



## 1. Objective

By the end of this lesson, learners will be able to:

Identify possessive nouns in sentences

Form possessive nouns correctly (singular, plural, irregular, and special cases)

Use possessives to show ownership or relationships

Apply the rules in writing and speaking

## 2. What Are Possessive Nouns?

A possessive noun shows ownership or a relationship between things.

It usually answers the question: Who does this belong to?

### Example:

Fatima's book = the book belongs to Fatima

The cat's tail = the tail of the cat

## 3. How to Form Possessive Nouns

A. Singular Nouns (one person/thing): Rule: Add 's

### Examples:

the girl → the girl's bag

the teacher → the teacher's desk

the dog → the dog's bone

✓ Even if the word ends in s, you usually still add 's:

Charles → Charles's car

The class → the class's project

**B. Plural Nouns Ending in -s:** Rule: Add only ' (apostrophe)

### Examples:

the students → the students' classroom

the teachers → the teachers' meeting

the cars → the cars' engines

**C. Irregular Plural Nouns (don't end in -s):** Rule: Add 's

### Examples:

children → children's toys

men → men's clothes

women → women's rights

people → people's opinions

**D. Joint Possession:** When two people share one thing → add 's only to the last name.

### Example:

Ahmed and Sara's house (one house that both own)

**E. Separate Possession:** When each person owns a different thing → each name gets 's.

**Example:**

Ahmed's and Sara's cars (each has a different car)

**F. Possessive of Inanimate Objects:** Traditionally, English avoided 's with objects, using of instead:

the leg of the table

the cover of the book

BUT modern English accepts both:

the book's cover ✓

the table's leg ✓

Use whichever sounds more natural.

**4. Common Mistakes to Avoid**

✗ Using "its" vs "it's"

its = possessive (belonging to it)

it's = it is or it has

**Examples:**

The dog wagged its tail. ✓

It's raining today. ✓

**5. Complete Example Sentences**

The boy's shoes are dirty.

My parents' room is upstairs.

The children's playground is new.

This is Laura's idea.

The cats' food bowls are empty.

The company's logo changed last year.

Activity 1: Add the Apostrophe

Rewrite the phrases using a possessive noun.

the bag of the woman

the toys of the boys

the homework of the students

the books of the child

the voices of the women

Activity 2: Choose the Correct Possessive Form

Circle the correct answer.

This is my (friend's / friends') house.

The (childrens / children's) room is messy.

We visited my (uncle's / uncles') farm.

The (dogs / dogs') tails are wagging.

I borrowed (Sarahs / Sarah's) pen.

Activity 3: Fix the Mistake

Find and correct the possessive error.

The boys's backpacks are heavy.

This is the womens team.

I like the cats's eyes.

Its a beautiful day.

The teachers meeting is at 3:00.

Activity 4: Create Your Own Sentences

Write 5 sentences using:

2 singular possessives

2 plural possessives

1 irregular possessive

### **Activity 5: Short Writing Task**

Write a short paragraph (5–7 lines) describing a family photo using possessive nouns.

Example words: mother, sister, brothers, family, children, cousins, etc.

### **6. Answer Key**

#### Activity 1 Answers

the woman's bag?    the boys' toys    the students' homework

the child's books    the women's voices

#### Activity 2 Answers

friend's    children's    uncle's    dogs'    Sarah's

#### Activity 3 Answers

The boys' backpacks are heavy.

This is the women's team.

I like the cats' eyes.

It's a beautiful day.

The teachers' meeting is at 3:00.