

Apostrophes E

- 15t.** Use an apostrophe and an *s* to form the plurals of letters, numerals, and symbols, and of words referred to as words.

EXAMPLES Paula forgot to dot the *i*'s and cross the *f*'s.
Mr. Johanson writes *l*'s that look like *7*'s.
Use fewer *so*'s in your writing.

EXERCISE A Above each underlined item in the following sentences, write the item in its plural form.

Example 1. Did you get any A on your progress report?

- Count the yes and the no.
- How many n and e are in the word *Tennessee*?
- My telephone number has two 2 and two 8.
- Sakura's 4 look like 9.
- There are too many or and but in that paragraph.
- Be sure to write clearly, so people can tell your m and n apart.
- The l in the word *parallel* are parallel to each other.
- Don't forget to use double s and p in the word *Mississippi*.
- All the 4, 5, and 6 are blurred.
- The why and wherefore will be covered later.

EXERCISE B The following letter contains errors in apostrophes in plurals. Insert apostrophes where they are needed, and draw a line through the apostrophes that are not needed.

Example [1] Your capital *Y*'s look like lowercase *r*'s in these note/s to Juan.

Dear Juan,

[11] I'm writing to tell you why 7s are lucky! [12] One of the nearby theaters' had a contest.
[13] How many bean's were in the jar? [14] It's hard to tell by looking, but I decided to try—no ifs, ands, or buts about it. [15] My guess was 7,777, which is a lot of 7s. [16] Of all the guesses' submitted, mine won! [17] The prize was, as you might guess, seven movie ticket's. [18] Are you free to go to the movies' with me? [19] Get ready for more 7s': The first movie is on July 7 at 7:00 P.M.
[20] Maybe next time 9s will be lucky, and I'll win nine ticket's!

Your friend,

Emily

Apostrophes F

Review the rules on pages 330–37 of your textbook for information on using apostrophes with singular nouns, plural nouns that do not end in *s*, plural nouns that do end in *s*, some indefinite pronouns, contractions, and the plurals of letters, numerals, symbols, and words referred to as words.

EXAMPLES	book's cover	children's toys	students' holiday
	someone's bicycle	can't	several H's
	six 8's	three \$'s	too many very's

EXERCISE A For each of the following sentences, add apostrophes where needed. Cross out apostrophes that are not needed.

Example 1. Who chooses hurricanes' name/s?

- One person doesnt choose a hurricanes name.
- Theyre chosen by scientists' from all over the world.
- Who'se idea was it to give hurricanes peoples names?
- Probably its an international groups idea.
- Theres a list of names' for each coast.
- As and Bs begin the names of the first hurricane's of each season.
- Hurricane Andrew was scientists choice of name for a hurricane in 1992.
- I do'nt think Id want that hurricane to have the same name as I have.
- Andrews costly destruction caused many people to see \$s in their heads!
- The damage caused by Andrew cost around fifteen billion dollar's—there are a lot of 0s in that number!

EXERCISE B For each of the following sentences, add apostrophes where needed. Cross out apostrophes that are not needed. If a sentence is already correct, write *C* after the sentence.

Example 1. How many e's are in that girl's name?

- The shells' of these pecan's are hard to crack.
- They'll be pleased that you accepted their invitation.
- I dont usually care for soup, but Theresas chicken soup is irresistible!
- If you don't use an apostrophe when referring to several *as*, the word looks like *as*.
- In her class notes, Norma writes &s instead of *ands*.