

-s (the girl's name) and of... (the name of the book)

- A** We normally use *-s* for people or animals (the girl's... / the horse's... etc.):
 the girl's name the horse's tail Mr Evans's daughter
 a woman's hat the manager's office Sarah's eyes
- Where is **the manager's office**? (*not* 'the office of the manager')
 - What colour are **Sarah's eyes**? (*not* 'the eyes of Sarah')
- Note that you can use *-s* without a following noun:
- This isn't my book. It's my **brother's**. (= my brother's book)
- We do not always use *-s* for people. For example, we would use *of...* in this sentence:
- What is the name of the man who **lent us the money**? ('the man who lent us the money' is too long to be followed by *-s*)
- Note that we say a **woman's hat** (= a hat for a woman), a **boy's name** (= a name for a boy), a **bird's egg** (= an egg laid by a bird) etc.
- B** For things, ideas etc. we normally use *of (...of the book / ...of the restaurant etc.)*:
 the door of the garage (*not* 'the garage's door')
 the name of the book the owner of the restaurant
- Sometimes you can use the structure *noun + noun* (see Unit 79):
 the garage door the restaurant owner
- We normally use *of (not noun + noun)* with **the beginning / end / top / bottom / front / back / middle / side** etc. So we say:
 the back of the car (*not* 'the car back')
 the beginning of the month
- C** You can usually use *-s* or *of...* for an organisation (= a group of people). So you can say:
 the government's decision or the decision of the government
 the company's success or the success of the company
- It is also possible to use *-s* for places. So you can say:
 the city's new theatre the world's population Italy's largest city
- D** After a *singular* noun we use *-s*:
 my sister's room (= her room – one sister) Mr Carter's house
- After a *plural* noun (sisters, friends etc.) we put ' (an *apostrophe*) after the *s* (*s'*):
 my sisters' room (= their room – two or more sisters)
 the Carters' house (Mr and Mrs Carter)
- If a plural noun does not end in *-s* (for example, men / women / children / people) we use *-s*:
 the men's changing room a children's book (= a book for children)
- Note that you can use *-s* after more than one noun:
 Jack and Jill's wedding Mr and Mrs Carter's house
- E** You can also use *-s* with time expressions (yesterday / next week etc.)
- Have you still got yesterday's newspaper?
 - Next week's meeting has been cancelled.
- In the same way, you can say today's... / tomorrow's... / this evening's... / Monday's... etc.
- We also use *-s* (or *-s'* with plural words) with periods of time:
- I've got a week's holiday starting on Monday.
 - Jill has got three weeks' holiday.
 - I live near the station – it's only about ten minutes' walk.
- Compare this structure with 'a three-hour journey', 'a ten-minute walk' etc. (see Unit 79D).

EXERCISES

- 80.1** Join the two (or three) nouns. Sometimes you have to use *-s* or *-s'*; and sometimes you have to use *of...*
- 1 the owner / that car ... the owner of that car.
 - 2 the mother / Ann ... Ann's mother.
 - 3 the jacket / that man
 - 4 the top / the page
 - 5 the daughter / Charles
 - 6 the cause / the problem
 - 7 the newspaper / yesterday
 - 8 the birthday / my father
 - 9 the name / this street
 - 10 the toys / the children
 - 11 the new manager / the company
 - 12 the result / the football match
 - 13 the garden / our neighbours
 - 14 the ground floor / the building
 - 15 the children / Don and Mary
 - 16 the economic policy / the government
 - 17 the husband / Catherine
 - 18 the husband / the woman talking to Mary
 - 19 the car / the parents / Mike
 - 20 the wedding / the friend / Helen
- 80.2** What is another way of saying these things? Use *-s*.
- 1 a hat for a woman ... a woman's hat.
 - 2 a name for a boy
 - 3 clothes for children
 - 4 a school for girls
 - 5 a nest for a bird
 - 6 a magazine for women
- 80.3** Read each sentence and write a new sentence beginning with the underlined words.
- 1 The meeting tomorrow has been cancelled.
Tomorrow's meeting has been cancelled.
 - 2 The storm last week caused a lot of damage.
 Last
 - 3 The only cinema in the town has closed down.
 The
 - 4 Exports from Britain to the United States have fallen recently.

 - 5 Tourism is the main industry in the region.

- 80.4** Use the information given to complete the sentences.
- 1 If I leave my house at 9 o'clock and drive to London, I arrive at about 12.
 So it's about three hours' drive to London from my house. (drive)
 - 2 If I leave my house at 8.55 and walk to the station, I get there at 9 o'clock.
 So it's only from my house to the station. (walk)
 - 3 I'm going on holiday on the 12th. I have to be back at work on the 26th.
 So I've got (holiday)
 - 4 I went to sleep at 3 o'clock this morning and woke up an hour later. After that I couldn't sleep. So last night I only had (sleep)