

Apostrophe sign (‘)

1. Use punctuation of the **Apostrophe** in possessive forms.

This is student

This is the student's book (means this is a book of one student)

These are students / This is students' conference hall

In the above sentences, notice how meaning changes just because of the use of Apostrophe or Apostrophe+S.

Look the sentence given below & notice how this sentence is written in three different ways without any change in meaning.

- This is Mili's poem → This poem is **hers** → This is her poem

2. In contracted word where a letter is missing (**contracted** forms)

(the apostrophe shows that letters have been left out /missing):

- can not > can't / they have > they've / who is > who's
 - I would (or I had) > I'd / it is (or it has) > it's / I've > I have
- e.g., I've not met my neighbour for four months

Important notes–

1. For possessive plural nouns ending in “s”, add only the apostrophe.

e.g., The farmers' farms Singers' voices Boys' hostel

2. For plural nouns not ending in the letter s, add an apostrophe and s.

For example: Women's soccer Children's books

3. Do not use an apostrophe in “Possessive pronouns” or “determiners” (except *one's*) Do not confuse them with contractions.

The following are typical mistakes:

| Wrong | Right |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| It's value is | Its value is |
| Who's are these? | Whose are these? |
| These are your's | These are yours |
| exception > | One's self-esteem |