

Key

LEVEL 1 - APOSTROPHES

Directions: **Read** and **evaluate** the given sentences. **Circle/identify** the response that correctly reflects our apostrophe rules.

1. Annoying music escaped from Kinya's ear buds.

- A. Kinya's contains a correct apostrophe.
- B. No apostrophe is needed.

2. Buy your own pens! You cannot borrow ours.

- A. Ours does not need an apostrophe.
- B. Ours should have an apostrophe between the r and s: our's.
- C. Ours should have an apostrophe after the s: ours'.

3. Ask Henry for help. His brain possess's all kinds of strange trivia.

- A. Possess's contains a correct apostrophe.
- B. You must spell the word like this: possesses.

4. The alarm clocks buzz startled Shane awake.

- A. Clocks does not need an apostrophe.
- B. Clocks should have an apostrophe between the k and s: clock's.

5. While the bee buzzes among the blooms, a patient mantis waits to strike.

- A. Buzzes does not need an apostrophe.
- B. You must spell the word with an apostrophe: buzz's.
- C. You must spell the word with an apostrophe: buzzes'.

6. The Larsen's decided not to shutter their windows even though they were taking vacation at the height of hurricane season.

- A. Larsen's contains a correct apostrophe.
- B. The apostrophe should come after the s: Larsens'.
- C. Larsens should not have an apostrophe.

7. Betty Ann could not resist petting the adorable poodle puppie's.

- A. Puppie's contains a correct apostrophe.
- B. No apostrophe is needed.
- C. Puppies should have the apostrophe after the s: puppies'.

8. Our stomachs might burst! We shouldn't have eaten so many fried cheese sticks.

- A. Shouldn't contains a correct apostrophe.
- B. The apostrophe must come between the d and n, where the space was omitted: should'nt

9. Phillip banged his knees' on the metal bar beneath the desk.

- A. Knees' contains a correct apostrophe.
- B. Knees should have the apostrophe before the s: knee's.
- C. There's no apostrophe in knees.

LEVEL 2 - APOSTROPHES

Directions: **Read** the given sentence. There may be an incorrect apostrophe used in the sentence. **Identify** what part of the sentence needs to be changed to reflect correct apostrophe use. Then, **explain why** the change, if any, was made.

1. To avoid muddy dog prints on Mom's clean floor, we left the puppy's in the backyard.

- A. prints'
- B. Moms
- C. puppies
- D. No change is necessary.

Reason for new answer:

puppies don't own anything

2. Strands of hair whipped Jessica's face as the cold wind blew through the bare trees.

- A. Strand's
- B. Jessicas
- C. tree's
- D. No change is necessary.

Reason for new answer:

plural

3. Even on the belts last hole, the baggy jeans keep sliding off Roger's hips, making the poor boy waddle like a penguin.

- A. belt's
- B. jean's
- C. Rogers
- D. No change is necessary.

Reason for new answer:

hole belongs to belt

4. Even after four cups of coffee, Melissa could'nt muster the energy to finish the journal assignments for Professor Koopman's class.

- A. cup's
- B. couldn't
- C. Koopmans
- D. No change is necessary.

Reason for new answer:

n't

5. The lawn mower's roar woke Stephen from a sound sleep. He cursed his neighbor's dedication to yard maintenance and dove under the blanket's.

- A. mowers
- B. neighbors
- C. blankets
- D. No change is necessary.

Reason for new answer:

no ownership
plural

LEVEL 3 - APOSTROPHES

Directions: **Read** the given sentence. **Identify** the underlined portion. **Re-write** the underlined portion to reflect use of an apostrophe.

1. The calculator that belongs to Jeffrey has keys sticky with peanut butter.

Jeffrey's calculator

2. The sudden change of the stoplight made Shane slam on his breaks.

The stoplight's sudden change

3. The bad table manners of Pedro include chewing and talking simultaneously. No wonder Maria won't agree to a date!

Pedro's bad table manners

4. Curling outside the nostrils, the nose hair of Adam repulses Laurie, who sits across the table.

Adam's nose hair

5. The money that Elvis hides in the cookie jar is greasy with butter.

Elvis' money in the cookie jar
or Elvis's

6. The stiff bristles on the brush do not apply paint smoothly.

The Brush's bristles

7. A hungry crow snatched the half-eaten hot dog that Todd abandoned on the picnic table.

Todd's abandoned, half-eaten hotdog.

8. The cell phone that Marco uses is shiny with potato chip grease.

Marco's cell phone

LEVEL 4 - APOSTROPHES

David and Chris' gloves

Directions: Read and evaluate the given prepositional phrases. Rewrite and create nouns with appropriate apostrophes from the given sentences. Careful to look for singular and plurals.

1. gloves of David and Pat David and Pat's gloves
2. the locker room of the boys the boys' locker room
3. personality of a person a person's personality
4. boat of Charles Charles's boat
5. novels of Kenneth Roberts Kenneth Roberts's novels
6. top of it its top
7. a delay of a week a week's delay
8. events of the day the day's events
9. wraps of the ladies the ladies' wraps
10. a wait of ten minutes a ten minutes' wait
11. rays of the sun the sun's rays
12. shoes of the men the men's shoes
13. handbags of the women the women's handbags
14. the meaning of the story the story's meaning (stories)
15. the meaning of it its meaning
16. office of the boss the boss' office
~~bosses'~~