

# Lesson 63

## 270 Chapter 6 Pronouns

Some possessive pronouns are used as adjectives: **my, your, his, her, its, our, their**. Other possessive pronouns are used as pronouns: **mine, yours, his, hers, its, ours, theirs**. Notice that **his** and **its** may be used either way.

When a possessive pronoun modifies a noun, it is used as an adjective. When it stands alone, it is used as a pronoun.

**My** book is blue. (adjective)    **Mine** is blue. (pronoun)  
**His** shoes are new. (adjective)    **His** are new. (pronoun)  
**Her** pen is lost. (adjective)    **Hers** is lost. (pronoun)  
**Our** house is old. (adjective)    **Ours** is old. (pronoun)

You know that an apostrophe is used to make the possessive form of a noun. But an apostrophe is never used to form a possessive pronoun.

This book is **Carol's**.    This book is **hers**. (not **her's**)  
**Bob's** bat is broken.    **His** bat is broken. (not **his'**)  
Which is the **Ebys'** car? Which is **theirs'**? (not **their's**)

Do not confuse contractions and possessive pronouns. The only time an apostrophe is used with a personal pronoun is to form a contraction.

**It's** means "it is."    **It's** time to give the calf **its** milk.  
**You're** means "you are."    **You're** not doing **your** own work.  
**They're** means "they are."    **They're** riding **their** bicycles.

In the Bible, the archaic pronoun **thy** is used for **your**, and **thine** is used for **yours**. **Thine** is also used for **your** before words that begin with a vowel sound.

"**Thy** will be done" (Matthew 6:10). **Thy** means "your."  
"**Thine** is the kingdom" (Matthew 6:13). **Thine** means "yours."  
"Incline **thine** ear unto me" (Psalm 17:6). **Thine** means "your."

taste right. After that, the girl was more careful about the difference in these similar ingredients.

Write the following words on the board: *its, it's, your, you're, their, they're*. Tell the pupils, "Some words also look very much alike. Can you tell which is the right one to use?" Then read the sentences below, and have students tell which spelling is correct for each one.

It's time to leave for church.  
Its doors have been freshly painted.  
Your Bible is on the bookshelf.  
You're going to be late unless you hurry.  
They're out in the car waiting for you.  
Their clocks are faster than ours.

Teach the following points.

1. **The possessive case pronouns are as follows: my, mine, your, yours, his, her, hers, its, our, ours,**

**their, theirs**. Possessive pronouns show ownership or relationship.

*Your* eyes are blue.  
*His* hair is brown.  
This is *hers*.  
*Our* house is beside *theirs*.

2. **Some possessive pronouns are used as adjectives. Others are used only as pronouns.** When possessive pronouns modify nouns, they are used as adjectives. Otherwise (when they stand alone), they are used as pronouns. Notice that *his* and *its* may be used as pronouns and as adjectives.

**Adjectives:** my, your, his, her, its, our, their  
This is *my* coat.  
*Our* pony is brown.

**Pronouns:** mine, yours, his, hers, its, ours, theirs  
This coat is *mine*.  
*Theirs* is black and white.