

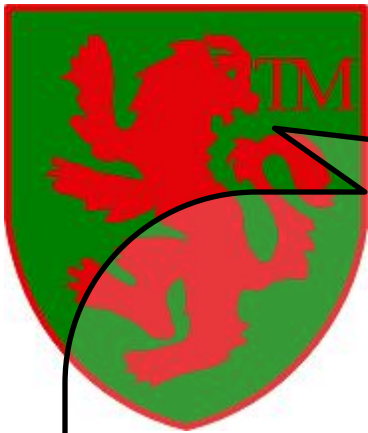
fly + s = flies

consonant + y + s = ies

e.g. try + s = **tries** 👍 **trys** 👎

community + s = communities

comply + s = complies

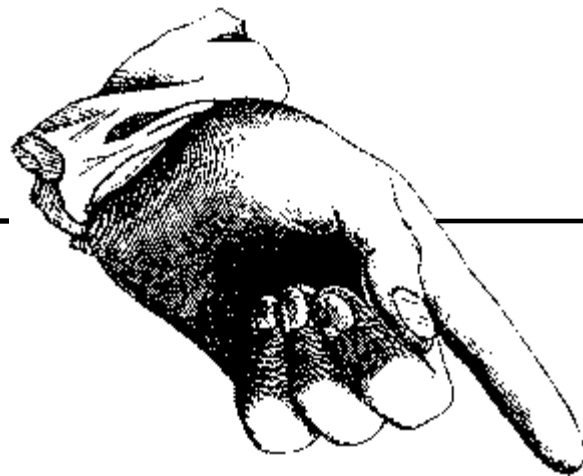
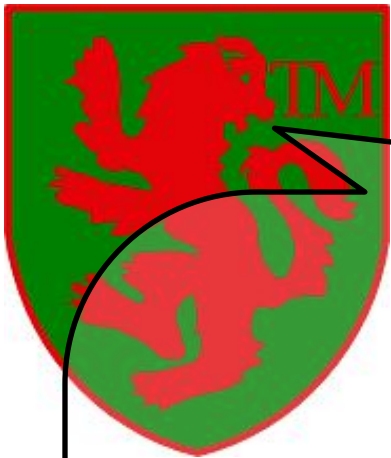


they're, their or **there**?

e.g. How many degrees are **there** in a right angle?

Use: To show that something exists (e.g. "There are 90° in a right angle") or its location (e.g. "It's over there").

Remember: Is it here or **there**? There's a **here** in **there**!

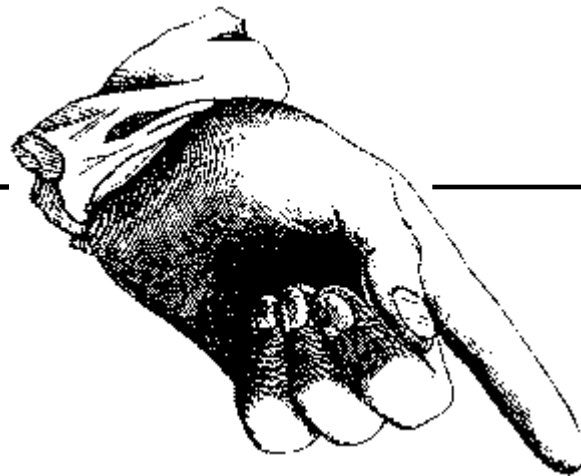
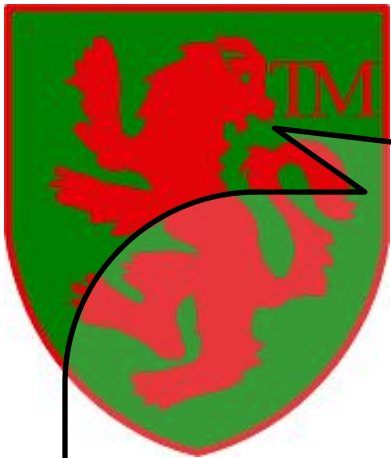


there, they're or **their**?

e.g. The Romans built **their** roads straight.

Use: Goes with words like my, your, her, his, its or our to show *possession*.

Remember: If the sentence makes sense with "our" then you need to use "their" ("The Romans built our roads straight" *does* make sense).

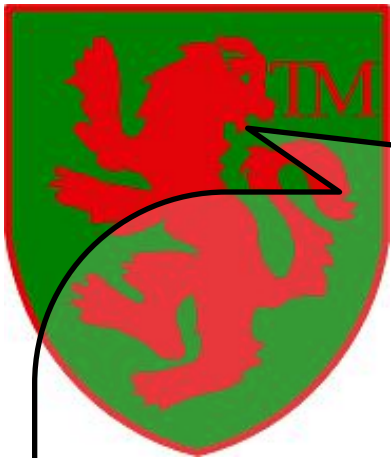


there, their or **they're**?

e.g. **They're** going along the escarpment.

Use: A shortening of **they are**. The apostrophe is used to show where the missing "a" was.

Remember: Would your sentence work with the words "they are" in it?
Yes? Use "they're"!



it's or its?

e.g. **It's** the mortise and tenon that give this joint **its** strength.

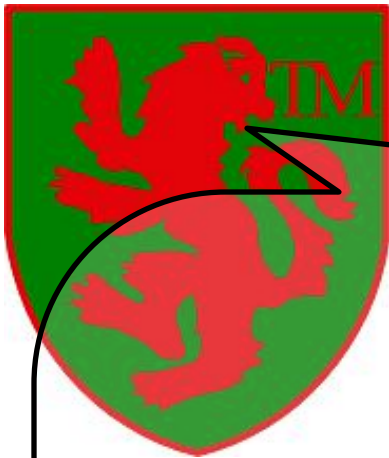


Use: A shortening of **it is**. The apostrophe shows us where the missing "i" went.

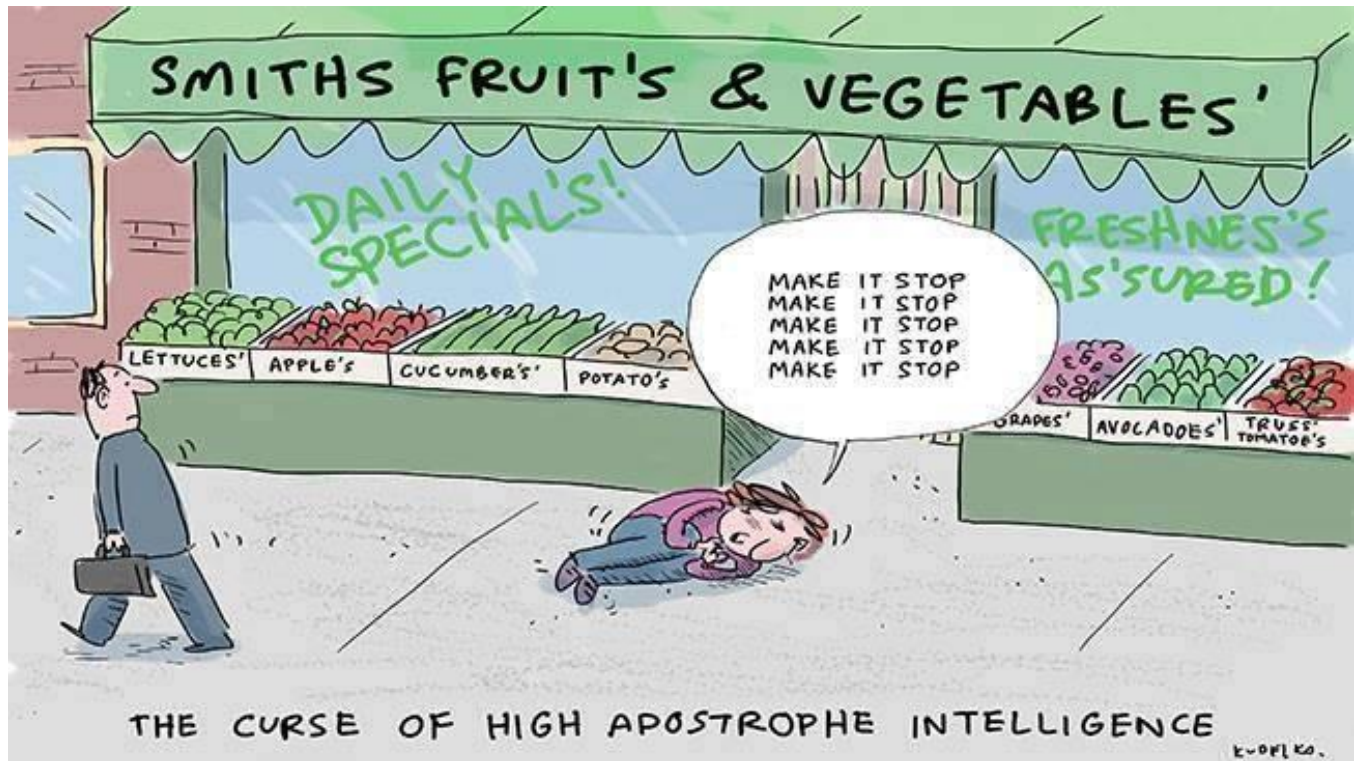
Remember **you're**? You just need to try putting the two words **it is** in the sentence.

Use: Goes with words like my, theirs, hers, his, yours or ours to show possession.

Remember to try both **it is** and **its** in your head if unsure. You can tell that **it is** does not fit here!

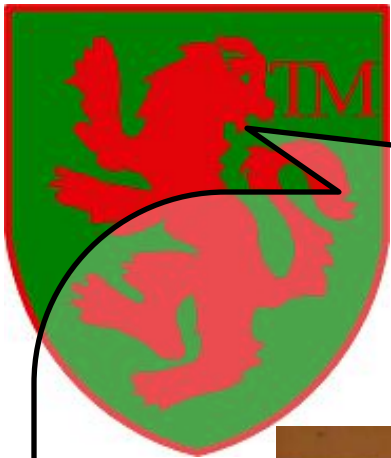


The possessive apostrophe obsessive!

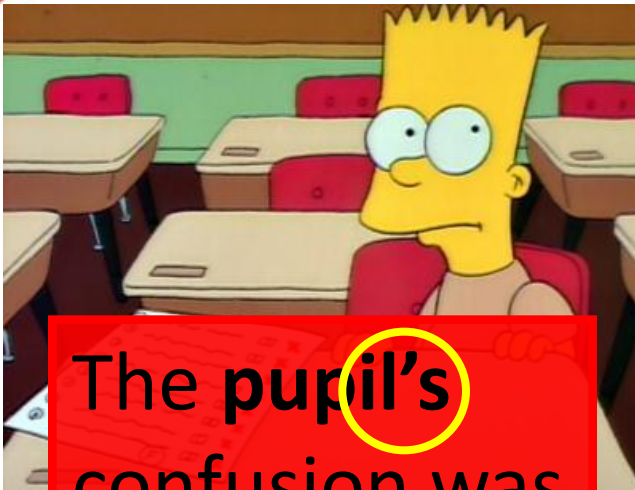


An apostrophe can show who something belongs to but is NOT used to show a plural. It should be – **Smith's fruit and vegetables** and **Daily Specials**.

What else did the green grocer get wrong?



The possessive apostrophe - plurals

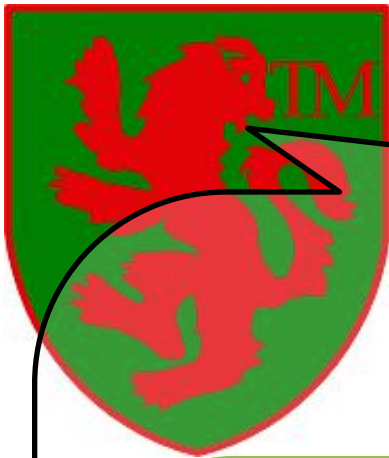


The pupil's
confusion was
obvious.



The pupils'
confusion was
obvious.

If more than one person owns something, place the apostrophe after the s.



out for apostrophes

In recent weeks we have spotted

apostrophes for contraction

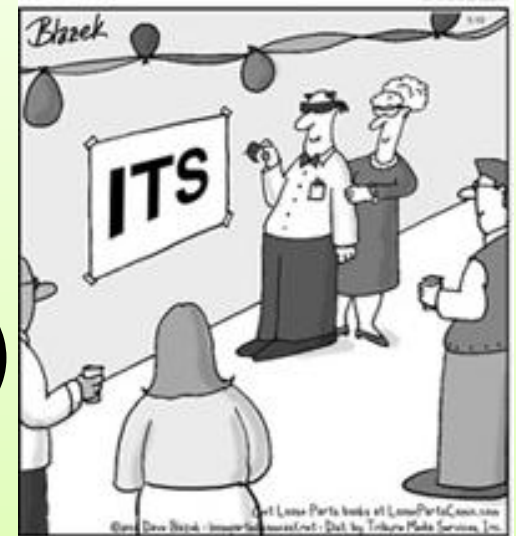
it is = it's

possession (singular)

Tom's book

possession (plural)

The girls' pens



The games get pretty crazy at English teachers' parties.