

## CHAPTER TWENTY-ONE 21

The sky becomes completely black around us.  
The voluminous clouds turn green as they race across the sky.  
But it is the wind that causes us to lose heart because it now  
whistles very distinctly and with an appalling force,

“HENRY . . . HENRY!”

“Hurry, Henry! This sinister storm is going to kill us!

What is it you remember?”

Without emotion, without saying a word, little Henry walks  
slowly toward the tombstone. He reaches out his hand  
and starts to remove the dust, which covers  
the very bottom of the stone.

“Henry, this is really not the time to be doing  
housework!” I cry out, a little perturbed.

“Do you hear me? Henry! Answer me!”

Henry turns toward me for an instant.

He takes two steps backward.

Then, I see it! There is another inscription!

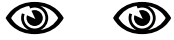


### ☛ VOCABULARY: USE CONTEXT AND LOGIC

become	appalling	word	turn
around	force	reach	take
voluminous	sinister	remove	backward
race	kill	dust	then
across	without	stone	another
lose heart	emotion	answer	inscription

First, find the new vocabulary words in the story. Then look at the hints below. Write in the new word (or words) next to the hint that best describes it. Use your logic!

1. \_\_\_\_\_ This \_\_\_\_\_ is hard to define. (DROW)
2. \_\_\_\_\_ something written or engraved on stone, etc.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ in all directions
4. \_\_\_\_\_ in the absence of
5. \_\_\_\_\_ to reply to someone
6. \_\_\_\_\_ having great volume or size
7. \_\_\_\_\_ causing horror or dismay (PAILPLANG)
8. \_\_\_\_\_ fine, dry particles
9. \_\_\_\_\_ strength or power
10. \_\_\_\_\_ to choose to go in a specific direction (KATE)
11. \_\_\_\_\_ to lose courage
12. \_\_\_\_\_ to move at top speed (CARE)
13. \_\_\_\_\_ a strong feeling (MINETOO)
14. \_\_\_\_\_ at that time; next in order
15. \_\_\_\_\_ a gravestone; a rock (NOTES)
16. \_\_\_\_\_ to come to be (COMBEE)
17. \_\_\_\_\_ to cause the death of
18. \_\_\_\_\_ one more; additional
19. \_\_\_\_\_ toward the back or rear
20. \_\_\_\_\_ to change or become; to move around a center (RUNT)
21. \_\_\_\_\_ to take away; to eliminate
22. \_\_\_\_\_ to stretch out or extend
23. \_\_\_\_\_ ominous; suggesting trouble to come (REINSIST)
24. \_\_\_\_\_ from one side to the other (OSCARS)



## POSSESSIVE NOUNS – APOSTROPHES ARE BACK!

### DETECTIVE

**A.** You learned in chapter 6 that the word **possess** means *to own*. You learned in chapter 8 that a **noun** names a person, place, thing, or abstraction. A **possessive noun** is a noun that shows who or what *has, owns, or possesses* something. Look at this sentence: *Frances's bow is unusual*. In this sentence, **Frances's** is the possessive noun. Frances *has, owns, or possesses* the bow; the bow *belongs* to Frances. Now look at the **Table of Clues 39**. Using your detective skills, can you deduce the rules for forming possessive nouns?

TABLE OF CLUES 39		
Forming Possessive Nouns		
	Examples	Write in the rules for forming possessive nouns!
<b>Singular Nouns</b>	ghost's hand bass's fin fox's den baby's toys hero's words Bob Adams's horse	To make a singular noun possessive, just add an _____ and then the letter _____.
<b>Plural Nouns</b>	<b>Regular</b> ghosts' hands basses' fins foxes' den babies' toys heroes' words the Adamses' horse	For regular plural nouns that already end in the letter _____, just add an _____.
	<b>Irregular</b> men's gloves women's boots children's teeth people's homes mice's feet	For irregular plural nouns, which do not end in the letter _____, add an _____ and then the letter _____.

## 👉 QUIZ YOURSELF



As you take a stroll through Charles Oldsmerry's antique shop, can you write the correct possessive nouns on the blank lines? The first one has been done for you.

1. The (carpenter) nails are made of wood.

\_\_\_\_\_ *carpenter's*



2. The (sun) rays are harming the brown leather chair.

\_\_\_\_\_

3. The (children) lollipops are stuck to the antique sofa!

\_\_\_\_\_

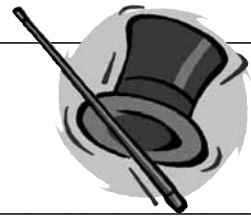
4. The (dolls) old lace shirts are worn.

\_\_\_\_\_

5. (Charles) top hat is neatly hanging on a hook.

\_\_\_\_\_

6. The (men) canes are stored in an old upright container.



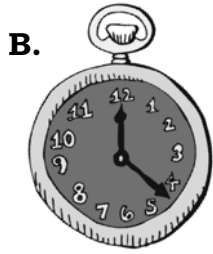
\_\_\_\_\_

7. The (ladies) dresses are old-fashioned but beautiful.

\_\_\_\_\_

8. The (woman) little girl is inspecting every nook and cranny of the shop.

\_\_\_\_\_



B.

**POSSESSIVE PRONOUNS SAVE SOME TIME –**



**“My little pocket watch” WINDS DOWN TO “Mine”!**

You just learned the possessive *nouns*. **Possessive pronouns** are pronouns that show ownership, and because they are pronouns, they can take the place of possessive nouns or noun phrases. (*The glasses are **Sally’s**. The glasses are **hers**.*) (*It is **my little pocket watch**. It is **mine**.*) Now look carefully at the possessive pronouns in the last column of the **Table of Clues 40**.

<b>TABLE OF CLUES 40</b>			
<b>Subject Pronouns Revisited</b>	<b>Object Pronouns Revisited</b>	<b>Possessive Adjectives Revisited</b>	<b>Possessive Pronouns</b>
I	me	my	<b>mine</b>
he	him	his	<b>his</b>
she	her	her	<b>hers</b>
it	it	its	<b>its</b>
we	us	our	<b>ours</b>
you	you	your	<b>yours</b>
they	them	their	<b>theirs</b>

1. Look at the last two columns and compare the possessive adjectives with the possessive pronouns. Which words are the same in both columns?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Which words are *almost* the same in both columns? What is the only difference?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Which word is left? \_\_\_\_\_



**WHO DARES**



**OR CARES  
TO SPEAK IN PAIRS?**



Oh, that town crier made so much noise yesterday that you couldn't even hear the conversation between the detective's client, Mr. Treasure, and his parrot, Polly. Apparently, only the possessive pronouns were drowned out. So, can you play Polly and say all her sentences out loud while providing the proper possessive pronouns? Have your partner play Mr. Treasure. Switch roles. Then write the correct possessive pronouns on the blank lines.

**POLLY:** I'm not going to be nice today. This cracker belongs to me! It's nobody else's cracker. It's \_\_\_\_\_!

**TREASURE:** But Polly, I understand that this cracker is \_\_\_\_\_, but you mustn't be selfish. Why don't you peck off half of it so that I can give it to my pet birds, Blackeye and Longfeather.

**POLLY:** You're not serious! I wouldn't even give a fourth of this cracker to them. It doesn't belong to them. It's not \_\_\_\_\_!

**TREASURE:** Oh, Polly. I'm disappointed in you. Longfeather has been so nice to you. She has shared her worm toys with you and even her shiny pieces of eight. Wouldn't you consider giving her just a little bit of your cracker?

**POLLY:** No, it doesn't belong to her. It's not \_\_\_\_\_!

**TREASURE:** Well, how about Blackeye? He has been pretty nice to you too—considering he is a crow. Would you reconsider sharing the cracker with him?

**POLLY:** No, it doesn't belong to him. It's not \_\_\_\_\_!

**TREASURE:** Tell me something. You know that mirror you look in, at least twenty-two hours a day? Whose mirror is it, anyway? Isn't it Blackeye's mirror?

**POLLY:** Well, Blackeye lent it to me. So it belongs to him AND me. The mirror is both of \_\_\_\_\_!

**TREASURE:** Oh, you sound just like the saying: *What's mine is mine and what's yours is mine.* That's it! I'm giving the mirror back to Blackeye. With your selfish attitude, you certainly don't deserve it.

**POLLY:** No, no! I promise I won't be selfish anymore. I'll share everything I have except the cracker and the mirror . . . and the shiny pieces of eight and the worm toy. They all belong to me! They're \_\_\_\_\_!

**TREASURE:** Ugh!

**OFF THE RECORD WITH EDWARDS AND RILEY**  
**Here's the bait – it rhymes with mate!**



Detective Edwards asks Sarah Riley to come with him to Frances's home. He needs a written transcript of the conversation that he will have with Ann Leeds, Frances's mother. Miss Riley is happy to help the detective. Her hastily written transcript is below. Can you circle the correct words? When you are finished, write a summary of the conversation.



**DETECTIVE:** May (**we, us**) come in, Mrs. Leeds? I believe you have met Miss Riley. (**Her, She**) is going to be writing down (**ours, our**) conversation, if you don't mind.

**MRS. LEEDS:** Not at all, Detective. Please come in. How may (**me, I**) help (**you, yours**)?

**DETECTIVE:** I am hoping to find a clue in (**your, yours**) home that may help (**I, me**) with the case. May (**me, I**) look around?

**MRS. LEEDS:** Of course. And feel free to ask (**me, mine**) any questions.

**DETECTIVE:** Thank you. May (**me, I**) look in the sitting room? I see (**their, there**) is a doll in the corner on the floor. Is that (**Frances, Frances's**) doll?

**MRS. LEEDS:** Yes, it's (**her's, hers**).

**DETECTIVE:** What is the (**dolls', doll's**) name?



**MRS. LEEDS:** (**Its, It's**) name is Octavia.

**DETECTIVE:** That's not a very common name for a doll, is it?

**MRS. LEEDS:** No, not really. Frances gave (**her, hers**) that name.

**DETECTIVE:** Interesting. I see some knitting on the chair. Is it (**your, yours**)?

**MRS. LEEDS:** Yes, (**it's, its**) (**me, mine**).

**DETECTIVE:** I see **(they're, there)** are some books over here. Whose are they?

**MRS. LEEDS:** Those history books belong to **(my, me)** husband and **(I, me)**. They are **(us, ours)**. **(They're, There)** not **(Frances's, Frances)**, Detective. **(She, He)** only likes mystery books, especially those with a twist.

**DETECTIVE:** What are these shiny coins I see on the table? **(They, Them)** are interesting. To whom do **(they, them)** belong?



**MRS. LEEDS:** **(They, Them)** are both **(my, me)** **(husbands, husband's)** and **(mine, my)** **(daughters', daughter's)**. Here's **(they're, their)** story: On **(her, his)** way to work one day, Mr. Leeds found the coins next to a tree stump. So, at first the coins were **(his, him)**. When he brought **(it, them)** home, Frances fell in love with **(they, them)**. Now you could say the coins are **(there's, theirs)**. **(Our, My)** husband told **(I, me)** that the coins are called *pieces of eight*. By the way, Detective, I assume **(you, your)** have not found my **(daughter's, daughters)** missing hair bow.

**DETECTIVE:** No, not yet. As a matter of fact, I have **(it's, its)** mate right here in **(my, me)** pocket. As I look at it more closely, I see that **(its, it's)** quite a fancy bow.

**MRS. LEEDS:** Frances made **(it, it's)** herself. I believe she stitched the ends of a ribbon together, shaped it into a circle, and then twisted it at the middle. Then she starched it, so that it would keep **(it's, its)** shape. She put the finalizing touches on the bow by sewing a hairpin on **(its, it's)** underside.

**SARAH RILEY:** Detective, excuse **(me, mine)**. Look at the hair bow in **(your, yours)** hand. *Turn* it a bit.

**DETECTIVE:** Oh, my! You're right, Miss Riley! At least three clues have been staring **(we, us)** in the face, and the hair bow is one of **(them, it)**! Mrs. Leeds, please think hard. Does **(your, yours)** daughter have a favorite number?

**MRS. LEEDS:** Why, yes. That's easy to answer, Detective. Can you guess what it is?

