

Plurals of Numbers, Dates, and Letters

Make a number, date, or letter plural by adding -s.

EXAMPLE

The **1990s** were years of great changes in technology.

Angela got two **As** on her report card.

Several papers got scores in the **90s**.

Activity C Find the mistake in each sentence. Write the correct word on your paper.

- 1) In the 1960's the Beatles were popular.
- 2) Last semester Meg got two C's on her report card.
- 3) The teacher hoped that all the students' test scores would be in the 70's or higher.
- 4) Put all of the B's and C's in a column.
- 5) I know my ABCS.

Activity D Fix the mistakes in this paragraph. Write the plural forms of the words in bold on your paper.

My grandmother was born in the **1940**. She went to college in the **1960**: She was in her **20** then. In college she made mostly **A** and **B**. She says she had a lot of fun in college. Now she is in her **60** and still has a lot of fun.

LESSON 5

Review

Find the mistake in each sentence. Write the sentence correctly on your paper.

- 1) Armando and Nathan are both hoping for A's on their report cards.
- 2) "The Hernandezs are having a party," said Armando.
- 3) The music teacher is teaching them songs from the 1960's.
- 4) The boys packed a cooler of sandwiches for the fishing trip.
- 5) They met the O'Hara's at the pond.

On your paper, write the plural form of each of these words in a sentence.

- 6) Williams
- 7) 1920
- 8) Hudson
- 9) quiz
- 10) ABC

Possessive noun

A word that shows ownership or a relationship between two things

Apostrophe

A punctuation mark that indicates a noun is possessive

A **possessive noun** shows ownership or a relationship between two things. It always has an **apostrophe** ('). An apostrophe is a punctuation mark. It is often used to indicate that a noun is possessive.

EXAMPLE

Where are **Angela's** goggles?

(The goggles belong to Angela.)

Angela's swim team won its meet.

(Angela is part of the team.)

The **team's** score is 2.

(The team has a score of 2.)

Rules for Forming Possessives

Rule 1 Make a singular noun possessive by adding an apostrophe and -s ('s).

EXAMPLE

Angela's team

Nathan's guitar

the school's motto

the computer's keyboard

Rule 2 When a singular noun ends in s, add an apostrophe and -s ('s).

EXAMPLE

the boss's day off

Gail Russ's book

Rule 3 Make a plural noun possessive by adding only an apostrophe (').

EXAMPLE

the trains' routes

the trumpets' sounds

Rule 4 If a plural noun does not end in s, add an apostrophe and -s ('s).

EXAMPLE the children's toys the men's locker room

Activity A Read the sentences. Write the words in bold on your paper. Add an apostrophe if the word shows ownership. If the word is plural, write *plural* next to it.

- 1) All of the teams met at the **citys** new stadium.
- 2) The **swimmers** were there for the meet.
- 3) Everyone on **Angelas** team was ready for the competition.
- 4) The **coachs** last words were to try their best.
- 5) The winner of the meet will go to the state **finals**.

Activity B On a sheet of paper, make the four columns shown here. Write the headings at the top of the columns. Write the correct forms of the nouns in the columns. Use the information in Lessons 4 and 5 to help you with plurals.

Singular	Singular Possessive	Plural	Plural Possessive
1) team			
2) wolf			
3) man			
4) Jones			
5) city			

Use an apostrophe in phrases such as *one dollar's worth* or *a week's vacation*. If the word is plural and ends in *s*, add only an apostrophe.

EXAMPLE

Singular

Plural

one cent's worth

ten cents' worth

a month's vacation

two months' vacation

Activity C Read each pair of sentences. Choose the correct sentence in each pair and write it on your paper.

- 1) a) Nathan likes to put in his two cents' worth.
b) Nathan likes to put in his two cent's worth.
- 2) a) Please give me two dollar's worth of stamps.
b) Please give me two dollars' worth of stamps.
- 3) a) You will only have a minute's wait.
b) You will only have a minutes' wait.
- 4) a) The week's activities were posted on the bulletin board.
b) The weeks activities were posted on the bulletin board.
- 5) a) The snow caused an hours delay.
b) The snow caused an hour's delay.

Recognizing Plurals and Possessives

Look carefully at the two words in red type below. How are they different? What does each word mean?

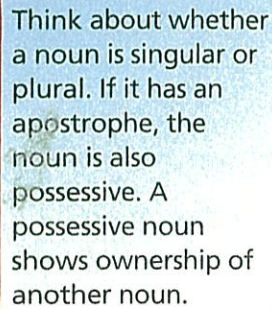
EXAMPLE

Plural

There were six teams at the meet.

Possessive

The team's prize was a trophy.



Think about whether a noun is singular or plural. If it has an apostrophe, the noun is also possessive. A possessive noun shows ownership of another noun.

Activity D Read Angela's report. Find the plural nouns. Write them on your paper in one column. Then find the possessive nouns. Write them in a second column. The first two sentences are done for you.

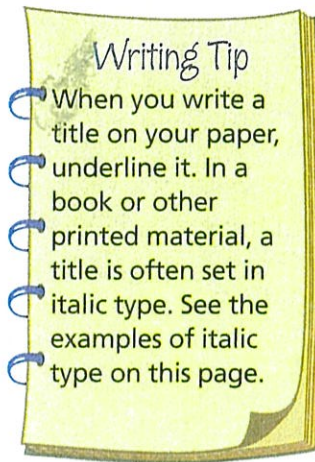
The Swim Meet
by Angela Choy

The school's most recent swim meet was last Friday. The swimmers' nerves were on edge. Everyone had high hopes about doing well. Teams from several schools met in the school's stadium. Our coaches were very supportive. They told us to do our best. There were several events. Our team's best event is the relay. We have good individual swimmers also. Our goal was to win the meet and go to the state finals. The referee's whistle signaled the start of the first race. The swimmers dove into the water. I could write many stories about the exciting match-ups. The short answer is that Wilson's team won. We are going to the state finals!

Plurals	Possessives
nerves	school's
	swimmers'

Read each pair of sentences. Pick the correct one and write it on your paper.

- 1) a) Where are Armando's running shoes?
b) Where are Armandos running shoes?
- 2) a) All of the team's were ready for the swim meet.
b) All of the teams were ready for the swim meet.
- 3) a) My neighbor's dog ran away.
b) My neighbors dog ran away.
- 4) a) Learning to proofread improved the students' grades.
b) Learning to proofread improved the students grades.
- 5) a) Mrs. Langston looked everywhere for her car keys?
b) Mrs. Langston looked everywhere for her car keys.
- 6) a) Everyone had high hopes at the swim meet.
b) Everyone had high hope's at the swim meet.
- 7) a) A good writer makes sure the words are spelled right.
b) A good writer makes sure the words' are spelled right.
- 8) a) There was cheering in Wilson Highs locker room.
b) There was cheering in Wilson High's locker room.
- 9) a) Emily's job is at a music store.
b) Emilys job is at a music store.
- 10) a) Her hours are from 3:00 to 6:00 P.M.
b) Her hour's are from 3:00 to 6:00 P.M.



Books, songs, movies, and stories are some of the things that can have a title. A title is a proper noun. Capitalize the first word and all of the important words in a title.

EXAMPLE

Song	"America, the Beautiful"
Movie	<i>Star Wars</i>
Book	<i>The Red Pony</i>
Play	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>
Story	"To Build a Fire"

Underline the title of a movie, book, magazine, opera, or play.

Put quotation marks around the title of a song, poem, or short story.

Activity A Write each of these titles on your paper. Capitalize the first word and all of the important words. Underline or use quotation marks for the titles.

- 1) the sound of music
- 2) the wizard of oz
- 3) the perfect storm
- 4) there's no business like show business
- 5) beauty and the beast

A person's name is a proper noun. People also can have titles. Capitalize a person's title.

EXAMPLE

Rev. Robert Stetler	Dr. Jacquelyn Montoya
Mr. Hak Lee	Professor Eve Rice

On your paper, write sentences using these nouns and titles. Be sure to capitalize proper nouns and underline the titles.

- 1) mrs. langston
- 2) the pigman by paul zindel
- 3) new york giants
- 4) roots by alex haley
- 5) the lion king
- 6) independence hall
- 7) mr. thomas

Write these sentences on your paper. Capitalize any proper nouns. Underline or use quotation marks for the titles.

- 8) Emily is doing her book report on the invisible man, a novel by ralph ellison.
- 9) My favorite play by william shakespeare is hamlet.
- 10) One of the most popular short stories is the lady, or the tiger? by frank stockton.
- 11) Home alone was a hit movie in 1990.
- 12) Our dentist's name is dr. richard harp.
- 13) Dr. albert einstein taught at princeton university.
- 14) The star-spangled banner is hard to sing.
- 15) Well-known weekly magazines are time and newsweek.