

Grammar Tip #11

USE OF THE APOSTROPHE + S WITH NOUNS



An apostrophe is the difference between a researcher's finding (one person's hard work) and the researchers' finding (a collaborative work).

Examples:

Singular: add an -'s between the noun acting as the "owner" and the noun indicating "what is owned."

- The author's hypothesis was supported by the data.

← The owner ← What's owned

Plural: add only the apostrophe after a plural noun ending in -s.

For irregular plural nouns, add an -'s (e.g., men → men's)

- The researchers' findings were published in Nature.

← Multiple owners ← What's owned

Note: Not sure if it is a possessive? Test the sentence use the "of" phrase:

- The participants' responses were interesting.
- The responses of the participants were interesting.

GOT
QUESTIONS?



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