13.6 Apostrophes for Possession: 30-minute Pack

about 30 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions.

A Trip to Green Meadows Farm

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On Monday, Class 3P visited Green Meadows Farm for a special science day. Mr Adeyemi's minibus arrived at nine in the morning, and the children's excitement grew as soon as they saw the animals. Ellie's favourite part was feeding the goats, while Tomasz preferred watching the farmer's dog round up the sheep. The twins' job was to collect the hens' eggs from the coop, and they counted fifteen eggs in total. At lunchtime, everyone sat beside the pond and opened their lunchboxes, and the children's sandwiches soon attracted a curious duck. The farmer showed the class the pigs' pen and explained how the animals' food was prepared each morning. Before leaving, the pupils thanked Mrs Bell, the farm manager, for her time, and admired how the neighbouring farmers' fields stretched all the way to the hills. It had been a wonderful day, and the children's books were soon full of notes for their school project.

1 Read the two sentences below.

A) My cousin's tent leaked in the rain.
B) My cousins' tent leaked in the rain.

Explain how the position of the apostrophe changes the meaning of the two sentences.

(2)

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2 The paragraph below describes more of the class trip to Green Meadows Farm described at the top of this pack. It contains three apostrophe errors for showing possession. Find the three errors, then rewrite the paragraph with all three corrected.

After lunch, Ellies wellies got stuck in the mud beside the pond, so Tomasz pulled her free. Mrs Bell explained that the farm's twelve sheeps wool would be sheared before next spring, and that the ducks nest hidden in the reeds belonged to a family of eight birds.

(3)

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3 Look at the two sentences below.

Tick the sentence that uses apostrophes correctly, then explain in one sentence why the other sentence is wrong.

- ☐ A) We bought three kilogram's of apple's from the farm shop.
- ☐ B) We bought three kilograms of apples from the farm shop.

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4 Write a short paragraph (two to three sentences) about a school event of your own choosing (for example, a sports day, a school trip or an assembly). Your paragraph must include: one correctly punctuated singular possessive noun, one correctly punctuated plural possessive noun (a regular plural ending in -s), and one correctly punctuated irregular plural possessive noun. Underline all three possessive nouns in your paragraph.

(4)

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5 Each pair of sentences below has one apostrophe mistake in the second sentence. Find the mistake and write the second sentence out correctly.

(a) Sarah has one cat.
The cats' bowl was always empty. **(1)**

(b) The two brothers share a bedroom.
The brother's posters covered the walls. **(1)**

(c) There is one teacher in the classroom.
The teachers's classroom was very tidy. **(1)**

(d) Six children share a toy box.
The childrens toys were packed away. **(1)**

6 Circle the sentence that correctly shows singular possession for a name that already ends in the letter s.

- ☐ A) Thoma's school bag was left on the bus.
- ☐ B) Thomas's school bag was left on the bus.
- ☐ C) Thomas school bag was left on the bus.

7 Write one sentence of your own for each instruction below. Use a correctly punctuated possessive apostrophe each time.

(a) Write a sentence showing that one dog owns a lead. **(1)**

(b) Write a sentence showing that two or more friends share a den (a plural noun that already ends in -s). **(1)**

(c) Write a sentence showing that the children (an irregular plural) own something. **(1)**

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8 Tick the three sentences below that use a possessive apostrophe correctly.

- [ ] A) The dog's bone was buried in the yard.
- [ ] B) The dogs bone was buried in the yard.
- [ ] C) The boys' den was hidden in the woods.
- [ ] D) The boys's den was hidden in the woods.
- [ ] E) The mice's cage needed cleaning.
- [ ] F) The mens coats were hung on pegs.

9 Rewrite each sentence below, adding an apostrophe to show that the plural noun (which already ends in -s) owns something.

(a) The students bags were piled by the door. **(1)**

(b) The dancers costumes sparkled under the lights. **(1)**

(c) The two brothers bikes were parked outside. **(1)**

(d) The players kit was hung in the changing room. **(1)**

10 Rewrite each sentence below, adding the missing apostrophe to show possession. Each plural noun is irregular - it does not end in -s.

(a) The mens boots were covered in mud. **(1)**

(b) The womens choir sang beautifully. **(1)**

(c) The peoples opinions were varied. **(1)**

(d) The mices tails were long and thin. **(1)**

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11 Circle the correct word from each pair to complete the sentence.

(a) The (dogs / dog's) tail wagged happily. **(1)**

- ☐ dogs
- ☐ dog's

(b) The (dogs / dog's) barked loudly in the park. **(1)**

- ☐ dogs
- ☐ dog's

(c) The (girls / girls') tent was pitched beside the lake. **(1)**

- ☐ girls
- ☐ girls'

(d) The (children / children's) laughter filled the playground. **(1)**

- ☐ children
- ☐ children's

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12 Complete the table below by writing the singular possessive and plural possessive form of each noun.

Noun	Singular possessive (one owner)	Plural possessive (more than one owner)
lion		
driver		
child		

(6)

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Mark scheme · 13.6 Apostrophes for Possession: 30-minute Pack

Question 1

explains that in A the apostrophe before the s shows the tent belongs to just one cousin **B1**

explains that in B the apostrophe after the s shows the tent belongs to more than one cousin (oe) **B1**

Answer: **In sentence A, the apostrophe comes before the s, showing the tent belongs to just one cousin. In sentence B, the apostrophe comes after the s, showing the tent belongs to more than one cousin.**

Question 2

Ellies corrected to Ellie's (one person, apostrophe before the s) cao **B1**

sheeps corrected to sheep's (sheep is an irregular plural with the same spelling as the singular, so the apostrophe still goes before the s) cao **B1**

ducks corrected to ducks' (a family of ducks, a regular plural, apostrophe after the s; duck's is also accepted for one duck's nest) cao **B1**

Answer: **After lunch, Ellie's wellies got stuck in the mud beside the pond, so Tomasz pulled her free. Mrs Bell explained that the farm's twelve sheep's wool would be sheared before next spring, and that the ducks' nest hidden in the reeds belonged to a family of eight birds.**

Question 3

B ticked cao **B1**

valid reason given, e.g. kilograms and apples are plain plurals, not possessives, so they should not have an apostrophe (oe) **B1**

Answer: **B; kilogram's and apple's in sentence A are plain plurals, not possessives, so neither word needs an apostrophe.**

Question 4

correctly punctuated singular possessive noun used and underlined **B1**

correctly punctuated plural possessive noun (regular, ending in -s) used and underlined **B1**

correctly punctuated irregular plural possessive noun used and underlined **B1**

paragraph is written in connected, coherent sentences about a school event **B1**

Answer: **On sports day, the teacher's whistle signalled the start of the first race. The runners' shoes thudded across the field as the children's cheers grew louder and louder.**

Question 5

(a) cat's (apostrophe corrected to before the s, for one cat) cao **B1**

(a) Answer: **The cat's bowl was always empty.**

(b) brothers' (apostrophe corrected to after the s, for two brothers) cao **B1**

(b) Answer: **The brothers' posters covered the walls.**

(c) teacher's (extra s removed) cao **B1**

(c) Answer: **The teacher's classroom was very tidy.**

(d) children's (missing apostrophe added) cao **B1**

(d) Answer: **The children's toys were packed away.**

Question 6

B circled cao **B1**

Answer: **B) Thomas's school bag was left on the bus.**

Question 7

(a) any correct sentence using a correctly punctuated singular possessive noun with an appropriate noun (oe) **B1**

(a) Answer: **The dog's lead was tangled around the fence.**

(b) any correct sentence using a correctly punctuated plural possessive noun ending in -s' (oe) **B1**

(b) Answer: **The friends' den was hidden behind the shed.**

(c) any correct sentence using children's correctly punctuated (oe) **B1**

(c) Answer: **The children's playground was repainted over the summer.**

Question 8

A ticked (dog's bone) cao **B1**

C ticked (boys' den) cao **B1**

E ticked (mice's cage) cao **B1**

Answer: **A, C and E**

Question 9

(a) students' cao **B1**

(a) Answer: **The students' bags were piled by the door.**

(b) dancers' cao **B1**

(b) Answer: **The dancers' costumes sparkled under the lights.**

(c) brothers' cao **B1**

(c) Answer: **The two brothers' bikes were parked outside.**

(d) players' cao **B1**

(d) Answer: **The players' kit was hung in the changing room.**

Question 10

(a) men's cao **B1**

(a) Answer: **The men's boots were covered in mud.**

(b) women's cao **B1**

(b) Answer: **The women's choir sang beautifully.**

(c) people's cao **B1**

(c) Answer: **The people's opinions were varied.**

(d) mice's (mices is not a real plural) cao **B1**

(d) Answer: **The mice's tails were long and thin.**

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Question 11

(a) dog's circled cao **B1**

(a) Answer: **dog's**

(b) dogs circled cao **B1**

(b) Answer: **dogs**

(c) girls' circled cao **B1**

(c) Answer: **girls'**

(d) children's circled cao **B1**

(d) Answer: **children's**

Question 12

lion's cao **B1**

lions' cao **B1**

driver's cao **B1**

drivers' cao **B1**

child's cao **B1**

children's cao **B1**

Answer:

Noun	Singular possessive (one owner)	Plural possessive (more than one owner)
lion	lion's	lions'
driver	driver's	drivers'
child	child's	children's

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