

USING THE APOSTROPHE

Exercise One

Analyze each of the following and then identify if the apostrophe is being used correctly or incorrectly.

		Correct	Incorrect
1	Steve's phone wouldn't turn on.		
2	Beth didn't enjoy scary movies.		
3	It's a tough day when we lose.		
4	It was the product of several years' work.		
5	She stumbled into the mens' bathroom.		
6	The lion leisurely licked it's paws.		

		Correct	Incorrect
7	He interrupted the accountants's lunch.		
8	The chair was ugly; its presence was off-putting.		
9	The students shouts' of joy filled the hall.		
10	Mr. Stevens' briefcase sat on the kitchen table.		
11	The mess in the room was our's.		
12	He couldn't get over the fact that she didn't arrive.		

Exercise Two

For each of the following sentences have apostrophe errors (some have multiple). First circle the errors and then re-write the sentences with the corrections.

- Josephines' diary was left open on the desk.

- He walked into the girls locker room by mistake.

- She didnt know which of the socks was her's and which were Amys.

- When I have guests, they always use the visitors bathroom.

- Im always late for school in the mornings, but its my dads fault.

- Jane Austens books are the classes favorite.

- Charles doctors office is in the next building.

- Weve achieved high marks this year; were New Yorks best school.

- Her baby loves the rattle; its his best toy.

- The childrens bags weren't labeled, so I didn't know which was Sarahs.

USING THE APOSTROPHE

Many people make errors when using the apostrophe, and it is particularly embarrassing when these errors appear in print or business advertising. Examine such errors below, and then **rewrite them**, making the corrections, and then explain **why** the apostrophe is in the place it should be.

**NO DOG'S
ALLOWED**

Rewrite: _____

Explain: _____

**Get you're
fresh fruit
HERE!**

Rewrite: _____

Explain: _____

**DAILY
SPECIALS**

Joe's Tomato
Soup
Homemade
Paninis
Chocolate Tarts

Rewrite: _____

Explain: _____

**50% OFF
TODAYS PIES**

Rewrite: _____

Explain: _____

**Your welcome
to come in!**

Rewrite: _____

Explain: _____

Farmers
Market Open
On Friday's

Rewrite: _____

Explain: _____

**WORLDS' BEST
COFFEE
SOLD HERE**

Rewrite: _____

Explain: _____

**ITS ALL
ON SALE**

Rewrite: _____

Explain: _____

USING THE APOSTROPHE

Exercise One

For each of the following sentences, rearrange the words to show possession by means of an apostrophe. The first one has been done for you as an example.

e.g. The adults took the sandwiches which belonged to the children.

The adults took the children's sandwiches.

- He could not stop the unalterable pace of Time.
- The governor did nothing to help the people of Kansas.
- The chill of winter started to set in last week.
- The racket, which belonged to Tim, had been broken.
- The wind blew off the hats, which belonged to the ladies.

Exercise Two

Your or You're?

		Correct	Incorrect
1	I want to borrow your scarf.		
2	Tom likes you're website.		
3	You're supposed to listen!		
4	You're dog is so cute!		
5	Call me when your home.		
6	Call me from your home.		
7	Don't use your own phone.		
8	You're grammar is important.		
9	Your going to fall!		
10	Don't listen to your friend.		

Exercise Three

Their, there, there's, they're?

Fill in the correct one.

1	Please pass me _____ books.
2	_____ not allowed in here.
3	_____ no reason to cry.
4	The boys know _____ grammar.
5	I hate pigs; _____ so smelly.
6	If _____ no lunch, I will cry.
7	_____ are people in the shop.
8	No one wants _____ secrets told.
9	Don't go _____ alone.
10	_____ water in the engine.