

Overview

Learners will use the [L'accent circonflexe podcast](#) as a context for the suggested learning opportunities. In this episode of learning, the focus is to develop confidence and competence in the area of punctuation, specifically the use of the apostrophe.

An overview planning sheet is shown on the next page which provides a plan for learning, teaching and assessment, starting from the experiences and outcomes. Learning intentions, success criteria and possible evidence which could be gathered to assess learning are shown.

It is = It's
I am = I'm
He is = He's
I will = I'll

Experiences and outcomes explored

Through developing my knowledge of context clues, punctuation, grammar and layout, I can read unfamiliar texts with increasing fluency, understanding and expression.

ENG 2-12a

In both short and extended texts, I can use appropriate punctuation.

LIT 2-22a

Throughout the writing process, I can check that my writing makes sense and meets its purpose.

LIT 2-23a

Overview of learning

Experiences and outcomes

Through developing my knowledge of context clues, punctuation, grammar and layout, I can read unfamiliar texts with increasing fluency, understanding and expression.

ENG 2-12a

Learning intentions

- To practise using the apostrophe in its various forms.
- To learn the rules for the insertion of the apostrophe in contractions.
- To learn the rule for the insertion of the apostrophe in the possessive singular noun form.
- To learn the rule for the insertion of the apostrophe in the possessive plural form.
- To learn the exception to the rule for the possessive plural.

Success criteria

- I can recognise the difference between contracted and non-contracted words.
- I can use the apostrophe accurately in contracted words.
- I can recognise the difference between singular and plural nouns.
- I can apply the apostrophe to mark possession in connection with singular nouns.
- I can apply the apostrophe to mark possession in connection with plural nouns.
- I can recognise the difference between standard and non-standard plural nouns.
- I can apply the apostrophe to mark possession in connection with non-standard plural nouns.

Possible evidence

Answers to mini-tutorial challenges.

Scores from online games.

Self-created apostrophe tests completed by peers.

Wall display.

Challenge 1

Introduction

In this lesson learners will learn the difference between contracted and non-contracted words and where the apostrophe should go in the contracted form.

Learning intentions

I will practise inserting the apostrophe correctly in contracted words.

Success criteria

I can recognise the difference between contracted and non-contracted word forms.

I can insert the apostrophe correctly into contracted words and explain my choice.

Possible evidence

Letter to Jane

Home learning activity and partner response

Results/scores from online quiz

Possible tasks

Apostrophes and contractions: mini-tutorial

Contractions

- Will not – won't
- Can not – can't
- Have not – haven't

Apostrophes: challenge one

- Indicate where you think apostrophes should go in the following email.

Hi Jane,
I wont be able to go the cinema this weekend. Its my mum. Shes very ill and I wouldnt want to leave her. Ill definitely go another time with you as Id really like to see "Fun in Second Term". That's if you don't decide to go and see it with someone else.
Lots of love,
Megan

Taking it further

An independent learning activity could be for learners to rewrite a report or article from a newspaper, magazine or formal online source and adding apostrophes. This could then be given to a partner in class to recreate into its original form.

www.saintambrosebarlow.wigan.sch.uk/Y3Spelling/apostrophes1y3t2.htm

Context

The apostrophe

You will have learned from the podcast L'accent circonflexe or the chapeau chinois - that this accent is used to show that there is in fact a missing letter.

In English we also use a little symbol to show a missing letter and it is called an apostrophe. This little symbol is one of the most misused features of the English language. Well, you are just about to master it in a few quick lessons and some fun online games.

- The apostrophe is a punctuation mark that has two main functions:
- It shortens words together and shows where the missing letters were (known as contraction)
- It indicates the ownership of a noun

Challenge 2

Introduction

In this lesson learners will explore the concept of possession in relation to singular nouns.

Learning intentions

To learn the rule for the insertion of the apostrophe in the possessive singular noun form.

Success criteria

I can recognise the difference between singular and plural nouns.

I can apply the apostrophe to mark possession in connection with singular nouns.

Possible evidence

Challenge two assessment

Possible tasks

Apostrophes and ownership: mini-tutorial

- Ownership of something by a single person, place or thing is shown by adding s to the singular and putting an apostrophe before this s.
- The boy's football The lady's purse
- The table's legs The house's windows
- Glasgow's city chambers

Apostrophes: challenge 2

Indicate where you think the apostrophes should go in the following:

The shops doorway

The ships captain

The schools football team

The books cover

The televisions screens

The walls colour

Challenge 3

Introduction

In this lesson learners will explore the concept of possession in relation to plural nouns.

Learning intentions

To learn the rule for the insertion of the apostrophe in the possessive plural noun form.

Success criteria

I can recognise the difference between singular and plural nouns.

I can apply the apostrophe to mark possession in connection with singular nouns.

Possible evidence

Head teacher's announcement

Possible tasks

Apostrophes and ownership: mini-tutorial two

- The previous examples were all concerned with the singular. Can you see what the difference is when the person, place or thing is plural?
- For example, when there is more than one boy who owns the football:
- The boys' football
- A few more:
- The animals' paws The teachers' staff room
- The houses' letterboxes The shops' targets

Apostrophes: challenge three

Indicate where you think the apostrophes should go in this announcement by a Head teacher to her/his pupils at a school assembly.

It has been brought to my attention that there has been vandalism in the boys toilets. We understand that at least two people are responsible for this. I will not stand for the vandals behaviour and I would like to let you all know that the teachers opportunity for lunch will be shortened so that we can keep our eyes on you at all times. Once we find those responsible, the hooligans parents will be brought into school and the police will be informed.

Challenge 4

Introduction

In this lesson learners will explore the exception to the rule in relation to possessive plural nouns.

Learning intentions

To learn the rule for the insertion of apostrophes in plurals that do not end in "s".

Success criteria

I can apply the apostrophe to mark possession in plural nouns that do not end in "s".

Possible evidence

Challenge three

Home learning activity

Results/scores from online quiz

Possible tasks

Apostrophes and ownership: special tutorial - the exception to the rule

- Now that you have seen that plural forms seem to take the s followed by the apostrophe, you need to know of the exception to this rule.
- When the plural does not end in an s then the apostrophe must come before the added s.

Challenge three:

Indicate where you think the apostrophe should go in the following:

- The womens hats are on floor five.
- The mens toilets are on floor one.
- The mices cheese was mouldy.
- The bacterias presence caused illness.

Taking it further

The following task could be given for home learning.

Mr Fishers decision to issue a fortnights homework in one go was met with a stunned silence from the girls student council representative. She said that this was outrageous and that the councils members would vote not to do this. The boys representative was not available to pass comment as he was, apparently, in the mens room.

www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise/game/en29punc-game-beat-the-clock-apostrophes

Challenge 5

Introduction

In this lesson learners will complete a short assessment to evaluate the learning that took place in the previous four challenges.

Learning intentions

I will use verbs to express likes and dislikes.

Success criteria

I will be successful when I can complete this assessment with **(to be negotiated with teacher)** accuracy.

Possible evidence

Completed assessment

Apostrophe assessment

The passage below has twelve missing apostrophes. How many can you detect and correct?

“The Smiths have taken a weeks holiday in France,” said Mr Flanagan “and they wont be back for at least ten days as theyre stopping over in London on the way.”

“Well, Mrs Smiths suitcase didnt look as if she was going away for that length of time: it was massive!” said Mrs Flanagan,

“Well, the Flanagans car wasnt exactly empty,” exclaimed her husband, “it was packed with stuff.”

Mrs Flanagan went on, “I also heard that they had to stop almost immediately as they needed to use the ladies and the mens toilets in the town centre.”

Mrs Flanagan sounded horrified, “Julies mum wouldnt do that. Shes far too well prepared to be caught short.”