Apostrophe Usage

**Purpose:** Upon completion of this activity, students will understand the three uses of the apostrophe. This DLA should take approximately 30 minutes to complete.

1) Go to the “Apostrophe” page on the OWL at Purdue website:  
   https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/621/01/

2) Carefully read the rules governing apostrophe usage. Pay close attention to the examples.

3) Provide answers to the following:

   a) What are the three uses of the apostrophe?
      i) ____________________________________________________________
         (1) Give an example of 1st use: ________________________________
      ii) _________________________________________________________
         (1) Give an example of the 2nd use: ____________________________
      iii) _________________________________________________________
         (1) Give an example of the 3rd use: ____________________________

   b) Do we ever use apostrophes with possessive pronouns? Why, or why not?

   c) What are two good strategies for locating apostrophe errors in our own writing?
      i) _________________________________________________________
      ii) _______________________________________________________

4) Complete Writing Reading Center Worksheet #32 on “Apostrophes with Possessives” and check your answers in the answer key. Worksheet can be found on the WRC’s web site under the tab that says “Worksheets.”

5) Now look to your most recent piece of writing and correct any errors with possessives and apostrophes. Review this activity plus your own writing with a tutor or instructor on duty. Note on the back of this sheet what types of errors you are making, whether there is a pattern, and which rule gives you the most problems.

Attach a confirmation sheet or get a signature below:

Instructor Signature: ________________________________ Date: __________________________