

-‘s (your sister’s name) and of... (the name of the book)

We use -‘s (apostrophe +s) mostly for people or animals. Note we can use -‘s without a noun after it. We do not always use -‘s for people. With a plural noun, we put an apostrophe at the end of the word (-‘s). If the plural noun does not end in -s we use -‘s. Note that you can use -‘s after more than one noun.

Usamos el apóstrofe con personas o animales. Lo usamos sin un sustantivo cuando es plural.

What is Valeria’s boyfriend’s name?

What is the title of the book you recommended during our last conversation?

It is not my car. It is my sister’s.

Mr. and Mrs. Pühr’s house

For things, ideas, etc., we normally use of (... of the book/ ... of the restaurant, etc.). Sometimes the structure noun+noun is possible. We say the beginning/end/middle of..., the top/bottom of..., the front/back/side of...

the library manager

the restaurant waiter

You can usually use -‘s or of... for an organization (=a group of people). It is also possible to use -‘s for places.

the company’s failure

We can use the+ nationality adjectives that end in -ch or -sh (the French/the English/the Spanish, etc). The meaning is the people of that country. You can also use the+ nationalities ending in -ese (the Chinese/the Sudanese/the Japanese, etc). With other nationalities, the plural noun ends in -s and we do not normally use the to talk about the people in general.

You can also use –'s with time expressions (yesterday/next week, etc.). In the same way, you can say today's/tomorrow's/tonight's/Monday's, etc. We also use –'s (or –s' with plural words) with periods of time.

Most people need six hours' sleep a night.

Exercises

a school for Catholics _____

clothes for men _____

watch for women _____