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Possessive nouns, adjectives and pronouns

These are all **yours**.
Where is **my** food?



Timtim, see what I've bought today. The red T-shirt is **mine**. I've bought one for Tina too. The blue one is **hers**. These socks are **Dad's**. **His** old ones are worn. The boys like drawing. The crayons are **theirs**. Oh, these dresses are **NOT ours**...



Usage

We use **possessive nouns, adjectives and pronouns** to show that something **belongs to** someone or something, or their relationship.

e.g. This is **Angel's** (book). **Possessive noun**

e.g. This is **his** car. **Possessive adjective**

e.g. This ring is **mine**. **Possessive pronoun**

Isn't **my** ring beautiful?



Part 1 Possessive Nouns

We use possessive nouns in front of another noun or noun phrase.

e.g. This is **Edward's camera**. (= This camera belongs to Edward.)

We form possessive nouns by making changes to the nouns.

Noun	Change	Example
Singular noun	+ 's	Jacky's school bag, the doctor's advice
Regular plural noun	+ ' after 's'	the babies' bedroom, the ladies' lipsticks
Irregular plural noun	+ 's	the women's gym, the children's toys
Two nouns joint by 'and'	+ 's or ' after the second noun	Sally and Andy's wedding, the geese and ducks' pond
Names ending in -s	+ 's or '	Jess's friends / Jess' friends



Educator's Tips



Sometimes, we can use possessive nouns on their own when the things being referred to are clearly understood.

e.g. A: *Whose camera is it?*

B: It's **Edward's**. (B is talking about the camera.)

Exercise 1

Fill in the blanks with the correct possessive nouns and nouns.

- The _____ *boy's nickname* _____ is Mick. (boy, nickname)
- Is _____ too long? (James, hair)
- _____ are sharp. (wolves, teeth)
- _____ is not yet furnished. (Karen and Ben, house)
- The _____ are very heavy. (firemen, gears)
- My _____ were so warm. (family and friends, wishes)
- After running, the _____ beats very fast. (athlete, heart)



Part 2 Possessive Adjectives

We also use a possessive adjective before a noun or noun phrase.

e.g. *Amy's school bag* → **her** school bag

e.g. *the children's teacher* → **their** teacher

	Possessive adjective	Noun / Noun phrase
This is	my	meal. favourite drink.
	your*	
	his / her / its	
	our	
	your*	
	their	

* 'your' can be singular or plural

Exercise 2.1

Circle the possessive adjectives in the wordsearch and count the number of them.

y	h	i	s	h	e	y	o	u	o	d	s	i
o	p	e	r	t	h	e	i	r	k	o	y	t
u	j	o	r	u	q	e	w	e	m	y	t	s
r	h	e	t	h	e	y	m	o	u	r	p	u

How many possessive adjectives can you find?



Educator's Tips

Don't mix up *it's* with *its*. *It's* means *it is* or *it has*, while *its* is a possessive adjective.

e.g. *I like Hong Kong. It's (= It is) small but energetic.*

e.g. *Hong Kong is famous for its (= Hong Kong's) harbour.*

Exercise 2.2

Circle the correct words in brackets.

1. Is this (your / you) new dress, Kelly? It looks **gorgeous**.
2. Lisa forgot to do (her / she) homework last night.
3. This is my goldfish. (It's / Its) name is Johnny.
4. The students are happy with (they / their) exam results.
5. Eric's brother helps Eric with (his / him) schoolwork.
6. Have you seen (I / my) mobile phone? I couldn't find it.
7. We are **diligent** so (we / our) teachers like (us / our).
8. Jim and Ken are good boys. (They / Their) visit (them / their) grandma every Sunday.



Vocabulary:

gorgeous (adj.): very beautiful and attractive

diligent (adj.): showing care and effort in your work



Part 3 Possessive Pronouns

We use a possessive pronoun to replace a possessive adjective and a noun or noun phrase.

e.g. Manager: Whose **luggage** is this?

Mr and Mrs Ip: It's **ours** (= our luggage).

e.g. I don't have a pen. Can I borrow **yours** (= your pen)?

Is this your pet?



No! It's not **mine** (= my pet)!



Possessive adjective	Possessive pronoun
This is my house.	This house is mine .
That is your* soup.	That soup is yours* .
These are his shoes.	These shoes are his .
This is her dress.	This dress is hers .
That is its cage.	—
This is our farm.	This farm is ours .
Those are their glasses.	Those glasses are theirs .

* 'your' and 'yours' can be singular or plural

Exercise 3.1

Fill in the blanks with the correct possessive adjectives or possessive pronouns.

- my textbook → mine
- his cabinet → _____
- our bookshelf → _____
- their computer → _____
- her earrings → _____
- your idea → _____
- my T-shirt → _____
- _____ rulers → theirs
- _____ sofa → his
- _____ bottle → hers



Vocabulary:

luggage (n.): the bags that you take with you when travelling
cabinet (n.): a cupboard used for storing or displaying things



A possessive pronoun can be used either as the **subject** or as the **object** of a sentence.

Object Object
↓ ↓
This school bag is not **mine**. It's **yours**.
Mine is blue and **yours** is red.
↑ ↑
Subject Subject



Exercise 3.2

Fill in the blanks with the correct possessive adjectives or possessive pronouns.

1. This MP3 player is not mine. Johnny lent it to me. It's _____.
2. The little girl is crying because she lost _____ parents in the crowd.
3. This is not Judy's umbrella. _____ has some dots on it.
4. Sam, is that _____ mother? She seems to be looking for you.
5. That is Mr and Mrs Chan's car. It is _____.
6. These are not your sunglasses. _____ are in the drawer.

Unit Recap

Nancy is writing a diary entry. Complete the diary entry with the correct personal pronouns, possessive adjectives or possessive pronouns.

25th September, 20XX

Cloudy

Cooking Fun

Today I had the first cooking lesson in (1) _____ *my* life. It was full of fun! My classmates joined the class too. (2) _____ were very excited. We cooked fried rice and beef soup. Then we had (3) _____ for lunch. (4) _____ were so yummy!

Kitty put ham in her rice and I put peas and corn in (5) _____. We shared (6) _____ food with each other. Our friend Peter also let us try (7) _____. He said his beef soup was special because he added pepper in (8) _____. But I think (9) _____ was too spicy!