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	Print <u>photo's</u> from your camera here.
Saturday's.	your camera nere.
The children's play area is closed.	<u>Dog's</u> are not allowed on the beach.

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**.

I	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 boys' books.		

1 mark

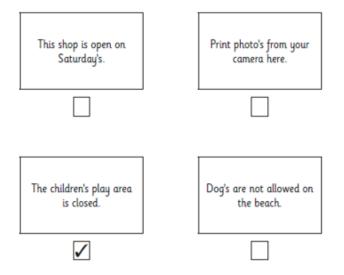
Q4

Which sentence uses an apostrophe correctly?

	Tick one.
The children's clothes were hanging up.	
The <u>childrens</u> ' clothes were hanging up.	
The <u>childrens</u> <u>clothe's</u> were hanging up.	
The <u>childrens</u> <u>clothes'</u> were hanging up.	

ANSWERS!

Q1



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.		~

The children's clothes were hanging up.	
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