

Possessive Pronouns

Possessive pronouns show who or what owns, or possesses, something. *My, mine, your, yours, her, hers, his, its, our, ours, their, and theirs* are possessive pronouns.

- Use *my, your, her, our, and their* before nouns.

This is my cat. It was her dog. They fed their fish.

- Use *mine, yours, hers, ours, and theirs* alone.

The cat is mine. The dog was hers. The fish are theirs.

- *His* and *its* can be used both before nouns and alone.

He found his dog. The dog is his.

The dog hurt its paw. The paw is its.

- Do not use an apostrophe with a possessive pronoun.

Directions Underline the pronoun that correctly completes each sentence.

1. Ants use (theirs, their) antennae for touch and smell.
2. That nest under the tree is (their, theirs).
3. An ant has two stomachs in (its, our) abdomen.
4. One stomach stores food for other ants to share, and another stomach holds (it's, its) own food.
5. The queen is larger than the other ants, and (her, hers) body is an egg factory.
6. All the worker ants are sterile, so the egg-laying task is all (her, hers).
7. A male ant lives apart from the colony and plays (his, theirs) part by mating with the queen.
8. I sometimes get ants in (my, hers) house.
9. The house with purple trim is (my, mine).
10. Don't have (your, theirs) picnic next to an ant colony!

Directions Write the possessive pronoun that can replace the underlined word or words.

11. Steven brought Steven's ant farm to class.

his

12. The class and I spent the class's and my time watching them work.

our

13. Ms. Pearce told us about Ms. Pearce's trip to South America.

her

14. She saw army ants marching to and from the army ants' colony.

their