

# Genitive

Look at the following examples and try to analyse the use of the genitive.

- 1) James's mother is a good friend of Bob.
  - 2) Where's the dog's collar? I can't find it anywhere!
  - 3) I couldn't find my ruler so I borrowed my sister's.
  - 4) The country's politics were rejected by many young Americans.
  - 5) Have you got last week's paper?
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- 1) Dave is the owner of this restaurant.
  - 2) Look at the bottom of your page...

## I) We normally use "s"

Ex: the girl's name, the horse's tail, the manager's office.

- **Note that you can use "s" without**

Ex: This book isn't mine, it's my brother's.

- **We can use "s" for an**

Ex: the government's decision, the company's success.

- **We can also use "s" with**

Ex: yesterday's paper, last week's meeting.

## II) \_\_\_\_\_, we usually use "of".

Ex: the door of the garage.

- **We often also use the structure noun + noun.**

Ex: the garage door.

- **But, we use "of" and only "of", with: *the beginning/end/top/bottom/front/back/ middle /side.***

Ex: the back of the car.

## How to use it ?

After a *singular noun*:

After a *plural noun*:

If the *plural noun doesn't end with s*:

If a *singular noun ends with s*:

Exercise : Join the two nouns. Sometimes you have to use "'s" or "s", sometimes, you have to use "of":

The owner/ that car:

The jacket/ that man:

The garden/ our neighbours:

The ground floor/the building:

The daughter/Mr Evans:

The ideas/ the Americans: