

**POSSESSIVES**

Read the story below. See how the possessives are used in the story.



**Nurul's brother<sup>1</sup>** is very cruel to animals. He is always hurting **her<sup>2</sup>** cat.



One day, while everyone was in the **family's living room<sup>1</sup>**, they heard the news of treasure being found in the village.



The next day, **Nurul's cat<sup>1</sup>** was playing near a river. Suddenly, the cat started digging the ground.



Both Nurul and Kumari were surprised that her cat had found the treasure. The treasure was now **hers<sup>1</sup>**!



When **Nurul's brother<sup>1</sup>** found out about the treasure, he was jealous.



He took the cat to a field hoping to find treasure. The cat dug up waste for him because he was a cruel boy.

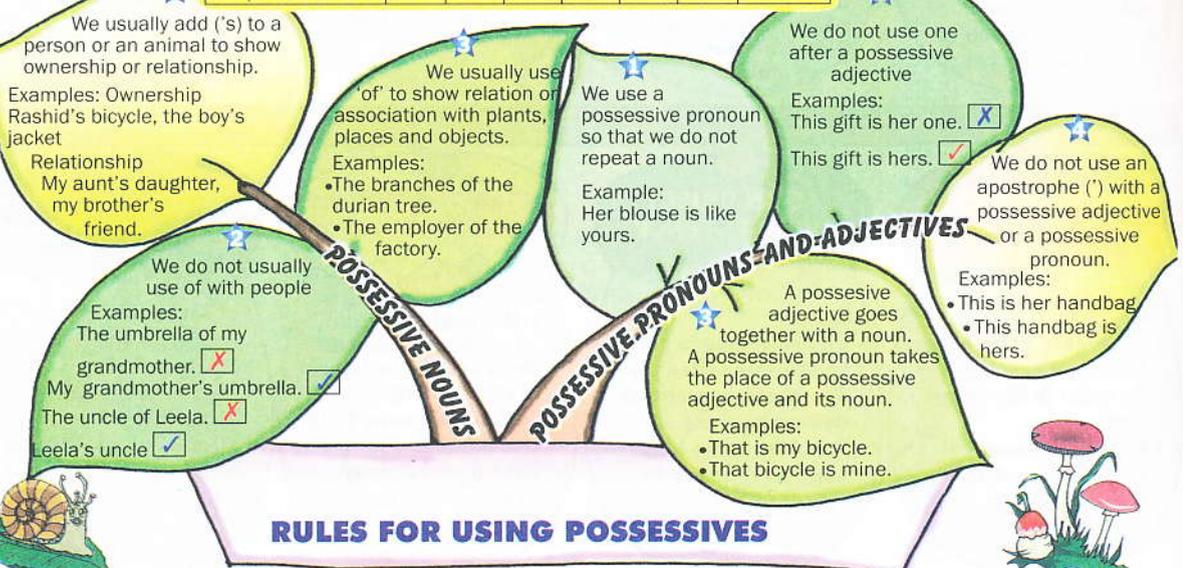
- 1 Example of a Possessive Noun (Singular Noun)
- 2 Example of a Possessive Adjective

- 3 Example of a Possessive Pronoun

**GRAMMAR RULES**

Personal pronouns	I, me	they, them					
Possessive adjectives	my	our	your	his	her	its	their
Possessive pronouns	mine	ours	yours	his	hers	-	theirs

We usually add 's' to plural nouns ending in 's', and 's' to plural nouns not ending in 's' to show ownership or relationship.



**RULES FOR USING POSSESSIVES**

**Examples**

A possessive noun shows ownership. It uses an apostrophe (') placed before or after an 's'.

**SINGULAR NOUNS**

For singular nouns add the apostrophe (') before the 's'. E.g.

- a) This watch belongs to Zeenat.  
This is Zeenat's watch.
- b) Have you seen the rattle belonging to the baby?  
Have you seen the baby's rattle?

**PLURAL NOUNS**

For plural nouns add the apostrophe (') after the 's'.

- E.g.
- a) These bags belong to the girls.  
These are the girls' bags.
  - b) The birds have build their nests on this tree.  
The birds' nests are on this tree.

**Rules**

**PLURAL NOUNS WITHOUT 'S'**

For plural nouns that do not end in 's', add the apostrophe followed by 's'. E.g.

- a) The dresses that belong to those women are sewn by this tailor.  
Those women's dresses are sewn by this tailor.
- b) The toys that belong to the children are in the cupboard.  
The children's toys are in the cupboard.

**NAMES**

For names ending with 's', add the apostrophe after the 's'.

- e.g.
- a) These plants belong to Nicholas.  
These are Nicholas' plants.
  - b) The paintings that belong to Thomas are worth a million ringgit.  
Thomas' paintings are worth a million ringgit.

1 Joyce's bag

2 Ali's car

3 That girl's comb

4 Those boys shoes

5 These ladies' books

Noun	Singular	Plural
Boy	Boy's	Boys'
Pupil	Pupil's	Pupils'
Lawyer	Lawyer's	Lawyers'
Elephant	Elephant's	Elephants'
Child	Child's	Children's
Friend	Friend's	Friends'

**Examples**

- 1 The boy's cat caught a mouse.
- 2 These children's shirts were all bought by her aunt.
- 3 The lawyers' coats are very clean.
- 4 The elephant's trunk is caught in a hole.
- 5 Most of the pupils' parents came to the meeting.
- 6 My friend's sister met with an accident.
- 7 That child's mother works as a nurse.
- 8 The boys' father went for swimming.

**A Possessive Adjective or Possessive Pronoun does not need the 's' or 's' to show ownership.**

**Possessive Adjectives are placed before the nouns**

**Possessive Pronouns are placed after the verbs**

**Possessive Adjectives**

**Examples**

- my That is my car.
- our She is coming to our house for dinner.
- his This is his bicycle.
- her She lost her key.
- its The dog wags its tail.
- your She has done her work well.
- their They went out with their parents.

**Possessive Pronouns**

**Examples**

- mine That file is mine.
- ours Those books are ours.
- his This bag is his.
- hers The cake is hers.
- yours This doll is yours.
- theirs Those pens are theirs.