

STUDENT NAME: _____

DATE: _____

CLASS: _____

SCORE: _____

LESSON 131 • FINAL Y (VOWEL + Y) & THE POSSESSIVE CASE

BŌY → BŌYS • BŌY'S

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Vowel + Y Plural Law & The Wheeler Possessive Rule

Wheeler's Law: Words ending in y preceded by a vowel (-ay, -ey, -oy, -uy) do NOT change y to i. They simply add -s to form the plural (e.g., boy → boys, day → days, monkey → monkeys).

The Possessive Case Rule: To show ownership for a singular noun, add an apostrophe and s ('s): the boy's hat, the monkey's tail. Never confuse a plural (boys) with a possessive (boy's)!

CONCEPT

1

Plural Studio • Vowel + y Nouns (Simply Add -s)

Write the plural form on the 26px line. Do NOT change y to i:

day → days boy → boys key → keys toy → toys

joy → joys ray → rays monkey → monkeys valley → valleys

2

Possessive Case vs. Simple Plural Discrimination

Fill in the blank with either the simple plural (-s) or the possessive form ('s):

1. Three cheerful _____ (boy) ran across the playground.

2. The _____ (boy) warm wool coat hung upon the wooden peg.

3. The playful _____ (monkey) tail curled around the branch.

4. Seven _____ (day) make up one complete week.

3

Sentence Application & Contrast

Compose a sentence containing both a plural vowel+y noun and a singular possessive noun:

Model: The boys borrowed the lady's pony for the afternoon.

Original: _____

WHEELER'S ORTHOEPIIC RULES • VOWEL + Y & POSSESSIVES

1. 1. Vowel + Y Plural Law: When final y is preceded by a vowel (a, e, o, u), it forms a vowel digraph. Changing y to i would destroy the team (e.g., boies is wrong). Simply add -s.

2. 2. Singular Possessive ('s): The possessive case of a singular noun is formed by adding an apostrophe and s ('s). It indicates ownership, origin, or authorship: the girl's book, the boy's sled.

3. 3. The Apostrophe Barrier: Never use an apostrophe to form a simple plural noun! An apostrophe marks missing letters or possession, never plurality (write monkeys, NOT monkey's for plurals).

LESSON 131 TEACHER GUIDE & ANSWER KEY

PLURALS • POSSESSIVES • ORTHOGRAPHY

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NOUN STEM	IPA	PLURAL FORM (+S)	POSSESSIVE FORM ('S)
boy	/bɔɪ/	boys (/bɔɪz/)	boy's (/bɔɪz/)
day	/deɪ/	days (/deɪz/)	day's (/deɪz/)
key	/ki:/	keys (/ki:z/)	key's (/ki:z/)
monkey	/'mʌŋki/	monkeys (//'mʌŋkɪz/)	monkey's (//'mʌŋkɪz/)
valley	/'væli/	valleys (//'væli:z/)	valley's (//'væli:z/)
toy	/tɔɪ/	toys (/tɔɪz/)	toy's (/tɔɪz/)

COMPLETE ANSWER KEY & SOLUTIONS

WHEELER'S EXERCISES

Exercise 1 & 2 Solutions:

- Plurals: days, boys, keys, toys, joys, rays, monkeys, valleys.
- 1. **boys** (simple plural).
- 2. **boy's** (possessive noun).
- 3. **monkey's** (possessive noun).
- 4. **days** (simple plural).

Pedagogical Insight:

Notice that boys and boy's sound identical (/bɔɪz/). The apostrophe is purely an orthographic signal for the eye and grammatical understanding. Contrast with Lesson 130: baby → babies (consonant+y) vs. boy → boys (vowel+y).

SOCRATIC GUIDING PROMPTS & PEDAGOGICAL INSIGHTS

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES

- Look at the word 'day'. What letter comes before 'y'? Is 'a' a vowel or consonant? Do we change 'y' to 'i' here?
- What is the difference between 'two boys' and 'the boy's dog'?
- Why would writing 'daies' or 'boies' look wrong to an English reader?

DICTIONATION & ORAL APPLICATION SENTENCES (READ SLOWLY AT NORMAL SPEAKING PACE):

- The playful monkeys swung across the green valleys.
- The boy's new sled glided swiftly over the frozen snow.
- All seven days of the week were bright and sunny.
- The lady's keys were found upon the garden bench.