

Apostrophe or not?

Read the explanation below to help you know when you need to use an apostrophe if a noun ends in 's'.

Possessive or Plural?

A plural noun names more than one person, place, or thing. Most plural nouns end in the letter s. You do not use an apostrophe when you write a plural noun.

Plural noun: Willow has four **balloons**.

A possessive noun shows belonging. Most possessive nouns end with an apostrophe and the letter s.

Possessive noun: Today is **Willow's** birthday.



Try the SATS-style questions on apostrophes below (the answers are on the page below!):

Q1

Which sign uses the **apostrophe** correctly?

Tick **one**.

This shop is open on Saturday's.	Print <u>photo's</u> from your camera here.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The children's play area is closed.	<u>Dog's</u> are not allowed on the beach.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

1 mark

Q2

Add the missing **apostrophes** to the sentences below.

That comedians jokes were hilarious.

Ryans parents are both doctors.

The castles dungeons are 300 years old.

1 mark

Q3

Tick one box in each row to show whether the underlined noun is **singular** or **plural**.

	Singular	Plural
The <u>customers'</u> hunger was satisfied by the pizza.		
The <u>princess's</u> slippers were made of glass.		
Those are the <u>boys'</u> books.		

1 mark

Q4

Which sentence uses an **apostrophe** correctly?

	Tick one .
The children's clothes were hanging up.	<input type="checkbox"/>
The <u>childrens'</u> clothes were hanging up.	<input type="checkbox"/>
The <u>childrens clothe's</u> were hanging up.	<input type="checkbox"/>
The <u>childrens clothes'</u> were hanging up.	<input type="checkbox"/>

1 mark

ANSWERS!

Q1

This shop is open on Saturday's.

Print photo's from your camera here.

The children's play area is closed.

Dog's are not allowed on the beach.

1 mark

Q2

Award 1 mark for all three apostrophes placed correctly.

That comedian's jokes were hilarious.

Ryan's parents are both doctors.

The castle's dungeons are 300 years old.

Also accept:

The castles' dungeons are 300 years old.

1 mark

Q3

Award 1 mark for a correctly completed table.

	Singular	Plural
The <u>customers'</u> hunger was satisfied by the pizza.		✓
The <u>princess's</u> slippers were made of glass.	✓	
Those are the <u>boys'</u> books.		✓

1 mark

Q4

The children's clothes were hanging up.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

1 mark