**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. Larsen 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’ave seen your dirty kitchen!

A. We’ave 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 Marcus’s 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’.