

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

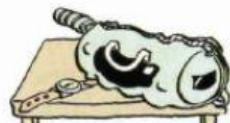
12 These photos belong to you. These are photos. They're

B Look at the pictures and then complete the sentences.

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



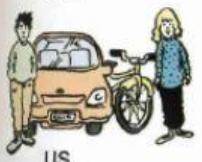
me



you



him



us



them



her

- 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).

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).

yours

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