

Transcript for lesson 4

Hi Year 2s. Welcome to our 4th lesson of this week. I hope you've been having fun so far. Today we're going to be learning about something new, ok? We're going to be learning about a different way of using an apostrophe. So far in year 2, when we were learning about The Great Fire of London, we learnt about how to use apostrophes to show contractions. Remember a contraction is when you contract two words to make them one word, so we would have something like CAN NOT, we would contract to make the word CAN'T. WILL NOT we would contract to make the word WON'T and we would use an apostrophe in the place of the letters that we got rid of when we were contracting those words. But, you also need to learn and know how to use an apostrophe called a possessive apostrophe.

So let's have a look at our learning objective today and then I'll explain what you need to do. Ok, so today's learning objective is I can begin to use possessive apostrophes. To be successful you need to know that possessive apostrophes are used to show belonging and then you're going to have a go at adding possessive apostrophes in the correct places.

So, on the website there is a link to a video by somebody named Mr Thorne. Mr Thorne is a teacher in a different school and he does lots of grammar videos on YouTube. He does a really lovely video to explain how to use possessive apostrophes correctly. So I thought instead of sitting here listening to me, we'd have a little bit of a different video today and you're going to listen to a different teacher, Mr Thorne. So, what I'd like you to do now is to click that video link and then once you've watched that video of Mr Thorne explaining apostrophes, have a go at the activity sheet that is saved onto the website. There's a little activity sheet for you to have a go and start practicing how to use possessive apostrophes.

Ok, thanks. Brilliant. See you tomorrow!

Transcript for Mr Thorne's video

Hello. My name is Mr Thorne and you're watching Mr Thorne does grammar. Welcome back. Today I'm going to talk to you all about apostrophes and their usage. Now, apostrophes can be used for contractions or for possession. Now, there is a video on contractions in the archives – check it out – and this talks about how words can be shortened, like IS NOT becomes isn't, using an apostrophe or I WILL becomes I'll, using an apostrophe in place of those letters... but that's in another video. This video is all about using apostrophes for possession, for belonging and before I start I just need to give a shout out to my Year 5 English set. How do you do? Nice to see you again. Hope you're all listening to this video. Don't forget to take some notes. This could change your writing forever.

Apostrophes are used for possession, to show that something belongs to somebody. In 'Tommy's bag', the bag belongs to Tommy so we will have Tommy apostrophe s bag. 'Sami's shield', now the shield belongs to Sami so I will have an apostrophe after Sami and an s. Zayd's crystal, now the crystal belongs to Zayd so I'm going to have Zayd apostrophe s crystal. 'Jack's money', now the money belongs to Jack so I'm going to have Jack apostrophe s money. If I had a son then I might say 'my son's money' and then I would use son apostrophe s. If I had many sons and the money belonged to all of them then I would say 'my sons (the plural) and then the apostrophe, money' because the money belongs to all of my sons. So if you're talking about one person then you would have apostrophe s. When you're talking about a collective noun like team or school or family, you would still use an apostrophe s if you are talking about one team or one school or one family. In the sentence 'It was the family's decision.' the decision belongs to the family so you would have family

apostrophe s. If the decision was made by a number of families then you would have 'It was the families (plural) apostrophe at the end decision' because the decision belongs to all of the families.

Now there is a rule in English where if there the name ends in an s, you do not need to use another s after the apostrophe. This is true of my name 'Chris'. Chris' glasses, you would have Chris and then apostrophe.

Now the only other area where we get confused is the use of 'its'. 'Its' for belonging or possession does not have an apostrophe. We use an apostrophe for 'it's' as in the contraction 'it is'. We never use an apostrophe for 'The cat hurts its paw.' because the its there is for belonging, the cat's paw, its, and although in other words we would use an apostrophe for belonging, 'its' is the odd one out. We don't use an apostrophe for 'its' as possession.

Here are some sentences that feature some apostrophes both for contraction and possession. One sentence is going to be wrong and then press pause and see if you can guess or predict or maybe you even know where the apostrophe should go so that it makes complete grammatical sense. Have a good go!

Shows sentences on screen to background music

If it's possession for example 'Mr Thorne's hat' you would have Mr Thorne apostrophe s hat. 'The viewer's choice', if I'm talking about one viewer then it would be viewer apostrophe s, if I'm talking about many, many, many of you, millions of you, I would have the viewers apostrophe choice.

I hope that's made it clearer for you. Thank you for watching this video all about apostrophes. Don't forget to like up the video, add a comment in the comment box below requesting a grammar video of your choice and don't forget to subscribe to The Mr Thorne network.

Thank you for watching and I'll see you down the road. Bye for now.