

LESSON 6

The Noun. Possessive case of nouns

Rule 1. Using of construction <i>noun + 's</i>			
Common case	Possessive case	Example	Notes
Peter	Peter's	Peter's car	
king	king's	king's family	

Rule 2. If a singular noun ends with letter <i>-s</i>			
Common case	Possessive case	Example	Notes
Socrates	Socrates'	Socrates' wife	
Dickens	Dickens's	Dickens's novels	

Rule 3. Possessive case of nouns like <i>men, children</i>			
Common case	Possessive case	Example	Notes
men	men's	men's work	
children	children's	children's toys	

Rule 4. Possessive case of compound nouns			
Common case	Possessive case	Example	Notes
mother-in-law	mother-in-law's	mother-in-law's advice	
housewife	housewife's	housewife's work	

Rule 5. If one subject belongs to two or more persons		
Common case	Possessive case	Example
Peter and Ann	Peter and Ann's	Peter and Ann's mother
Peter, Kate and Helen	Peter, Kate and Helen's	Peter, Kate and Helen's father

Rule 6. If the subject belongs to two or more persons separately		
Common case	Possessive case	Example
Peter and Ann	Peter's and Ann's	Peter's and Ann's hair
Peter, Kate and Helen	Peter's, Kate's and Helen's	Peter's, Kate's and Helen's parents

Rule 7. Possessive case of nouns denoting time			
Common case	Possessive case	Example	Notes
today	today's	today's newspaper	
yesterday	yesterday's	yesterday's party	
an hour	an hour's	an hour's rest	

Rule 8. Possessive case of nouns denoting distance			
Common case	Possessive case	Example	Notes
a mile	a mile's	a mile's distance	
a kilometer	a kilometer's	a kilometer's line	

Rule 9. Possessive case of nouns denoting the names of countries and cities			
Common case	Possessive case	Example	Notes
Germany	Germany's	Germany's industry	
New York	New York's	New York's streets	

Rule 10. Possessive case of nouns denoting the names of newspapers and organizations			
Common case	Possessive case	Example	Notes
the Guardian	the Guardian's	the Guardian's article	
Red Cross	Red Cross's	Red Cross's volunteers	

Rule 11. Possessive case of nouns denoting the names of the months and time of the year			
Common case	Possessive case	Example	Notes
January	January's	January's frosts	
summer	summer's	summer's days	

Rule 12. Possessive case of nouns denoting the names of the planets			
Common case	Possessive case	Example	Notes
Saturn	Saturn's	Saturn's rings	
The Sun	The Sun's	The Sun's rays	

Rule 13. Possessive case of nouns denoting monetary values			
Common case	Possessive case	Example	Notes
dollar	dollar's	one dollar's worth	
ruble	ruble's	two rubles' purchase	

Rule 14. Possessive case of nouns denoting mass and volume			
Common case	Possessive case	Example	Notes
kilo	kilo's	two kilos' meat	
liter	liter's	a liter's milk	

Rule 15. Possessive case of nouns like <i>nation, country, city, town</i>			
Common case	Possessive case	Example	Notes
nation	nation's	nation's custom	
country	country's	country's treasures	
city	city's	city's streets	
town	town's	town's population	

Rule 16. Possessive case of nouns like <i>ship, car, boat</i>			
Common case	Possessive case	Example	Notes
ship	ship's	ship's name	
car	car's	car's speed	
boat	boat's	boat's oars	

Rule 17. Possessive case of nouns like <i>nature, water, ocean</i>			
Common case	Possessive case	Example	Notes
nature	nature's	nature's beauty	
water	water's	water's taste	
ocean	ocean's	ocean's temperature	

Rule 18. Possessive case in some persistent expressions			
Common case	Possessive case	Example	Notes
death	death's	at death's door	
arm	arm's	at arm's length	
hair	hair's	by a hair's breadth	
snail	snail's	at a snail's pace	
butcher	butcher's	at the butcher's	
uncle	uncle's	at my uncle's	
baker	baker's	at the baker's	
chemist	chemist's	at the chemist's	
grocer	grocer's	at the grocer's	

Rule 19. Possessive case with preposition <i>of</i>			
Common case	Possessive case	Example	Notes
friend	of my friend	the job of my friend	
table	of the table	the legs of the table	
city	of the city	the center of the city	