

Commas to indicate prepositional phrases, and apostrophes where there is...

use commas to indicate prepositional phrases, and apostrophes where there is multiple possession

Learning intention

- use commas to indicate prepositional phrases, and apostrophes where there is multiple possession

Teach and model

- learning that in Standard Australian English, regular plural nouns ending in “s” form the possessive by adding just the apostrophe; for example, “the students’ classroom”
- learning that in Standard Australian English for proper nouns, the regular possessive form is always possible but a variant form without the second “s” is sometimes found...
- learning that when there is more than one owner, the apostrophe is usually used for the last owner in the list; for example, “the cat and kitten’s bowls”

Check understanding

- Explain the main idea in commas to indicate prepositional phrases, and apostrophes where there is... using an example.
- Show the idea in a second way: with words, a model, a diagram or symbols.
- Apply the idea to a short unfamiliar situation and justify the result.

Teaching cautions

- Ask the student to explain their choice, not only state an answer.
- Check that key vocabulary is understood in a new example.
- Mix representations so the skill is transferred rather than copied.

Quick lesson sequence

- Connect to prior knowledge and introduce the key vocabulary.
- Model one clear example, then solve a second example together.
- Finish with an independent check and a short student explanation.