

# APOSTROPHES – EXERCISE 1

**Directions:** Choose the correct evaluation of each underlined word. Check your answers with the [interactive version](#) of the exercise.

1. Annoying music escaped from Kinya's ear buds.
  - A. *Kinya's* contains a correct apostrophe.
  - B. No apostrophe is needed.
2. Buy your own pens! You cannot borrow ours.
  - A. *Ours* does **not** need an apostrophe.
  - B. *Ours* should have an apostrophe between the *r* and *s*: *our's*.
  - C. *Ours* should have an apostrophe after the *s*: *ours'*.
3. Ask Henry for help. His brain possess's all kinds of strange trivia.
  - A. *Possess's* contains a correct apostrophe.
  - B. You must spell the word like this: *possesses*.
4. The alarm clocks buzz startled Shane awake.
  - A. *Clocks* does **not** need an apostrophe.
  - B. *Clocks* should have an apostrophe between the *k* and *s*: *clock's*.
5. While the bee buzzes among the blooms, a patient mantis waits to strike.
  - A. *Buzzes* does **not** need an apostrophe.
  - B. You must spell the word with an apostrophe: *buzz's*.
  - C. You must spell the word with an apostrophe: *buzzes'*.

6. The **Larsen's** decided not to shutter their windows even though they were taking vacation at the height of hurricane season.
- A. ***Larsen's*** contains a correct apostrophe.
  - B. The apostrophe should come after the **s**: ***Larsens'***.
  - C. ***Larsens*** should **not** have an apostrophe.
7. Betty Ann could not resist petting the adorable poodle **puppie's**.
- A. ***Puppie's*** contains a correct apostrophe.
  - B. No apostrophe is needed.
  - C. ***Puppies*** should have the apostrophe after the **s**: ***puppies'***.
8. Our stomachs might burst! We **shouldn't** have eaten so many fried cheese sticks.
- A. ***Shouldn't*** contains a correct apostrophe.
  - B. The apostrophe must come between the **d** and **n**, where the space was omitted: ***should'nt***.
9. Phillip banged his **knees'** on the metal bar beneath the desk.
- A. ***Knees'*** contains a correct apostrophe.
  - B. ***Knees*** should have the apostrophe before the **s**: ***knee's***.
  - C. There's no apostrophe in ***knees***.
10. **Kimberly's** agile fingers typed the password too quickly for Pedro to catch.
- A. ***Kimberly's*** contains a correct apostrophe.
  - B. The apostrophe should come after the **s**: ***Kimberlys'***.

11. We wouldn't try one of your oatmeal raisin cookies for cash. **We've** seen your dirty kitchen!
- A. ***We've*** is a correct contraction.
  - B. You must spell the word like this: ***we've***.
12. We spent more time on our science fair project than Karen and Denny did, but everyone is ignoring our work to view **their's** instead!
- A. ***Their's*** contains a correct apostrophe.
  - B. ***Theirs*** should have the apostrophe after the *s*: ***theirs'***.
  - C. ***Theirs*** should ***not*** have an apostrophe.
13. The **pools** leaf covered surface did not invite Brandi to swim.
- A. ***Pools*** does ***not*** need an apostrophe.
  - B. ***Pools*** should have an apostrophe between the *l* and *s*: ***pool's***.
  - C. ***Pools*** should have an apostrophe after the *s*: ***pools'***.
14. In the morning, my dog Skeeter loves to sleep in the sunlight that **pool's** on the living room floor.
- A. ***Pool's*** contains a correct apostrophe.
  - B. You don't put an apostrophe in ***pools***.
  - C. ***Pool's*** should have the apostrophe after the *s*: ***pools'***.
15. **Delores's** leg jiggled while Professor Caldero explained the plagiarism penalties for the research essay.
- A. ***Delores's*** contains a correct apostrophe.
  - B. You must spell the word like this: ***Deloreses***.

16. Our mouths were so full of delicious **brownie's** that we could not speak.
- A. ***Brownie's*** contains a correct apostrophe.
  - B. ***Brownies*** should have the apostrophe after the ***s***: ***brownies'***.
  - C. ***Brownies*** should ***not*** have an apostrophe.
17. Anthony **try's** to enjoy his tropical fish, but the aquarium glass is filthy with algae.
- A. ***Try's*** contains a correct apostrophe.
  - B. You must spell the word like this: ***trie's***.
  - C. You must spell the word without an apostrophe: ***tries***.
18. Marcus **harasses** his little sister Maggie by pulling her long braids.
- A. ***Harasses*** does ***not*** need an apostrophe.
  - B. You must spell the word with an apostrophe: ***harass'es***.
19. Maggie looked up in time to swat **Marcuses** hand from her face.
- A. ***Marcuses*** correctly shows possession.
  - B. You must punctuate the word like this: ***Marcus's***.
20. Eva can't believe her bad luck! First, her professor gave a pop quiz in chemistry, and now a water main break **means** the bathrooms are inoperable!
- A. ***Means*** does ***not*** need an apostrophe.
  - B. ***Means*** should have an apostrophe between the ***n*** and ***s***: ***mean's***.
  - C. ***Means*** should have an apostrophe after the ***s***: ***means'***.

