

APOSTROPHES - Level 1 & 2 activities and games

Teaching ideas

These activities make great starter activities. The teacher can assess what students already know and adjust the subsequent input accordingly.

Preparation

- All pages (2-11) are best printed on card and/or laminated.
- Cut pages 4-10 into individual sentence cards. There are 3 sets of sentences – one generic, one contextualised to beauty and one contextualised to IT.
- Cut page 11 into individual dominoes.

Apostrophe sentences and smileys (pages 2 – 10)

These are used to practise apostrophes of omission and possession.

- Attach smileys to wall, whiteboard, flip chart or pin board.
- Supply students with blu-tack or pins as appropriate.
- In groups, ask students to pin the sentences onto the correct smiley. I.e. happy = correct, unhappy = incorrect.
- At the end of the session, after some input with examples and rules, students can go back and check their sentences.
- Give students five minutes to change any they are not happy with.
- Finally, go through the results as a whole group.

Apostrophe dominoes (pages 10 - 11)

These are used to practise the apostrophe of omission.

- For a two-player game, start with 7 dominoes each.
- Place remaining dominoes face down in a 'pool'.
- Toss a coin to start. Player 1 places a domino on the table.
- Player 2 places the 'matching' word or words. E.g. if first domino is that's – do not , the domino placed next to it should contain either that is or don't .
- If the player cannot match either of the words on the domino, they pick up a domino from the pool.
- The player to place all their cards first is the winner.

Other ideas

- You can also play this with four players and no pool, so if a player cannot 'go' the play moves to the next player.
- Alternatively, a small group can work together to make a long chain of dominoes.

Main Literacy Curriculum References

Punctuation and grammar

Rs/L1.2 Use punctuation to help their understanding

(a) understand the function of the omissive apostrophe to indicate a contracted word form in texts written in an informal style

(b) know and use the term apostrophe

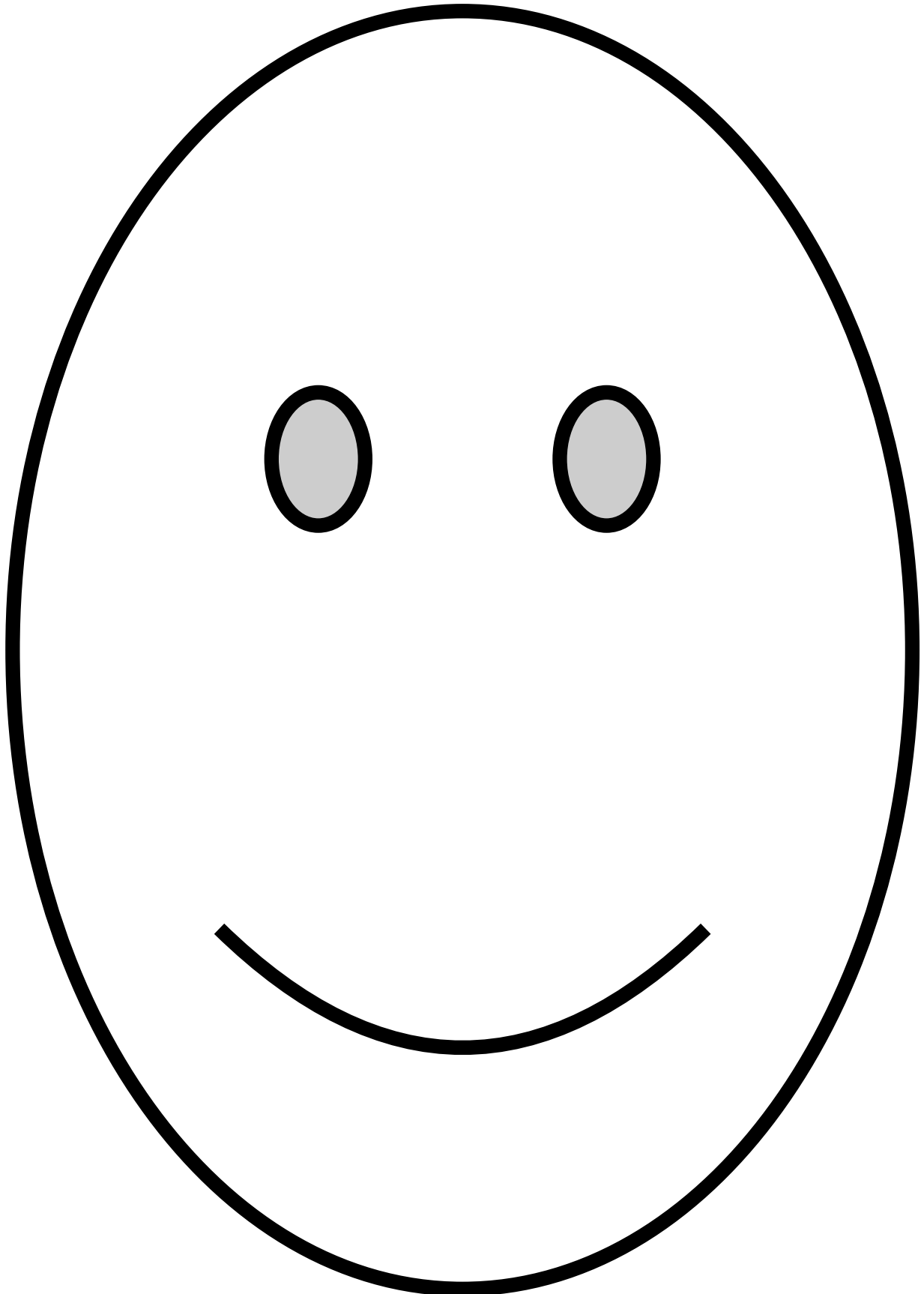
Ws/L2.4 Punctuate sentences correctly, and use punctuation correctly (e.g. commas, apostrophes, inverted commas)

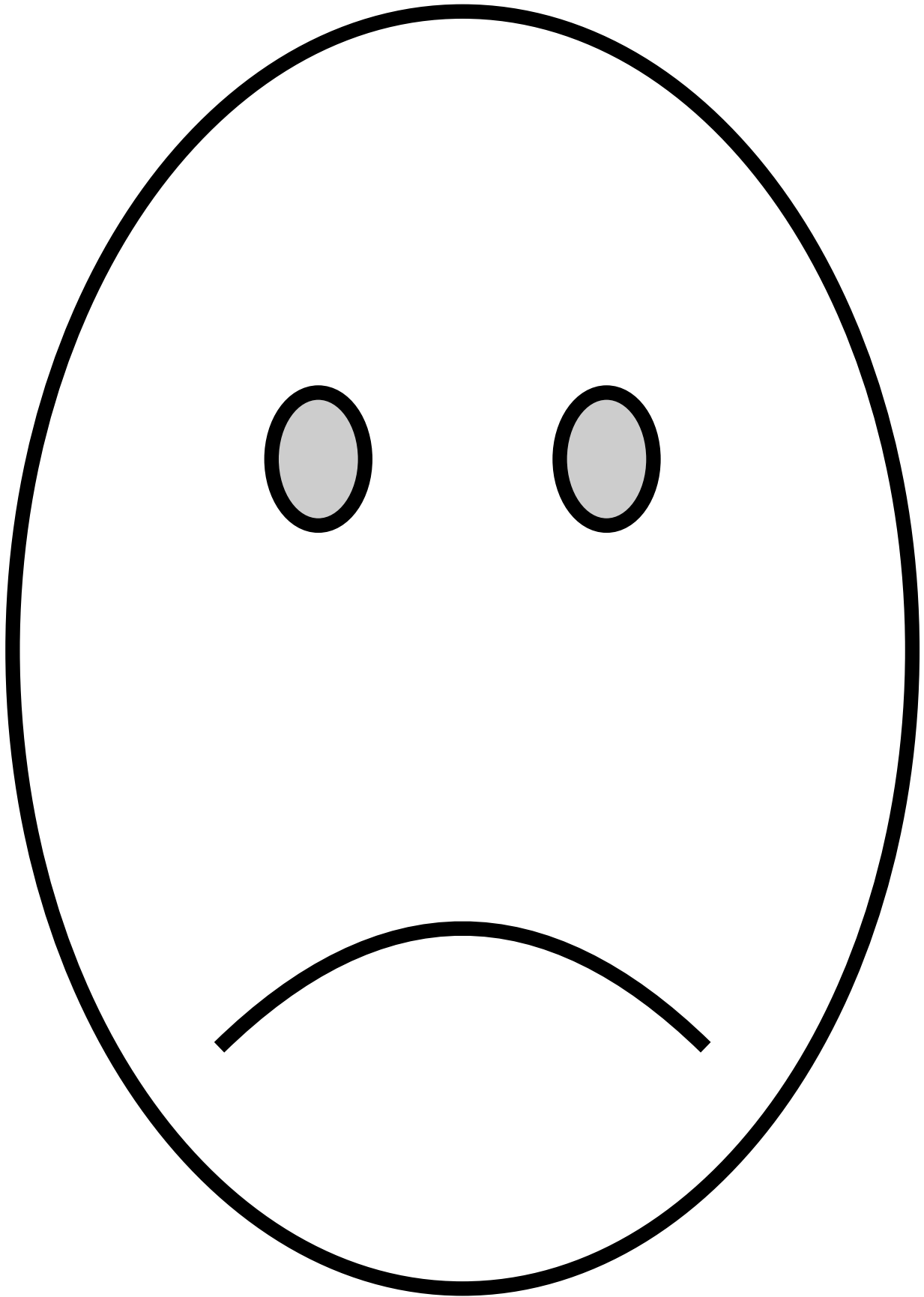
(b) understand the use of the apostrophe to show a missing letter(s) (e.g. they're, we've, I'm)

(c) know the full verb equivalents and that the writer can choose short or full forms depending on the formality required

(d) understand the difference between it's (it is) and its (belonging to it)

(e) understand the use of the apostrophe to show where a final -s indicates that something belongs to someone/thing





Generic - Correct	Generic - Incorrect
I'm going home now.	Can you pass me the pen's please?
You're a great person.	I need some more book's for College.
I can't do my homework.	The childrens faces are dirty.
I'll improve my literacy if I come to College regularly.	The mans beard is very long.
My friend should've told me her secret.	I dont think I'll ever win the lottery.
The weather isn't very nice today.	I cant some shopping on Saturday.
The students aren't looking forward to the exams.	Its nearly time to go home.
John won't be coming to College tomorrow.	You shouldnt spend too long in front of the computer.

Generic (cont.) - Correct	Generic (cont.) - Incorrect
It's great to see you!	You cant be late, or you will miss the class.
Why aren't you coming to see me today?	I f you study hard, youll pass your exams.
The man's new car is really nice.	The other students' are really friendly.
Jane's new hair style is great.	Sometimes the teacher's are strict.
It shan't be long until Christmas again.	You musnt take the lift when there's a fire.
We'll be late tomorrow morning.	I cant wait for the sales to start!
Don't forget your paper and pen.	I hope its not going to be too cold this winter.





























I T - Correct	I T - Incorrect
You shouldn't spend too long in front of the computer.	The computer's are broken.
Please don't eat or drink near the computer.	I hope my download's have finished when I get home.
If I study hard I'm sure I'll pass my exam.	I need some more blank CD's.
I can't do my homework.	You cant be late, or you will miss the class.
The students aren't looking forward to the exams.	Its illegal to download music from the internet.
The mouse isn't working properly.	Can you pass me my pen's please?
If I come to College regularly, then I'll improve my literacy.	I need to update my version of Window's.

I T (cont.) - Correct	I T (cont.) - Incorrect
Don't forget your paper and pen.	I f you study hard, youll pass your exams
I can't stop my monitor from blinking.	There isnt much memory left on my laptop.
I've lost my memory stick.	Mind you don't trip over the wire's.
I t's great to chat with friends on MSN.	I like playing game's on my computer.
I haven't read my emails today.	The other students' are really friendly.
I f you'd have saved your work it would be there still.	Google is one of the biggest search engine's.
The printer isn't working.	There isnt any ink left in the printer.

Beauty - Correct	Beauty - Incorrect
Get this season's must have accessory.	These cream's are no good.
Hurry up - these won't be around for long!	Those spray's smell disgusting!
Mrs. Smith's perm has gone wrong.	Her leg's are very hairy.
You should wait in the salon's reception.	The woman with the really long nail's is ready for her manicure.
I'm just going to wax Sarah's legs.	How many coffee's do we need?
It doesn't look very nice.	The new salon's are beautiful.
It isn't very neat.	The ghd's are great!

Beauty (cont.) - Correct	Beauty (cont.) - Incorrect
Her tan wasn't very golden.	Can you pass me the scissor's please?
He should've thought before booking his wax!	Could you please book me in for two facial's next week?
Jane's makeup looks fantastic!	I love the way your eyebrow's look now!
The ghds aren't working very well at the moment.	Can you fetch me some towel's please?
Mrs. Jones's husband is waiting for her.	I need some more colour's for the nail art.
It's great to see happy customers.	Jessica's nail's are too short to have nail extensions.
I won't be in work on Sunday.	Her eye's look really pretty that colour.

Beauty (cont.) - Correct	Beauty (cont.) - Incorrect
I'll cancel the 4 o'clock appointment, as I want to go home early.	I'm really pleased you like your eyelashes.
I can't find the right colour.	You should've asked for some help.
He's waiting in the salon.	She's got sensitive skin
I won't be working next Wednesday.	I couldn't find the appointment book.
I'll be there if they're ready now.	Can I leave if they've finished?
We'll sweep the floor now.	I haven't got the right cream with me.

I've  she will	she'll  he had	he'd  they have	they've  were not	weren't  there is	there's  you will	you'll  I will
I'll  was not	wasn't  she is	she's  we will	we'll  that is	that's  do not	don't  we are	we're  cannot
can't  you are	you're  they are	they're  will not	won't  we have	we've  it is	it's  they will	they'll  are not
aren't  shall not	shan't  should have	should've  is not	isn't  did not	didn't  I am	I'm  had not	hadn't  I have