language focus

possessive pronouns

Possessive pronouns tell us about who owns something. Nouns do not follow possessive pronouns.

That pencil is yours.
Is this cat hers?

Possessive pronouns can stand alone as a subject.

Hers is a green cup.
subject object

Possessive pronouns can stand alone as an object.

The green cup is mine.
subject object

The possessive pronoun can refer back to the subject or to someone or something else mentioned before. The context helps to make this clear.

Ali lent Ahmed his bag because Ahmed couldn't find his.

Here is a table of subject pronouns. Read the 'Whose bag?' story at the top of this page and find possessive pronouns in the text. Write them in the correct place. The first one has been done to help you.

subject pronoun	I	you	he	she	we	they
possessive pronoun	mine					

2 Possessive pronouns.

Use the possessive pronouns you collected in the language focus box and complete the following sentences.

1. 'Is this your bag Mustafa?'
   'Yes, it's _____.'
2. 'Has Ali left his keys again?'
   'Yes, these are _____.'
3. 'Maha, you've got a lot of shoes in your cupboard! Are they really all _____ ?'
4. Najma and Siham have been friends for a long time. _____ is a great friendship.
5. The keys belong to Susan. The keys are _____ .
6. 'Ahmed and Ali, are those books yours?' asked the teacher.
   'Yes, they're _____ ,' they replied.