

POSSESSIVE PRONOUNS

Main theme addressed	In this lesson, you will learn about possessive pronouns.
Key Goals	Here is an outline of what you will learn today: 1. What is the possessive form? 2. What are possessive pronouns?

1. What is the possessive form?

There are different levels to **the possessive form**:

- We can first use the name of the owner + 's followed by the object they own:
Mary's house is the biggest in the neighborhood.
- We can then use a **possessive determiner** to refer to "Mary":
Her house is the biggest in the neighborhood.
- We can only use the name of the owner + 's when we know what we're talking about:
Mary's is the biggest in the neighborhood.
- We can use a **possessive pronoun** when we already know what and who we are referring to:
Hers is the biggest in the neighborhood.

If a word ends in “s”, we will write it as follows:

Louis’ book → pronounced “Louisiz book”.

Remember: it doesn’t always refer to a person.

We can also say “**Today’s weather forecast**”

Here is a list of the possessive determiners and pronouns for each person:

Person	Possessive determiner	Possessive pronoun
I	My	Mine
You	Your	Yours
He	His	His
She	Her	Hers
It	Its	/
We	Our	Ours
You	Your	Yours
They	Their	Theirs

2. What are possessive pronouns?

Possessive pronouns are words that can **replace a noun or a noun phrase** to express **possession** or **belonging** in a sentence.

Take for example the following sentence:

Your pen is broken, you can use **my pen**.

In this sentence, we repeat the word “pen” twice.

To avoid repetitions, we can use a possessive pronoun:

Your pen is broken, you can use **mine**.

As you can see, the possessive pronoun “mine” replaces “my pen”.

Nouns with “of”

There is also a special use of the possessive form.

Look at the following example:

Mary is our friend → Mary is a friend of **ours**.

Mary is John’s friend → Mary is a friend of **John’s**.

Notice that we **do not** use personal pronouns or names for this purpose!

Exercise:

Rewrite the following sentences with a possessive pronoun.

1. That's my book, your book is there!

_____.

2. My brother is annoying, but her brother seems very nice.

_____.

3. Their house is not as big as our house.

_____.

4. I've lost my keys, so my brother lent me his keys.

_____.

Answers:

1. That's my book, yours is there!

2. My brother is annoying, but hers seems very nice.

3. Their house is not as big as ours.

4. I've lost my keys, so my brother lent me his.

Learn More

<https://www.grammarly.com/blog/possessive-pronouns/>

https://www.grammar-monster.com/glossary/possessive_pronouns.htm

<https://www.eurocentres.com/blog/how-to-use-possessive-pronouns>