Possessive Adjectives & Pronouns

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Grammar Notes

There are many ways to show who something belongs to.

Example:
Whose book is it?

- It is Robyn’s book.  
  *(possessive noun)*
- It is her book.  
  *(possessive adjective)*
- The book is hers.  
  *(possessive pronoun)*

Let’s learn more about possessive adjectives and possessive pronouns.
Grammar Notes cont.

A. Possessive Adjectives

Chart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject Pronouns</th>
<th>Possessive Adjectives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st person</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd person</td>
<td>you</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd person</td>
<td>he</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>she</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>it</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st person</td>
<td>we</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd person</td>
<td>you (plural)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd person</td>
<td>they</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sentence Position

Possessive adjectives always go **before a noun**.

- Do you want to borrow **my** pencil?
- That’s **her** cat.
- **His** bicycle is new.
- **Their** parents are sleeping.
## B. Possessive Pronouns

### Chart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject Pronouns</th>
<th>Possessive Pronouns</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Singular</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st person</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>mine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd person</td>
<td>you</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>yours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd person</td>
<td>he</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>his</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>she</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>hers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>it</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Plural</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st person</td>
<td>we</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd person</td>
<td>you (plural)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>yours (plural)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd person</td>
<td>they</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>theirs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Sentence Position

Possessive pronouns never go before a noun. They take the place of a noun. They are the subject or object in a sentence, so they go before or after a verb.

- That book is **mine**.
- That house is **ours**.
- **Yours** is the chair on the left.
- Her lunch isn’t very good, but **his** is.

### Note:

The possessive adjective *its* can never be a possessive pronoun.

- ✔ The dog is eating from its bowl.
- ✗ That bowl is its.
## C. Comparison Chart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Possessive Adjectives</th>
<th>Possessive Pronouns</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Singular</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st person</td>
<td>my</td>
<td>mine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd person</td>
<td>your</td>
<td>yours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd person</td>
<td>his, her, its</td>
<td>his, hers, —</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Plural</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st person</td>
<td>our</td>
<td>ours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd person</td>
<td>your (plural)</td>
<td>yours (plural)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd person</td>
<td>their</td>
<td>theirs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### D. Commonly Confused Words

Don’t get confused by these word pairs with similar sounds!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meaning</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Your</strong></td>
<td>Your comes before a noun and shows possession.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>You’re</strong></td>
<td>You’re means you are and is the subject/verb of a sentence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Its</strong></td>
<td>Its comes before a noun and shows possession.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>It’s</strong></td>
<td>It’s means it is and is the subject/verb of a sentence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Their</strong></td>
<td>Their comes before a noun and shows possession.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>They’re</strong></td>
<td>They’re means they are and is the subject/verb of a sentence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>There</strong></td>
<td>There has many meanings. Two of the most common uses are as an indefinite subject and a location.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2 Fill in the Blanks

Fill in the blanks with the correct possessive adjective.

1. This is _______ bicycle.
2. This is _______ skateboard.
3. This is _______ piano.
4. This is _______ guitar.
5. This is _______ leash.
6. This is _______ swing set.
7. This is _______ car.
8. This is _______ TV.
9. This is _______ food dish.
10. This is _______ house.

Possessive Adjectives:
- my
- his
- her
- its
- our
- their

My Family:
- me
- my brother
- my mother
- my father
- my dog
3 Complete the Sentences

Complete the sentences with the correct possessive pronoun.

1. This hat is _________.
2. This bed is _________.
3. This swimming pool is _________.
4. This baseball is _________.
5. This lawnmower is _________.
6. This book is _________.
7. This board game is _________.
8. This stereo is _________.
9. This backpack is _________.
10. This pillow is _________.

Possessive Pronouns:
- mine
- his
- hers
- ours
- theirs

My Family:
- me
- my brother
- my mother
- my father
- my dog
4 Questions

Write the questions with the correct possessive adjective.

1. Is this your guitar?
   Yes, it’s mine.

2. __________________________
   Yes, it’s theirs.

3. __________________________
   Yes, it’s hers.

4. __________________________
   Yes, it’s mine.

5. __________________________
   Yes, it’s his.

6. __________________________
   Yes, it’s ours.

7. __________________________
   Yes, it’s his.

8. __________________________
   Yes, it’s theirs.

9. __________________________
   Yes, it’s hers.

10. __________________________
    Yes, it’s mine.
5 Answers

Write the answers with the correct **possessive pronoun**. Use the subject pronoun in parentheses to help you.

1. (she) Whose skateboard is this?
   It’s hers.

2. (we) Whose cat is this?

3. (I) Whose backpack is this?

4. (they) Whose swing set is this?

5. (you) Whose apple is this?

6. (I) Whose toothbrush is this?

7. (he) Whose orange juice is this?

8. (we) Whose TV is this?

9. (she) Whose coat is this?

10. (they) Whose car is this?
## Check the Box

Look at the possessive words in **bold**. Put a check mark (✔) in the correct box.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Sentence / Question</th>
<th>Possessive Adjective</th>
<th>Possessive Pronoun</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td><em>My</em> mother works at a bank.</td>
<td></td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>The pen on the table is <em>mine</em>.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Is this iPad <em>yours</em>?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td><em>Their</em> parents are from Sweden.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Your puppy is cute. What’s <em>its</em> name?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td><em>His</em> is blue, not green.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Where is <em>my</em> laptop?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Is this <em>your</em> jacket?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>We have to finish <em>our</em> homework.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Is this game ours or <em>theirs</em>?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
7 Find the Error

Find one mistake in each sentence. Rewrite the sentences correctly.

1. I like there new car.
   *I like their new car.*

2. Ours cat is black and white.
   *

3. Do you feed you’re dog every day?
   *

4. Can I borrow yours pencil?
   *

5. They’re books are on the table.
   *

6. Put the cat’s food in it’s dish.
   *

7. Yours friends are nice.
   *

8. This toy is her.
   *

9. His bicycle is at hers house.
   *

10. Do you like mine skateboard?
    *
8 **Pair Work**

Tell your partner about some of the backpacks or bags in your classroom. Try to use as many possessive adjectives and pronouns as you can.

1. Describe your backpack or bag.
2. Describe a boy’s backpack or bag.
3. Describe a girl’s backpack or bag.
4. Describe two backpacks that are the same or similar.
5. Whose backpack is your favorite?

**Example:**

A  Describe your backpack or bag.

B  This blue backpack is mine. My backpack has a picture of a wolf on it. There are many zippers on my backpack. Now, please describe your backpack.
9 Quiz

Circle the correct answer.

1. Is that ______ crayon?
   a) my
   b) mine

2. ______ sister is at school.
   a) Her
   b) Hers

3. Your bicycle is nice, but I like ______ better.
   a) him
   b) his

4. Give the dog ______ toy.
   a) its
   b) it’s

5. ______ not at school today.
   a) Their
   b) They’re

6. Is this book ______?
   a) your
   b) yours

7. ______ house is blue and white.
   a) Our
   b) Ours

8. Can I borrow ______ pencil?
   a) your
   b) you’re

9. ______ is the one on the left.
   a) My
   b) Mine

10. ______ grades are improving.
    a) Their
    b) They’re
A  Answer Key

2  Fill in the Blanks
1. my  6. our  2. his  7. their  3. her  8. our  4. his  9. its  5. its

3  Complete the Sentences
1. his  6. hers  2. theirs  7. ours  3. ours  8. theirs  4. mine  9. his  5. theirs

4  Questions
1. Is this your guitar?
2. Is this their car?
3. Is this her dog?
4. Is this your baseball?
5. Is this his book?
6. Is this our board game?
7. Is this his pillow?
8. Is this their stereo?
9. Is this her backpack?
10. Is this your bicycle?

5  Answers
1. It’s hers.  6. It’s mine.
2. It’s ours.  7. It’s his.
3. It’s mine.  8. It’s ours.
4. It’s theirs.  9. It’s hers.
5. It’s yours. 10. It’s theirs.

6  Check the Box
1. possessive adjective  6. possessive pronoun
2. possessive pronoun  7. possessive adjective
3. possessive pronoun  8. possessive adjective
4. possessive adjective  9. possessive adjective
5. possessive adjective 10. possessive pronoun

(continued on the next page...)
**Answer Key cont.**

**7 Find the Error**

1. I like their new car.
2. Our cat is black and white.
3. Do you feed your dog every day?
4. Can I borrow your pencil?
5. Their books are on the table.
6. Put the cat’s food in its dish.
7. Your friends are nice.
8. This toy is hers.
9. His bicycle is at her house.
10. Do you like my skateboard?

**Spelling Note:**

This lesson shows the American spelling of the word **Favorite**. Most other English-speaking countries spell it this way: **Favourite**. Make it a challenge for your students to find this word in the lesson and see if they know the alternate spelling.

**Editor’s Note:**

If your young learners aren’t familiar with subject and object pronouns or could use a review, complete the Subject & Object Pronouns lesson in our Fun Grammar Lessons section before starting this lesson.

**8 Pair Work**

Answers will vary. If some students don’t have backpacks, tell them they can talk about other items such as jackets, notebooks, etc. Monitor them for correct possessive adjective and pronoun usage.

**9 Quiz**

1. a 3. b 5. b 7. a 9. b
2. a 4. a 6. b 8. a 10. a