

# LO: Using **apostrophes**

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Let's recap the rules of using apostrophes.

We use them to:

- **Replace** missing letters in **contractions** (**omission**)
- Show that something **belongs** to something or someone else (**possession**).

The next slide has examples.

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## omission

In shortened (contracted) forms of words, the apostrophe shows **where letters have been missed out.**

cannot should **have** you **are**  
can't should've you're

it **is** I **will** does **not**  
it's I'll doesn't

## possession

**'s** shows ownership

the **girl's** coat

the coat **belonging**  
to the **girl**

the **children's** home

the home **belonging**  
to the **children**

If the owner-noun is a plural ending in **s**, just add **'**

the **girls'** coats

the coats  
**belonging**  
to the **girls**

the **princesses'** hats

the hats  
**belonging**  
to the **princesses**

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1. Look at the Apostrophe Catastrophes on the following slides.
2. Can you spot the errors?
3. Write down your suggested corrections.

# Apostrophe Catastrophes!

1



2



Alice Taylor

# Apostrophe Catastrophes!

3



4



5



# Apostrophe Catastrophes!

6



7



8



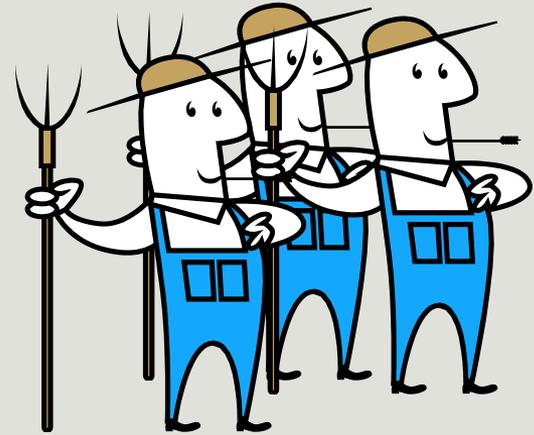
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**The farmers' market**

or

**The farmer's market**



**The lady's toilet**

or

**The ladies' toilet**

# Answers

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1. No *barbecues* (plural, not possession)
2. Great taste on *its* way (not *it is* way)
3. *Signs* (plural, not possession)
4. *Children's* garden (the garden belongs to the children, it does not belong to the childrens)
5. *Your* holiday (not *you are* holiday)
6. *We're* afraid (apostrophe replaces 'a' in *are*)
7. *Your* new Devonshire Arms (not *you are* new)
8. Proof *you're* trying (you are trying)
9. The *farmers'* market (market belonging to more than one farmer)
10. The *lady's* toilet (toilet for one lady).