

My World in Words

Lesson 3 · Subject Pronouns & Possessive Adjectives · A1 · 30 minutes

A1

GRAMMAR

BEGINNER

30 MIN

★ In this lesson you will learn to:

- Use subject pronouns: **I, you, he, she, it, we, they**
- Use possessive adjectives: **my, your, his, her, its, our, their**
- Talk about your family and the people close to you
- Avoid three classic A1 traps: **its / their / your**

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Warm-Up: The 7 Little Words You Already Know

You have already met these seven **subject pronouns** in Lessons 1 and 2. Let's see them all together before we add something new.

I me (the speaker)	you the listener(s)	he a man / boy	she a woman / girl
it a thing / animal	we me + others	they 2+ people or things	

Today's new idea: every subject pronoun has a partner word that means "*belongs to*". We call these **possessive adjectives**. In the story below, look for words like **my, his, her, their**.

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Anna's Photo Album

It is Monday morning. Anna has a small photo album in her bag. She wants to show her family pictures to Marco and Yuki. Possessive words are **highlighted**.

"This is My Family"

— In the classroom, before the lesson. Anna opens a photo album. —

- Anna:** Look! This is **my** family. This is **my** mother. **Her** name is Sofia. She is 58 years old. She is a nurse in Rome.
- Anna:** And this is **my** father. **His** name is Roberto. He is 60. He is a chef. **His** restaurant is famous in Rome!
- Anna:** This is **my** sister. **Her** name is Giulia. She is 35. She is a doctor, like Yuki.
- Marco:** Oh, nice! Is **her** husband in the photo too?
- Anna:** Yes, here. This is **her** husband. **His** name is Pablo. He is from Spain. **His** city is Madrid.
- Anna:** They have two children. **Their** son is 5 years old. **His** name is Luca. **Their** daughter is 3. **Her** name is Emma.
- Yuki:** **Your** family is beautiful, Anna! And who is this?
- Anna:** Oh, that is **my** cat. **Its** name is Mimi. Mimi is 8 years old. She is very lazy!
- Marco:** Wait — Anna, you say "**its** name" for the cat, but you also say "she is lazy"?
- Anna:** Good question! For animals we love, we often use he or she. But for a general animal, we use it.
- Yuki:** I love **your** album! Now, this is **my** family in Tokyo...

3 Key Words: Family & People

Twenty essential words to talk about the people in your life.

Word	Meaning	Example
family	a group of related people	<i>My family is small.</i>
mother (mum)	a female parent	<i>Her mother is a nurse.</i>
father (dad)	a male parent	<i>His father is a chef.</i>
parents	mother and father together	<i>My parents are in Rome.</i>
sister	a female sibling	<i>Her sister is a doctor.</i>
brother	a male sibling	<i>My brother is 30.</i>
son	a male child	<i>Their son is 5.</i>
daughter	a female child	<i>Their daughter is 3.</i>
child	a young person	<i>Anna is their only child.</i>
children	more than one child	<i>They have two children.</i>
husband	a married man	<i>Giulia's husband is Pablo.</i>
wife	a married woman	<i>His wife is from Spain.</i>
grandmother	a parent's mother	<i>My grandmother is 82.</i>
grandfather	a parent's father	<i>His grandfather lives in Milan.</i>
aunt	a parent's sister	<i>My aunt is a teacher.</i>
uncle	a parent's brother	<i>Her uncle is a pilot.</i>
cousin	an aunt's or uncle's child	<i>I have five cousins.</i>
friend	a person you like	<i>Marco is my friend.</i>
pet	an animal you live with	<i>Mimi is her pet.</i>
photo	a picture from a camera	<i>This photo is beautiful.</i>

4 Grammar Focus: Pronouns & Possessives

Three boxes. Take your time with each one — and pay special attention to Box C, which covers the most common A1 mistakes.

► A. Subject Pronouns — Quick Review

Subject pronouns replace the name of a person or thing. They come **before** the verb.

Pronoun	We use it for...	Example
I	the speaker	<i>I am Anna.</i>
you	the listener (1 person or more)	<i>You are a student.</i>
he	a man or a boy	<i>He is my father.</i>
she	a woman or a girl	<i>She is my sister.</i>
it	a thing or an animal	<i>It is a photo.</i>
we	me + one or more other people	<i>We are in London.</i>
they	two or more people or things	<i>They are my parents.</i>

★ **Note:** English doesn't have a "formal you" like many other languages. **You** works for anyone — your friend, your boss, your teacher, a stranger, or a big group.

► B. Possessive Adjectives — NEW

Every subject pronoun has a partner that means "it belongs to that person."

Subject	Possessive	Example
I	my	<i>My name is Anna.</i>
you	your	<i>Your album is nice.</i>
he	his	<i>His father is a chef.</i>
she	her	<i>Her sister is a doctor.</i>
it	its	<i>Its name is Mimi. (the cat)</i>
we	our	<i>Our teacher is Mr Brown.</i>
they	their	<i>Their son is 5.</i>

! Two things to remember:

- 1) Possessive adjectives always come **before a noun**: *my book, her cat, their house.*
- 2) They **never change** for singular or plural: *my book, my books* (both "my").

! C. The Three Classic Traps

These three pairs sound the same but mean very different things. A1 learners mix them up *all the time*. Learn them now and save yourself many mistakes!

RIGHT (possessive)	× NOT the same!	Remember this
its	it's = <i>it is</i>	✓ The cat likes its food. × The cat likes it's food. (<i>means "it is food"!</i>)
their	they're = <i>they are</i> there = <i>in that place</i>	✓ Their car is red. × They're car is red. (<i>means "they are car"!</i>)
your	you're = <i>you are</i>	✓ Your book is here. × You're book is here. (<i>means "you are book"!</i>)

✓ **Easy test:** Can you replace the word with *it is* / *they are* / *you are*? If **YES** → use the apostrophe form. If **NO** → use the possessive.

5 Exercise A: Pick the Right Word

Circle the best option to complete each sentence. Some need a subject pronoun, some need a possessive.

No.	Sentence	Choices (circle one)
1	This is ___ book. (I am the owner)	I / my / me
2	___ is my sister.	She / Her / Hers
3	Marco is from Brazil. ___ city is São Paulo.	He / His / Him
4	We have a new teacher. ___ name is Mr Brown.	He / His / Him
5	I have a sister. ___ name is Giulia.	She / Her / Hers
6	The cat is happy with ___ food.	it's / its / it
7	Anna and Marco are friends. ___ are in class now.	They / Their / There
8	Look at this photo. ___ is beautiful.	It / Its / It's
9	"Is this ___ pen, Yuki?" "Yes, it's mine."	your / you / you're
10	My parents love ___ little house in Rome.	they're / their / there

✓ Answer Key — Exercise A

1. my 2. She 3. His 4. His 5. Her 6. its 7. They 8. It 9. your 10. their

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Exercise B: Quick Check Quiz

Six questions about the story and the grammar. Circle the best answer.

1. Who is Sofia?

A. Anna's sister	B. Anna's mother	C. Anna's aunt	D. Anna's grandmother
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2. What is Anna's father's job?

A. A nurse	B. A doctor	C. A chef	D. A teacher
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3. Giulia and Pablo have...

A. no children	B. one child	C. two children	D. three children
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4. Which possessive adjective goes with "she"?

A. his	B. her	C. hers	D. she's
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5. "___ book is on the table." (The book belongs to you.)

A. You	B. Your	C. You're	D. Yours
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6. Choose the CORRECT sentence:

A. The cat likes it's food.	B. They're car is new.	C. Their car is new.	D. You're book is here.
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✓ Answer Key — Exercise B

1. B 2. C 3. C 4. B 5. B 6. C

7 Exercise C: Fill in the Blanks

Choose the best option for each blank. The three possible answers are listed on the right.

No.	Sentence	Choices
1	_____ name is Anna. (the speaker)	My / Your / His
2	Marco is a student. _____ is from Brazil.	He / His / Him
3	Giulia is a doctor. _____ husband is Pablo.	His / Her / She
4	We love _____ new English teacher.	our / ours / we
5	Look at the cat! _____ name is Mimi.	It's / Its / Her
6	Anna and Yuki are friends. _____ are in the same class.	Their / They / They're
7	"Is this _____ pen?" "Yes, it's mine."	you / your / you're
8	My parents have a small house. _____ house is in Rome.	They / Their / They're

✓ Answer Key — Exercise C

- My** name is Anna. (the speaker)
- Marco is a student. **He** is from Brazil.
- Giulia is a doctor. **Her** husband is Pablo.
- We love **our** new English teacher.
- Look at the cat! **Its** name is Mimi.
- Anna and Yuki are friends. **They** are in the same class.
- "Is this **your** pen?" "Yes, it's mine."
- My parents have a small house. **Their** house is in Rome.

8 Now It's Your Turn

Time to describe YOUR world in words.

► Speaking Task: Introduce Your Family

Tell your partner about **three** people in your family. For each person, say:

- Who they are (*my mother, my brother...*)
- Their name (*Her name is... / His name is...*)
- One thing about them (*She is a nurse. / He is 30 years old.*)

Model:

"This is **my** brother. **His** name is Emre. **He** is 28 years old. **He** is an engineer. **His** wife is very nice. **Her** name is Selin."

► Writing Task: My World on One Page

Write **8-10 sentences** about your family, friends or pets. Use at least **five different possessive adjectives** (my, your, his, her, its, our, their).

Model opening:

"Hello! **My** name is Zeynep. **My** family is from Istanbul. **My** mother is a teacher. **Her** name is Ayşe. **My** father is a dentist. **His** name is Mehmet. I have one brother. **His** name is Can. We have a dog. **Its** name is Tarçın. **Our** home is in Kadıköy."

Write your sentences here:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

★ Lesson Complete! ★

You now can:

1 Use 7 subject pronouns	2 Use 7 possessive adjectives	3 Talk about my family	4 Avoid its/their/your traps
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Congratulations on finishing Lesson 3!

Next up → Lesson 4: "A Coffee and an Apple" (Articles: a / an)