  
*I've got a new dog. Its name is Pluto.*  
(*Its* = possessive adjective)  
*It's cold today.* (*It's* = It is)

(See also Unit 35.)

## Practice

### A Put possessive adjectives (*my, your, etc.*) and possessive pronouns (*mine, yours, etc.*) in the gaps.

- This car belongs to me. This is my ..... car. It's mine .....
- 1 That ticket belongs to you. That's ..... ticket. It's .....
- 2 These shoes belong to her. These are ..... shoes. They're .....
- 3 This house belongs to them. This is ..... house. It's .....
- 4 These cups belong to us. These are ..... cups. They're .....
- 5 Those books belong to him. Those are ..... books. They're .....
- 6 That bag belongs to me. That's ..... bag. It's .....
- 7 This key belongs to her. This is ..... key. It's .....
- 8 That boat belongs to them. That's ..... boat. It's .....
- 9 Those coats belong to us. Those are ..... coats. They're .....

10 These pens belong to me. These are ..... pens. They're ..... .

11 That watch belongs to him. That's ..... watch. It's ..... .

12 These photos belong to you. These are ..... photos. They're ..... .

**B** Look at the pictures and then complete the sentences.

Use *my*, *your*, etc. and *mine*, *yours*, etc.



- ▶ Those are his ..... keys.
- 1 That book is ..... .
- 2 These pens are ..... .
- 3 That's ..... money.
- 4 This bike is ..... .
- 5 That ruler is ..... .
- 6 This is ..... car.
- 7 Those are ..... sandwiches.
- 8 Is this bag ..... ?
- 9 Those photos are ..... .
- 10 This is ..... camera.
- 11 Is this ..... watch?

**C** If the underlined words are correct, put a tick (✓). If they are wrong, write the correct words.

- ▶ Look at the sky! Its going to rain.
- ▶ Is that Erica's car?

1 Those photos on the table are the mine.

2 I met a friend of me at the shops.

3 The childrens' toys were on the floor.

4 I can't do this exercise. Its very difficult.

5 I like all of that writers' books.

6 People's opinions often change.

7 The workers' wages are very low so they are very unhappy.

8 They were talking about the world's problems.

9 Shall we give the cat it's food?

10 She stayed with some relatives of hers in Spain.

It's ..... .

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**D** Replace the words in brackets ( ) with possessive pronouns (*mine*, *yours*, etc.).

- ▶ My car is faster than (your car). yours ..... .
- 1 Her house is bigger than (my house). ..... .
- 2 Your watch is more expensive than (his watch). ..... .
- 3 My exams are more difficult than (their exams). ..... .
- 4 Their garden is more beautiful than (our garden). ..... .
- 5 Your son is younger than (her son). ..... .
- 6 My husband is stronger than (your husband). ..... .
- 7 Her job is harder than (his job). ..... .