

Max's Magnificent Apostrophe Challenge

Learning objective: To understand and apply the correct use of apostrophes for possession and omission in Year 5 writing.

Help Max the monkey solve these grammatical puzzles! Read each question carefully. For multiple choice, select the correct option. For true/false and short-answer questions, write your response clearly.

Answer Key: 1. B, 2. True, 3. It's, 4. A, 5. False, 6. The children's toys, 7. A, 8. True, 9. Don't, 10. The apostrophe shows possession by the lion. Extension: 'The foxes' den' (plural possessive) vs 'The fox's den' (singular possessive).

Word bank: Apostrophe · Possession · Omission · Contraction · Singular · Plural

1. 1. Which sentence uses an apostrophe for omission correctly? A) Max is do'nt eating. B) Max doesn't like cold bananas. C) Max does'nt like cold bananas. D) Max doesnt' like cold bananas. (1 mark)

2. 2. True or False: You use an apostrophe to show that something belongs to a singular noun (e.g., The monkey's tail). (1 mark)

3. 3. Fill in the gap: '_____ a beautiful day to go stargazing with Nova!' (Choose 'Its' or 'It's') (1 mark)

4. 4. Which option shows the correct possessive form for a single dolphin? A) The dolphin's fin. B) The dolphins' fin. C) The dolphins fin'. D) The dolphin fin's. (1 mark)

5. 5. True or False: The word 'teachers' in 'The teachers meeting' requires an apostrophe (teacher's) to show it is a meeting for the teachers. (1 mark)

6. 6. Rewrite this phrase to show possession: 'The toys belonging to the children'. (1 mark)

7. 7. Where should the apostrophe go in: 'The lions roar was loud'? A) lion's. B) lions'. C) l'ions. D) lions's. (1 mark)

8. 8. True or False: 'Contraction' is the term used when an apostrophe replaces missing letters. (1 mark)

9. 9. Change 'do not' into a contraction using an apostrophe. (1 mark)

10. 10. Explain why the apostrophe is placed before the 's' in Leo's poetry book. (1 mark)

Draw: Draw Max the monkey holding a sign that says 'Apostrophes are Fun!', with an example of an apostrophe for omission and an apostrophe for possession written on a blackboard behind him.



Extension challenge: Greater Depth Challenge: 1. Explain why 'The foxes' den' has the apostrophe after the 's' while 'The fox's den' has it before. 2. Justify why we use apostrophes for possession but not for simple plurals. 3. What might happen to the meaning of a sentence if an apostrophe is misplaced? 4. Compare and contrast the use of an apostrophe in 'we're' versus 'were'. 5. Create two original sentences: one using a singular possessive and one using a plural possessive. 6. If you were writing a story about Zara the zebra, how would you describe her 'striped patterns' using a possessive apostrophe?