

15: Pronouns

Let's do a reminder about the right form of **pronouns**.

Examples

1 *Subjects and objects*

When do you say 'The king and **I**' and when is it 'The king and **me**'?

Work it out by taking the other person away, and seeing if you'd then say **I** or **me**.

- The queen invited the king and **me** for breakfast. (She invited **me** . . .)
- The king and **I** accepted the invitation. (**I** accepted . . .)

You usually use **I** before a verb, and **me** after a verb.

I is called the **subject** of the verb; **me** is called the **object** of the verb.

2 *Possessives*

- This is **my** diary; it's completely **mine**.
- If that's **your** diary, then it's **yours**.
- Of course **our** diary is **ours**.

Here you'll see that the possessive is different when it stands on its own.

- The examples in the first part of each sentence are called **possessive adjectives**, as they describe a noun (**diary**).
- The examples in the second part of each sentence are called **possessive pronouns**, as they stand alone.

And you never use an apostrophe with any of these possessives.

Get ready

Can you fill in the right pronouns for subjects and objects?

	Singular subject	Singular object	Plural subject	Plural object
1st person	I	me		us
2nd person	you		you	
3rd person	he, she, it	him, her, it	they	



Let's practise

Subject and object pronouns

Fill the gaps.

- 1 My friend and (I/me) _____ are going out to the park.
- 2 Our other friends saw her and (I/me) _____ on the way.
- 3 They said they'd meet her and (me/I) _____ on the way back.
- 4 They invited (we/us) _____ back to their place.
- 5 We thanked him and (she/her) _____ for the invitation.

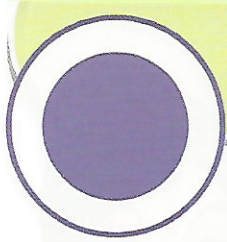
Possessives

Fill the gaps.

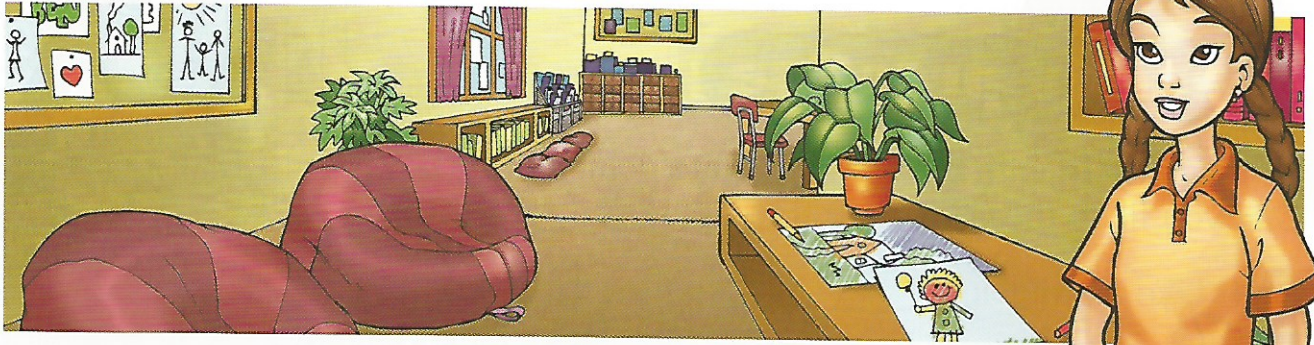
- 6 She said the book was (belonging to her) _____.
- 7 I said the book was (belonging to me) _____.
- 8 She said she knew from (belonging to it) _____ cover that it was (belonging to her) _____.
- 9 We agreed to ask our friends if it was (belonging to them) _____.
- 10 They said that (belonging to them) _____ feeling was that it was not (belonging to them) _____.

Have a go

	Singular possessive adjective	Singular possessive pronoun	Plural possessive adjective	Plural possessive pronoun
1st person	my		our	
2nd person	your			yours
3rd person	his, her, its	his, hers	their	



7: Homophones



I remember what **homophone** means: *same sound*, but different spelling because the words have different meanings.

Examples

Think carefully before you underline the right words here:

- 1 It's (**there/their/they're**) chair because (**there/their/they're**) sitting (**there/their/they're**).
- 2 The queen is (**rein/rain/reign**)ing, in bad weather it's (**rein/rain/reign**)ing, and I am (**rein/rain/reign**)ing in the horse.

Puzzling, aren't they? And if you have a spellchecker on your computer it won't help, because it can't detect a right spelling in a wrong context!

Get ready

Ring the correct spelling.

- 3 That was a (great/grate) idea, and I feel (great/grate)ful.
- 4 My eye-(site/sight) helps me inspect the (site/sight) of the building.
- 5 My (waist/waste) may be small, but we (waist/waste) a lot of food.
- 6 I (told/tolled) the vicar, but the vicar (told/tolled) the bell.
- 7 (We'd/weed) better (we'd/weed) the garden.
- 8 I wonder (who's/whose) asking (who's/whose) bike this is.

Let's practise

Sometimes it helps to work out which word class you need.

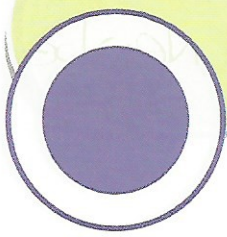
- 9 Practice (noun), practise (verb)
Let's _____ until our _____ makes perfect.
- 10 Advice (noun), advise (verb)
I would _____ you to listen to her _____.
- 11 Licence (noun), license (verb)
They've _____d us to renew this _____.
- 12 Effect (noun), affect (verb)
I can't tell how this _____ will _____ us.
- 13 It's (verb), its (possessive adjective)
I know _____ right because _____ meaning is as clear as _____ spelling.
- 14 Write (verb), right (adjective) I will _____ what is _____.
- 15 Passed (verb), past (preposition)
I _____ the river when I walked _____ the bridge.
- 16 Ate (verb), eight (number) I _____ different cakes.
- 17 Lead (noun), led (verb)
The stuff in your pencil is _____, but she _____ me down the path.
- 18 Whole (adjective), hole (noun) That _____ is a _____ lot bigger.



Have a go

Correct the spellings of these common errors:

- 19 I gave him free rain. _____
- 20 Who's blue shoes are whose? _____
- 21 Waist knot, want knot. _____



1: Revising plurals



Do you remember these four easy rules for making **plurals**?

Examples

- 1 For most words, just add **s**: lots of **bugs** and lots of **bees**.
- 2 For words that end with **ss**, **sh**, **ch** or **x**, you need to add **es**, to help you say the word: one **fox**, but lots of **foxes**.
- 3 For words that end in **y**, you change the ending to **ies**: one **fly**, lots of **flies**.
But if there's a vowel before the **y**, you just add **s**: one **monkey**, lots of **monkeys**.
- 4 For words that end in single **f** or **fe**, you usually change the ending to **ves**: one **calf**, lots of **calves**.

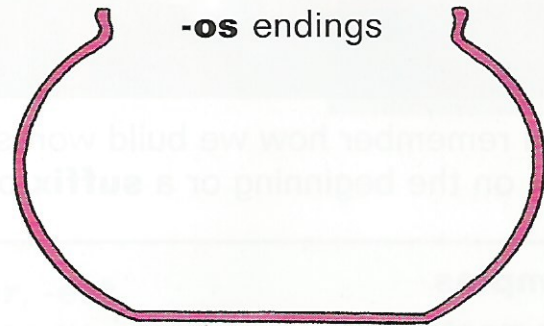
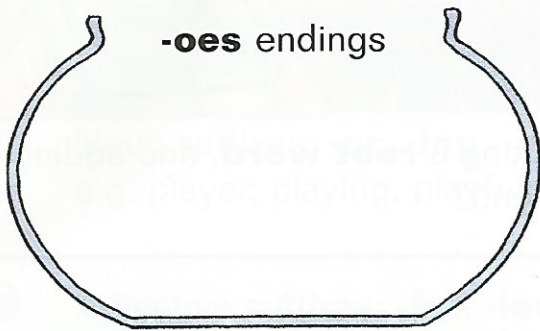
Get ready

- 1 One jelly, lots of _____
- 2 One dish, lots of _____
- 3 One loaf, lots of _____
- 4 One plate, lots of _____
- 5 One glass, lots of _____
- 6 One cloth, lots of _____
- 7 One table, lots of _____
- 8 One shelf, lots of _____
- 9 One coffee, lots of _____
- 10 One teacup, lots of _____

Let's practise



You may also know that words that end with **o** usually add **es** in the plural. But words with foreign roots usually just add **s**. Write the plurals of these words in the right tubs, checking your dictionary if you need to.



tomato	piano	domino	radio	video	cargo	patio
disco	buffalo	photo	potato	mango	stereo	studio

Have a go

Remember the irregular plurals, like **men**, **women** and **children**?

We say one **mouse**, and a plague of **mice**.

But it's one **sheep** as well as a whole flock of **sheep**.

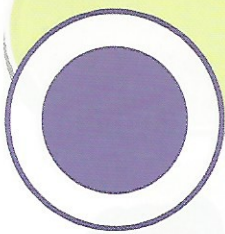
Then one pair of **trousers**, and one pair of **scissors**.

Make these sentences plural. (Watch out for other things you have to change, as well as the plural nouns.)

- 11 The man screamed as the mouse ran up his trousers.

- 12 The woman sheared the sheep with her scissors.

- 13 Maybe the child put the mouse up his teacher's trousers.



4: Spelling with suffixes



If you want to add a suffix, you need to check two things:
First, how is the root word spelt?
Second, does the suffix start with a consonant or a vowel?

Examples

- 1 Usually you just add the suffix as it is: play, **playful**, **playing**, etc.
- 2 For words with a short vowel sound followed by a single consonant:
 - If the suffix starts with a **consonant**, you just add it: thin + **ly** = **thinly**.
 - If the suffix starts with a **vowel or y**, you *double the last consonant* of the word: thin + **er** = **thinner**. Otherwise the single consonant would make the vowel into a long vowel sound: **pinning** instead of **pinning**.
- 3 For words ending with **e**, like **face**:
 - If the suffix starts with a **consonant**, you just add it: face + **less** = **faceless**.
 - If the suffix starts with a **vowel**, you have to take off the root **e** of the word, so you don't have too many vowels together, so: face + **ing** = **facing**, not faceing.

Get ready

Write one word in each box, choosing a suffix to make a real word.

Root word	Consonant suffixes: -ful, -less, -ness, -ly	Vowel suffixes: -ed, -er, -est, -ing, -y
play	playful	played, player, playing
bleak		
steep		
dream		



Let's practise

Now add suffixes to words with short vowel sounds, and to words ending in **e**. They must all be real words.

Root word	Consonant suffixes: -ful, -less, -ness, -ly	Vowel suffixes: -ed, -er, -est, -ing, -y
fit	fitful, fitness	fitted, fitter, fittest, fitting
fat		
flat		
skin		
sun		
mad		
glad		
care	careful, careless	cared, carer, caring
hope		
tune		
taste		
pale		
rude		
false		

Have a go

Riddle

It used to be (hot) _____er,

It used to be (squat) _____er,

It used to be (fat) _____er,

But now it's been (flat) _____ened.

What is the answer to this riddle?