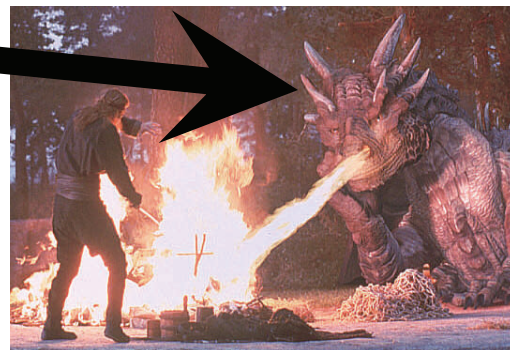


Grammar to Go: *It's* the Pits to be an *Its*

Here it is our fourth Grammar to Go®! When you write that someone owns something you use an apostrophe, right? Like when I say “Mr. K’s Star Wars Figures”? Not always, fair students. Sometimes, you can change the whole meaning of something with just a little **!**

Look **IT’S** a picture of Draco the Dragon! Simply by blowing his nose, he starts this fire. Now *that’s* a snot rocket!

—Notice that I used an apostrophe for the word **IT’S**. That is because **IT’S** is a contraction of the words it and is. This form of the word is always a contraction, and you should NEVER use an apostrophe with **its** to show ownership.



This is a Greek vase that dates from about 800 b.c.e. **ITS** color and stylized artistic style make it easy to tell what era this exquisite artifact was painted in. **ITS** size is also important; this is one of the best preserved vases of its kind in the world, and considering how big it is, that is quite amazing.

—There are no apostrophes anywhere in this entire paragraph. Why? Try reading this paragraph replacing **ITS** with **IT IS**. Believe me, It sounds just as goofy when I read it in your work.

1. _____ a good day for a walk to the store
2. _____ wonderful that you came to visit me today.
3. Your dog looks hurt; hold out _____ paw and let me check it.
4. When holding a baby _____ important to support _____ head.
5. “_____ a beautiful day in the neighborhood; a beautiful day...”
6. The story was amazing; I especially like _____ dramatic conclusion and surprise ending.
7. _____ one thing to offer a friend a mint, but telling them their breath reeks like diapers is just plain wrong.
8. _____ okay, Mrs. Crobople; Bart was only kidding it wasn’t a real worm.
9. _____ not whether you win or loose, but how you play the game.
10. _____ a boy! Congradulations!

The Super Sentence: The Ultimate example for using Today’s **Grammar to Go**.

*I really liked that Fish, and **it’s** a shame that **its** life ended so tragically—I mean, who doesn’t eat pizza rolls?*