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Level 6 – 5th December, 2019

Apostrophe Protection Society says goodbye

FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191205-apostrophe.html>

Contents

The Article	2	Discussion (Student-Created Qs)	15
Warm-Ups	3	Language Work (Cloze)	16
Vocabulary	4	Spelling	17
Before Reading / Listening	5	Put The Text Back Together	18
Gap Fill	6	Put The Words In The Right Order	19
Match The Sentences And Listen	7	Circle The Correct Word	20
Listening Gap Fill	8	Insert The Vowels (a, e, i, o, u)	21
Comprehension Questions	9	Punctuate The Text And Add Capitals	22
Multiple Choice - Quiz	10	Put A Slash (/) Where The Spaces Are	23
Role Play	11	Free Writing	24
After Reading / Listening	12	Academic Writing	25
Student Survey	13	Homework	26
Discussion (20 Questions)	14	Answers	27

Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191205-apostrophe.html>

A defender of the use of the apostrophe has quit his decades-long battle for the correct use of the punctuation mark. John Richards, 96, was chairman of the Apostrophe Protection Society, which was established in 2001 to campaign to encourage better writing and understanding of the purpose of the apostrophe. Mr Richards wrote on the society's website: "Fewer organisations and individuals are now caring about the correct use of the apostrophe in the English language. We, and our many supporters worldwide, have done our best but the ignorance and laziness present in modern times have won." He added: "Over the years we have heard from thousands of supporters all over the world...but the barbarians have won."

Mr Richards started the society after seeing the "same mistakes over and over again". He wanted to highlight people's mistakes and get people to end the misuse of the apostrophe. He said he hoped half a dozen people would join him in his quest, but was heartened by the support he received worldwide. He received 500 letters from all over the world within a month of starting the website. Mr Richards' biggest beef was not people misusing the apostrophe, but people not using it at all. He called out big companies for this. In the UK, companies like Lloyds Bank and the bookstore Waterstones dispensed with the apostrophe in their names. Maybe Mr Richards was happy with the burger chain McDonald's.

Sources: <https://metro.co.uk/2019/12/02/society-protect-apostrophes-shuts-barbarians-11252244/>
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/apostrophe-protection-society-john-richards-grammar-lazy-a9229106.html>
<https://www.news.com.au/lifestyle/real-life/news-life/apostrophe-warrior-gives-up-fight/news-story/04b0858fcec41e6ea4477046d0fa8f09>

WARM-UPS

1. THE APOSTROPHE: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about the apostrophe. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

defender / apostrophe / decades / battle / campaign / purpose / society / website / mistake / highlight / dozen / quest / support / letters / companies / bookstore / happy

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. WRITING: Students A **strongly** believe writing is a more important skill than reading; Students B **strongly** believe reading is more important. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. PUNCTUATION: What do you know about these punctuation marks? What difficulties do people have with them? How important are they? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What I Know	Difficulties	Importance
Apostrophe			
Question mark			
Full stop (UK) / Period (USA)			
Comma			
Speech / Quotation marks			
Semi-colon			

5. CAMPAIGN: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "campaign". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. LANGUAGE: Rank these with your partner. Put the most important areas of language at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Punctuation
- Grammar
- Writing
- Speaking
- Pronunciation
- Vocabulary
- Reading
- Listening

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 1. defender | a. A person who protects and sticks up for someone or something. |
| 2. quit | b. Lack of knowledge or information. |
| 3. punctuation | c. Left a place or job, usually permanently. |
| 4. established | d. Of or for a single or particular person. |
| 5. individual | e. The marks, such as period, comma, and full stops, used in writing to separate sentences and their elements and to help meaning. |
| 6. ignorance | f. Set up or started. |
| 7. barbarian | g. An uncultured or brutish person. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| 8. highlight | h. Criticised; showed the bad things someone or something is doing. |
| 9. quest | i. A complaint or objection. |
| 10. heartened | j. Picked out and emphasized. |
| 11. beef | k. End using something or someone. |
| 12. called out | l. A long search or campaign for something. |
| 13. dispensed with | m. A group of hotels, stores, restaurants, etc. owned by the same company. |
| 14. chain | n. Made more cheerful or confident. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191205-apostrophe.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. The ex-head of the Apostrophe Protection Society is 96 years old. **T / F**
- b. The Apostrophe Protection Society was established in 1901. **T / F**
- c. The ex-boss said fewer organisations care about correct apostrophe use. **T / F**
- d. The ex-boss said people who misused apostrophes were barbarians. **T / F**
- e. The Apostrophe Protection Society started after someone saw mistakes. **T / F**
- f. The ex-boss said he didn't like beef. **T / F**
- g. A bank in the UK incorrectly omits the apostrophe in its name. **T / F**
- h. The article said the ex-boss might be happy with McDonald's. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms. The words in **bold** are from the news article.

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| 1. defender | a. complaint |
| 2. correct | b. encouraged |
| 3. purpose | c. heathens |
| 4. ignorance | d. point out |
| 5. barbarians | e. precise |
| 6. highlight | f. challenged |
| 7. heartened | g. omitted |
| 8. beef | h. protector |
| 9. called out | i. function |
| 10. dispensed with | j. illiteracy |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. A defender of the use | a. writing |
| 2. quit his decades- | b. with the apostrophe |
| 3. encourage better | c. have won |
| 4. ignorance and | d. beef |
| 5. the barbarians | e. long battle |
| 6. seeing the same mistakes over | f. he received |
| 7. highlight people's | g. of the apostrophe |
| 8. heartened by the support | h. and over again |
| 9. Mr Richards' biggest | i. laziness |
| 10. Waterstones dispensed | j. mistakes |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191205-apostrophe.html>

A (1) _____ of the use of the apostrophe has quit his decades-long (2) _____ for the correct use of the punctuation mark. John Richards, 96, was chairman of the Apostrophe Protection Society, which was established in 2001 to (3) _____ to encourage better writing and understanding of the (4) _____ of the apostrophe. Mr Richards wrote on the society's website: "Fewer organisations and individuals are now (5) _____ about the correct use of the apostrophe in the English language. We, and our many supporters worldwide, have done our best but the (6) _____ and laziness present in (7) _____ times have won." He added: "Over the years we have heard from thousands of supporters all over the world...but the (8) _____ have won."

caring
defender
barbarians
ignorance
campaign
purpose
modern
battle

Mr Richards started the (9) _____ after seeing the "same mistakes over and over again". He wanted to (10) _____ people's mistakes and get people to end the misuse of the apostrophe. He said he hoped (11) _____ a dozen people would join him in his (12) _____, but was heartened by the support he received worldwide. He received 500 letters from all over the world within a month of starting the website. Mr Richards' biggest (13) _____ was not people misusing the apostrophe, but people not using it at all. He (14) _____ out big companies for this. In the UK, companies like Lloyds Bank and the bookstore Waterstones (15) _____ with the apostrophe in their names. Maybe Mr Richards was happy with the burger (16) _____ McDonald's.

quest
highlight
dispensed
beef
chain
society
half
called

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191205-apostrophe.html>

- 1) A defender of the use of the apostrophe has quit his _____
 - a. decades-length battle
 - b. decades-longing battle
 - c. decades-longest battle
 - d. decades-long battle
- 2) chairman of the Apostrophe Protection Society, which was _____
 - a. establish it in 2001
 - b. re-established in 2001
 - c. established in 2001
 - d. dis-established in 2001
- 3) to encourage better writing and understanding of the _____ apostrophe
 - a. purpose of the
 - b. porpoise of the
 - c. presuppose of the
 - d. suppose of the
- 4) the ignorance and laziness present _____
 - a. in modernity times
 - b. in modern times
 - c. in modern time
 - d. on modern times
- 5) heard from thousands of supporters all over the world...but the _____
 - a. barbarians have one
 - b. barbarians have won
 - c. barbarity have won
 - d. barb Arians have won
- 6) Mr Richards started the society after seeing the "same mistakes over _____
 - a. and over again
 - b. and under again
 - c. and again again
 - d. and repeated again
- 7) highlight people's mistakes and get people to end the _____ apostrophe
 - a. miss use of the
 - b. miss used of the
 - c. misused of the
 - d. misuse of the
- 8) He received 500 letters from all over the world _____
 - a. wither a month
 - b. within a month
 - c. without a month
 - d. withering a month
- 9) Lloyds Bank and the bookstore Waterstones _____ apostrophe
 - a. dispersed with the
 - b. dispensed with the
 - c. dispended with the
 - d. distended with the
- 10) Maybe Mr Richards was happy with _____ McDonald's
 - a. the bugler chains
 - b. the bagel chain
 - c. the burger chains
 - d. the burger chain

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191205-apostrophe.html>

A defender of (1) _____ the apostrophe has quit his decades-long battle for the correct use of the punctuation mark. John Richards, 96, was chairman of the Apostrophe Protection Society, which was (2) _____ to campaign to encourage better writing and understanding of the (3) _____ apostrophe. Mr Richards wrote on the society's website: "Fewer organisations and individuals are now caring (4) _____ use of the apostrophe in the English language. We, and our many supporters worldwide, have done our best but the (5) _____ present in modern times have won." He added: "Over the years we have heard from thousands of supporters all over the world...but the (6) _____."

Mr Richards started the society after seeing the "(7) _____ and over again". He wanted to highlight people's mistakes and get people to end the misuse of the apostrophe. He said he hoped (8) _____ people would join him in his quest, but was (9) _____ support he received worldwide. He received 500 letters from all over the world within a month of starting the website. Mr Richards' (10) _____ not people misusing the apostrophe, but people not using it at all. He (11) _____ companies for this. In the UK, companies like Lloyds Bank and the bookstore Waterstones (12) _____ apostrophe in their names. Maybe Mr Richards was happy with the burger chain McDonald's.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191205-apostrophe.html>

1. How long did the article say John Richards had been battling?
2. How old is John Richards?
3. When was the Apostrophe Protection Society established?
4. Who did Mr Richards say was caring less about the apostrophe?
5. Who did John Richards say had won?
6. How often did Mr Richards say he saw mistakes with the apostrophe?
7. How many people did Mr Richards hope would join him?
8. How many letters did Mr Richards from around the world?
9. Who did Mr Richards say wasn't using the apostrophe at all?
10. Which global brand did the article say Mr Richards might be happy with?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191205-apostrophe.html>

- 1) How long did the article say John Richards had been battling?
 - a) 44 years
 - b) for half a century
 - c) for four decades
 - d) for decades
- 2) How old is John Richards?
 - a) 69
 - b) 96
 - c) 57
 - d) 75
- 3) When was the Apostrophe Protection Society established?
 - a) 2004
 - b) 2003
 - c) 2002
 - d) 2001
- 4) Who did Mr Richards say was caring less about the apostrophe?
 - a) poets and haiku writers
 - b) libraries and public offices
 - c) organisations and individuals
 - d) people who text
- 5) Who did John Richards say had won?
 - a) heathens
 - b) ogres
 - c) monsters
 - d) barbarians
- 6) How often did Mr Richards say he saw mistakes with the apostrophe?
 - a) every now and then
 - b) every other day
 - c) over and over again
 - d) once in a blue moon
- 7) How many people did Mr Richards hope would join him?
 - a) six
 - b) twelve
 - c) twenty
 - d) hundreds
- 8) How many letters did Mr Richards from around the world?
 - a) 50,000
 - b) 5,000
 - c) 500
 - d) 500,000
- 9) Who did Mr Richards say wasn't using the apostrophe at all?
 - a) university students
 - b) big companies
 - c) newspapers
 - d) teachers
- 10) Which global brand did the article say Mr Richards might be happy with?
 - a) McDonald's
 - b) Starbucks
 - c) Nike
 - d) Amazon

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191205-apostrophe.html>

Role A – Punctuation

You think punctuation is the most important are of English. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their areas aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): pronunciation, grammar or vocabulary.

Role B – Pronunciation

You think pronunciation is the most important are of English. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their areas aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): punctuation, grammar or vocabulary.

Role C – Grammar

You think grammar is the most important are of English. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their areas aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): pronunciation, punctuation or vocabulary.

Role D – Vocabulary

You think vocabulary is the most important are of English. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their areas aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): pronunciation, grammar or punctuation.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191205-apostrophe.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'apostrophe' and 'punctuation'.

apostrophe	punctuation

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• defender• chairman• 2001• purpose• caring• supporters	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• over• highlight• dozen• 500• big• happy
--	--

THE APOSTROPHE SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191205-apostrophe.html>

Write five GOOD questions about the apostrophe in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

THE APOSTROPHE DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'apostrophe'?
3. What do you think of Mr Richards quitting?
4. What do you know about the apostrophe?
5. How important is the apostrophe?
6. What is punctuation like in your language?
7. What are the purposes of the apostrophe?
8. Why do companies not use the apostrophe in their names?
9. How important is good writing?
10. Why did Mr Richards call people 'barbarians'?

Apostrophe Protection Society says goodbye – 5th December, 2019
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THE APOSTROPHE DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'punctuation'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. How well can you use the apostrophe?
15. How can a misused apostrophe change communication?
16. How do you feel when you see mistakes in writing?
17. How can people learn to use punctuation well?
18. What is your biggest beef about English?
19. Why might Mr Richards be happy with McDonald's but not Starbucks?
20. What questions would you like to ask Mr Richards?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191205-apostrophe.html>

A defender of the use of the apostrophe has (1) _____ his decades-long battle for the correct use of the punctuation mark. John Richards, 96, was chairman of the Apostrophe Protection Society, which was (2) _____ in 2001 to campaign to encourage better writing and understanding of the (3) _____ of the apostrophe. Mr Richards wrote on the society's website: "Fewer organisations and (4) _____ are now caring about the correct use of the apostrophe in the English language. We, and our many supporters worldwide, have done our best but the (5) _____ and laziness present in modern times have won." He added: "Over the years we have heard from thousands of supporters all over the world...but the (6) _____ have won."

Mr Richards started the society after seeing the "same mistakes (7) _____ and over again". He wanted to highlight people's mistakes and get people to end the misuse of the apostrophe. He said he hoped (8) _____ a dozen people would join him in his quest, but was (9) _____ by the support he received worldwide. He received 500 letters from all over the world within a month of starting the website. Mr Richards' biggest (10) _____ was not people misusing the apostrophe, but people not using it at all. He called (11) _____ big companies for this. In the UK, companies like Lloyds Bank and the bookstore Waterstones (12) _____ with the apostrophe in their names. Maybe Mr Richards was happy with the burger chain McDonald's.

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|-----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) quilted | (b) quiescent | (c) quit | (d) quits |
| 2. | (a) established | (b) publish | (c) replenish | (d) admonish |
| 3. | (a) purpose | (b) suppose | (c) prose | (d) repose |
| 4. | (a) individuals | (b) singles | (c) loners | (d) lone wolf |
| 5. | (a) comeuppance | (b) dalliance | (c) alliance | (d) ignorance |
| 6. | (a) concubines | (b) minions | (c) centurions | (d) barbarians |
| 7. | (a) over | (b) above | (c) under | (d) again |
| 8. | (a) all | (b) third | (c) quarter | (d) half |
| 9. | (a) heartened | (b) heightened | (c) heated | (d) hurt |
| 10. | (a) pork | (b) beef | (c) lamb | (d) goat |
| 11. | (a) in | (b) out | (c) up | (d) down |
| 12. | (a) dispensed | (b) usurped | (c) challenged | (d) stepped |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191205-apostrophe.html>

Paragraph 1

1. A nddefeer of the use of the apostrophe
2. his cadese-long battle
3. rceoenagu better writing
4. organisations and usaiiddvin
5. nanorgeic and laziness
6. the raarnaisbb have won

Paragraph 2

7. ihlhigght people's mistakes
8. end the smiseu of the apostrophe
9. half a eondz people would join him
10. neehrtdea by the support he received
11. Waterstones sndpeside with the apostrophe
12. the burger hanic McDonald's

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191205-apostrophe.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () of the punctuation mark. John Richards, 96, was chairman of the Apostrophe Protection Society, which was
- () misusing the apostrophe, but people not using it at all. He called out big companies for
- () this. In the UK, companies like Lloyds Bank and the bookstore Waterstones dispensed
- () individuals are now caring about the correct use of the apostrophe in the English language. We, and our many
- () established in 2001 to campaign to encourage better writing and understanding of the
- () supporters worldwide, have done our best but the ignorance and laziness present in modern
- () from all over the world within a month of starting the website. Mr Richards' biggest beef was not people
- () in his quest, but was heartened by the support he received worldwide. He received 500 letters
- () purpose of the apostrophe. Mr Richards wrote on the society's website: "Fewer organisations and
- () Mr Richards started the society after seeing the "same mistakes over and over again". He wanted to highlight people's
- () with the apostrophe in their names. Maybe Mr Richards was happy with the burger chain McDonald's.
- () times have won." He added: "Over the years we have heard from thousands of supporters all over the world...but the barbarians have won."
- (**1**) A defender of the use of the apostrophe has quit his decades-long battle for the correct use
- () mistakes and get people to end the misuse of the apostrophe. He said he hoped half a dozen people would join him

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191205-apostrophe.html>

1. for Quit the decades-long his correct battle use .
2. writing . for Established in 2001 better to campaign
3. about of the apostrophe . Caring use correct the
4. in modern laziness and Ignorance times present won .
5. thousands . from the heard Over have years we
6. mistakes same over again . Seeing over the and
7. received worldwide . he support by Heartened the
8. the misusing was beef His apostrophe . people not
9. this . big companies He called for out
10. the Richards McDonald's . with happy was burger chain

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191205-apostrophe.html>

A defender of the *use / used* of the apostrophe has quit his decades-long battle for the correct use of the punctuation *slash / mark*. John Richards, 96, was chairman of the Apostrophe Protection Society, which was *establishment / established* in 2001 to campaign to encourage better *writing / written* and understanding of the *purpose / porpoise* of the apostrophe. Mr Richards wrote on the society's website: "Fewer organisations and *individual / individuals* are now caring about the correct use of the apostrophe *on / in* the English language. We, and our many supporters *worldly / worldwide*, have done our best but the ignorance and laziness present in modern *time / times* have won." He added: "Over the years we have heard from thousands of supporters all over the world...but the *barbarity / barbarians* have won."

Mr Richards started the society after seeing the "same *mistaken / mistakes* over and over again". He wanted to *highlight / lowlight* people's mistakes and get people to end the misuse of *the / an* apostrophe. He said he hoped half a dozen people would join him in his *quest / question*, but was *heartened / threatened* by the support he received worldwide. He received 500 letters from all over the world within a month *off / of* starting the website. Mr Richards' biggest *pork / beef* was not people misusing the apostrophe, but people not using it at all. He called *in / out* big companies for this. In the UK, companies like Lloyds Bank and the bookstore Waterstones *dispensed / recompensed* with the apostrophe in their names. Maybe Mr Richards was happy with the burger *chain / sequence* McDonald's.

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191205-apostrophe.html>

A d_f_n d_r _f t h_ _s_ _f t h_ _p_s t r_p h_ h_s q__
t h_s d_c_d_s - l_n g b_t t_l_ f_r t h_ c_r r_c t _s_
f t h p_n c t__ t__ n m_r k. J_h n R_c h_r d s, 9
6, w_s c h__ r m_n _f t h_ A p_s t r_p h_ P r_t_c t__
n S_c__ t y, w h_c h w_s _s t_b l_s h_d _n 2 0 0 1
t_ c_m p__ g n t_ n c__ r_g_ b_t t_r w_r t_n g _n d
_n d_r s t_n d_n g _f t h_ p_r p_s_ _f t h_ _p_s t r_p
h_. M r R_c h_r d s w_r t_ n t h_ s_c__ t y' s w_b
s_t_: " F_w_r _r g_n_s t__ n s _n d _n d_v_d__ l_s _r_
n_w c_r_n g _b__ t t h_ c_r r_c t _s_ _f t h_ _p_s t
r_p h_ _n t h_ E n g l_s h l_n g__ g_. W_, _n d __ r
m_n y s_p p_r t_r s w_r l d w_d_, h_v_ d_n__ _r b_s
t b_t t h_ _g n_r_n c_ _n d l_z_n_s s p_r_s_n t _n
m_d_r n t_m_s h_v_ w_n." H_ _d d_d: " O_v_r t h_
y__ r s w_ h_v_ h__ r d f_r m t h__ s_n d s _f s_p
p_r t_r s _l l _v_r t h_ w_r l d... b_t t h_ b_r b_r__
n s h_v_ w_n."

M r R_c h_r d s s t_r t_d t h_ s_c__ t y _f t_r s__ _n
g t h_ " s_m_ m_s t_k_s _v_r _n d _v_r _g__ n". H_
w_n t_d t_ h_g h_l_g h t p__ p_l_' s m_s t_k_s _n d
g_t p__ p_l_ t_ n d t h_ m_s_s_ _f t h_ _p_s t r_p h_.
H_ s__ d h_ h_p_d h_l f _ d_z_n p__ p_l_ w__ l d
j__ n h_m _n h_s q__ s t, b_t w_s h__ r t_n d b
y t h_ s_p p_r t h_ r_c__ v_d w_r l d w_d_. H_
r_c__ v_d 5 0 0 l_t t_r s f_r m _l l _v_r t h_ w_r l d
w_t h_n _ m_n t h _f s t_r t_n g t h_ w_b s_t_. M r
R_c h_r d s' b_g g_s t b__ f w_s n_t p__ p_l_
m_s_s_n g t h_ _p_s t r_p h_, b_t p__ p_l_ n_t _s_n g
_t _t _l l. H_ c_l l_d __ t b_g c_m p_n__ s f_r t
h_s. I n t h_ U K, c_m p_n__ s l_k_ L_l_y d s B_n
k _n d t h_ b__ k_s t_r_ W_t_r s t_n_s d_s p_n s_d
w_t h t h_ _p_s t r_p h_ _n t h__ r n_m_s. M_y b_ M
r R_c h_r d s w_s h_p p_y w_t h t h_ b_r g_r c h__
n M c D_n_l d' s.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191205-apostrophe.html>

a defender of the use of the apostrophe has quit his decadeslong battle for the correct use of the punctuation mark john richards 96 was chairman of the apostrophe protection society which was established in 2001 to campaign to encourage better writing and understanding of the purpose of the apostrophe mr richards wrote on the societys website fewer organisations and individuals are now caring about the correct use of the apostrophe in the english language we and our many supporters worldwide have done our best but the ignorance and laziness present in modern times have won he added over the years we have heard from thousands of supporters all over the world but the barbarians have won

mr richards started the society after seeing the same mistakes over and over again he wanted to highlight peoples mistakes and get people to end the misuse of the apostrophe he said he hoped half a dozen people would join him in his quest but was heartened by the support he received worldwide he received 500 letters from all over the world within a month of starting the website mr richards biggest beef was not people misusing the apostrophe but people not using it at all he called out big companies for this in the uk companies like lloyds bank and the bookstore waterstones dispensed with the apostrophe in their names maybe mr richards was happy with the burger chain mcdonalds

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191205-apostrophe.html>

A defender of the use of the apostrophe has quitted this decades-long battle for the correct use of the punctuation mark. John Richards, 96, was chair of the Apostrophe Protection Society, which was established in 2001 to run a campaign to encourage better writing and understanding of the purpose of the apostrophe. Mr Richards wrote on the society's website: "Fewer organisations and individuals are now caring about the correct use of the apostrophe in the English language. We, and our many supporters worldwide, have done our best but the ignorance and laziness present in modern times have won." He added: "Over the years we have heard from thousands of supporters all over the world... but the barbarians have won." Mr Richards started the society after seeing the "same mistakes over and over again". He wanted to highlight people's mistakes and get people to end the misuse of the apostrophe. He said he hoped half a dozen people would join him in his quest, but was heartened by the support he received worldwide. He received 500 letters from all over the world within a month of starting his website. Mr Richards' biggest beef was not people misusing the apostrophe, but people not using it at all. He called out big companies for this. In the UK, companies like Lloyds Bank and the bookstore Waterstones dispensed with the apostrophe in their names. Maybe Mr Richards was happy with the burger chain McDonald's.

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. THE APOSTROPHE: Make a poster about the apostrophe. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. PUNCTUATION: Write a magazine article about ending all punctuation in English. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on the apostrophe. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your reasons why punctuation is very, very, very, very important. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. a 2. c 3. e 4. f 5. d 6. b 7. g
8. j 9. l 10. n 11. i 12. h 13. k 14. m

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- a T b F c T d T e T f F g T h T

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

1. h	2. e	3. i	4. j	5. c
6. d	7. b	8. a	9. f	10. g

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. For decades
2. 96
3. 2001
4. Organisations and individuals
5. Barbarians
6. Over and over again
7. Half a dozen
8. Five hundred
9. Big companies
10. McDonald's

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

1. Quit his decades-long battle for the correct use.
2. Established in 2001 to campaign for better writing.
3. Caring about the correct use of the apostrophe.
4. Ignorance and laziness present in modern times won.
5. Over the years we have heard from thousands.
6. Seeing the same mistakes over and over again.
7. Heartened by the support he received worldwide.
8. His beef was not people misusing the apostrophe.
9. He called out big companies for this.
10. Richards was happy with the burger chain McDonald's.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. d 2. b 3. d 4. c 5. d 6. c 7. a 8. c 9. b 10. a

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)