

Forming the possessive

The possessive form is used with nouns referring to people, groups of people, countries, and animals. It shows a relationship of belonging between one thing and another. To form the possessive, add apostrophe + s to the noun. If the noun is plural, or already ends in s, just add an apostrophe after the s.

Examples

- the car of John = **John's car**
- the room of the girls = **the girls' room**
- clothes for men = **men's clothes**
- the boat of the sailors = **the sailors' boat**

For names ending in s, you can either add an apostrophe + s, or just an apostrophe. The first option is more common. When pronouncing a possessive name, we add the sound /z/ to the end of the name.

Examples

- Thomas's book (or Thomas' book)
- James's shop (or James' shop)
- The Smiths's house (or the Smiths' house)

1) Drag the meaning of these sentences to the correct place.

The books belong to a singular teacher.

The books belong to all the teachers in that school.

The toy belongs to the girl.

The room belongs to the girl.

These are the teacher's books. _____

These are the teachers' books. _____

Put the toy in the girls' room. _____

The girl's toy is in the room. _____

II) Write the correct form of the possessives into the gaps (apostrophe 's)

- 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*)
- 6 shoes are on the second floor. (*men*)
- 7 My car was not expensive. (*parents*)
- 8 CD player is new. (*Charles*)
- 9 This is the bike. (*boy*)
- 10 These are the pencils. (*boys*)

III) Drag the words to put the sentences in the correct order.

1. Ellen is name sister's My

2. Bob's is This daughter.

3. sons' teacher. our Jacky's

4. father. Klaus Natasha's is

5. His parents' Sue and Joe. names are

6. is Enrique son. Julio's
