

APOSTROPHES



PUNCTUATION

FUNCTION



œ to show **POSSESSION**

œ to show **OMISSION**

œ to form **PLURALS** of **LOWERCASE LETTERS**

USAGE



1) Use an apostrophe to form the POSSESSIVES of NOUNS.

☞ That is, apostrophes indicate **ownership**.

USAGE



1) Use apostrophe for POSSESSIVES NOUNS.

∞ Add ('s) -

∞ to *singular* nouns

∞ the student's books

∞ James's classes

USAGE



1) Use apostrophe for POSSESSIVES NOUNS.

∞ Add ('s) -

∞ to *plural nouns that do not end in (s)*

∞ the children's toys

∞ the oxen's ploughs

∞ men's shoes

USAGE



1) Use apostrophe for POSSESSIVES NOUNS.

∞ Add ('s) -

∞ to the last name in the case of "*joint ownership*"

∞ **Bob and Doug's comedy routine** (*they both own it*)

∞ **Mary and Joseph's apartment** (*they both share it*)

USAGE



1) Use apostrophe for POSSESSIVES NOUNS.

∞ Add ('s) -

∞ to the last part of *compound nouns*

∞ the mother-in-law's company

∞ the man-o-war's crew

USAGE



1) Use apostrophe for POSSESSIVES NOUNS.

∞ Add *just* an apostrophe (')

∞ to *plural* nouns that *do* end in (s)

∞ five students' papers

∞ three teachers' cars

USAGE



2) Use an apostrophe to signal an OMISSION.

☞ add an apostrophe with **abbreviated years**

☞ **the '60s** (the 1960s)

☞ add an apostrophe with **contractions**

☞ **can't, shouldn't, isn't**

☞ **he's, who's, I'll**

PLEASE NOTE

☞ in Formal Academic Writing, abbreviations and contractions are *not* used

USAGE



3) Use apostrophes to form the PLURALS of LOWERCASE LETTERS.

❧ the *only* time to use apostrophes to form plurals is here

❧ Add apostrophe + s ('s) to lower-case letters

❧ His z's look like snakes.

❧ There are four i's and four s's in "Mississippi."

❧ Dot your i's and cross your t's.

❧ Mind your p's and q's.

❧ this is more for appearance -- the typing, as opposed to the grammar

USAGE



4) Do **NOT** use apostrophes with *symbols, numbers, possessive pronouns, uppercase letters, or abbreviations.*

☞ symbols -

☞ Do not use &s in your essays.

☞ numbers -

☞ The 1920s were a time of great change in America.

USAGE



4) Do **NOT** use apostrophes with *symbols, numbers, possessive pronouns, uppercase letters, or abbreviations.*

❧ possessive pronouns - **this is a common error**

❧ Possessive pronouns such as **its, theirs, ours, and his** are born possessive, so they do not require apostrophes.

❧ Besides, **hi's** would look funny, and **it's** is the contraction "it is or has."

❧ Also, some possessive pronouns do not have 's:

❧ **my, mine, our, your, her, their**

USAGE



4) Do **NOT** use apostrophes with *symbols, numbers, possessive pronouns, uppercase letters, or abbreviations.*

❧ capital letters or abbreviations –

❧ His Bs look like 8s.

❧ CDs replaced LPs, and DVDs replaced VHS tapes.

USAGE



5) Do **NOT** use apostrophes to form **PLURAL NOUNS**.

❧ these nouns are *only* plural, *not* possessive

❧ books, cars, students, teachers

this is a common error

EXERCISES



APOSTROPHES

EXERCISES



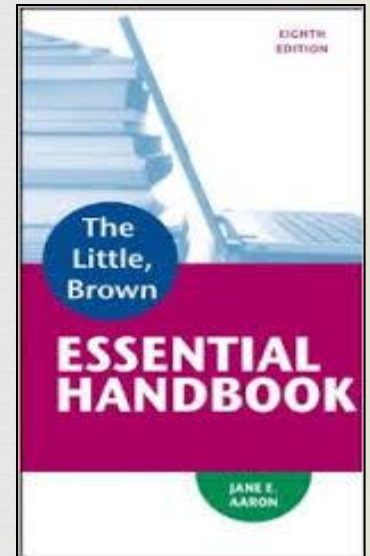
- ❧ ****Determine which book we're using this semester:**
- ❧ LBE
- ❧ LBH
- ❧ LSH
- ❧ Other

LBE EXERCISES



⌘ Apostrophes:

⌘ Ch. 42 (42.1-2)



LSH EXERCISES



∞ Apostrophes:

∞ Exercise #1

∞ (10q.)

