

Lesson 11: Possessive Nouns

LEARN

A **possessive noun** is a noun that shows *who* or *what* has something.

Janet's mother teaches quilting.
She displayed the **students'** quilts.

Both singular and plural nouns can be made possessive.

- To make a singular noun possessive, add an apostrophe and *-s*.

SINGULAR	Janet	family	class
SINGULAR POSSESSIVE	Janet's	family's	class's

- To make a plural noun that ends in *-s* possessive, add only an apostrophe.

PLURAL	students	families	classes
PLURAL POSSESSIVE	students'	families'	classes'

- To make a plural noun that does not end in *-s* possessive, add an apostrophe and *-s*.

PLURAL	women	children	sheep
PLURAL POSSESSIVE	women's	children's	sheep's



PRACTICE

A Write the possessive form of the noun in **boldface**.

1. the tools owned by the **workers**

the workers' tools

2. the hats belonging to the **men**

the men's hats

3. the rugs belonging to the **museum**

the museum's rugs

4. the sizes of the **frames**

the frames' sizes

5. the clay belonging to the **potter**

the potter's clay

6. the quilt owned by **Mia**

Mia's quilt

PRACTICE A *continued*


7. the smocks used by the **painters** the painters' smocks
8. the purchases of the **tourists** the tourists' purchases
9. the design of the **building** the building's design
10. the collection owned by **Gus** Gus's collection

B *Write the possessive form of the noun in parentheses that correctly completes each sentence.*

1. Our town's first craft fair was a great success. (town)
2. Our neighbors' projects were on display. (neighbors)
3. Some women's embroidered pillows were in the show. (women)
4. Mr. Moss's hand-carved chairs attracted a crowd. (Mr. Moss)
5. His birdhouses attracted the children's attention. (children)
6. Sharon's aunt is a weaver. (Sharon)
7. She uses wool from a local farmer's sheep. (farmer)
8. The sheep's wool is soft. (sheep)
9. A potter's wheel turned slowly in one area. (potter)
10. A man's hands slowly shaped clay into a vase. (man)
11. The vase's shape was almost perfect! (vase)
12. All the artists answered visitors' questions. (visitors)



C David wrote about a class trip to a glassblower's workshop. He made seven mistakes when writing possessive nouns. Look for the mistakes, and fix them. Use the proofreading marks in the box.

Remember  A possessive noun shows who or what owns or has something.






Our ^{class's} ~~classs~~ visit to Ms. ^{Anderson's} ~~Andersons~~ glass workshop was really interesting. I especially enjoyed the glassblowing demonstration. It gave everyone a firsthand look at this ^{artist's} ~~artists~~ amazing skills.

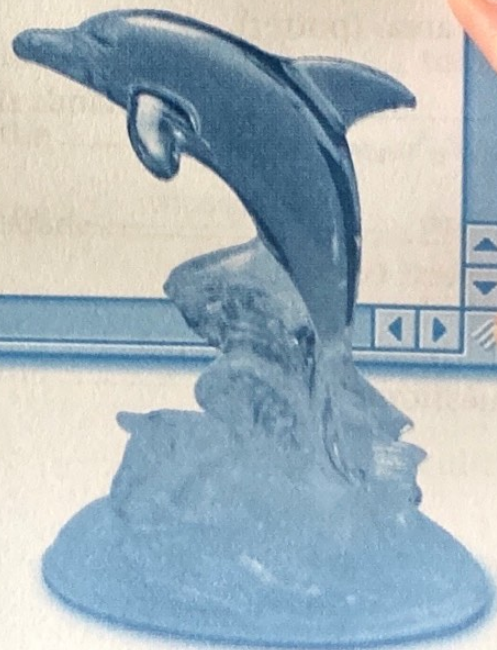
The ^{workshop's} ~~workshops~~ furnace heated some glass until it melted. When the ^{mixture's} ~~mixtures~~ temperature was about 2000°F, Ms. Anderson briefly dipped a hollow iron blowpipe into it. A small amount of melted glass stuck to the ^{blowpipe's} ~~blowpipes~~ tip.

Ms. Anderson then blew gently into the blowpipe. Her breath forced the glass to bulge out and form a hollow bulb. With a few twists and turns, the ^{glass's} ~~glass'es~~ final shape appeared. It was now a beautiful vase.

Of all the crafts I have seen so far, handmade glass fascinates me the most.

Proofreading Marks

-  Add
-  Period
-  Take out
-  Capital letter
-  Small letter



Did you correct seven possessive nouns?



WRITE



D Rewrite each phrase using a possessive noun. Then write a sentence using the new phrase. The first one is done for you.
Answers may vary. Sample answers are given.

1. the bright colors of the quilt _____ **the quilt's bright colors**
The quilt's bright colors will make the room look cheerful.
2. the unusual shape of the basket _____ **the basket's unusual shape**
The basket's unusual shape reminded us of a snake.
3. the bird feeder belonging to our class _____ **our class's bird feeder**
Our class's bird feeder attracts many birds.
4. the clubhouse of the members _____ **the members' clubhouse**
The members' clubhouse needed a new door.
5. the sweater belonging to the baby _____ **the baby's sweater**
My grandmother knitted the baby's sweater.
6. the workshop of a blacksmith _____ **the blacksmith's workshop**
Where is the blacksmith's workshop?
7. the rocking horse of the toy makers _____ **the toy makers' rocking horse**
We saw the toy makers' rocking horse in the store window.
8. the needle of the sewing machine _____ **the sewing machine's needle**
The sewing machine's needle was broken.

Proofreading Checklist

- Did you make singular nouns possessive by adding an apostrophe and -s?
- Did you make plural nouns ending in -s possessive by adding just an apostrophe?