Possessive adjectives

In English Possessive adjectives (my, your, his, her, its, our, and their) indicate to whom or to what something belongs. They do not change form, regardless of whether they modify singular or plural nouns. The distinction between his or her tells us whether something belongs to a male or a female.

Your uncle is taller than our uncle.
Sam eats dinner with his grandparents. Their house is nearby.
My sister Susan drives to school in her car.

A Underline the possessive adjectives in the following sentences, then circle the noun they modify.

1. The Smiths bought their first house last month.
2. His hamster is sleeping in its nest.
3. My parents have their 25th wedding anniversary tomorrow.
4. Where did I put my keys?
5. It's great to hear that our soccer team won.
6. Your sister left her backpack on the playground.

In French You can also show to whom or to what something belongs by using possessive adjectives. French possessive adjectives agree in gender (masculine or feminine) and in number (singular or plural) with the noun that is possessed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Masculine</th>
<th>Feminine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>my</em></td>
<td>mon</td>
<td>ma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>your (tu)</em></td>
<td>ton</td>
<td>ta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>his/her/its</em></td>
<td>son</td>
<td>sa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>our</em></td>
<td>notre</td>
<td>notre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>your</em></td>
<td>votre</td>
<td>votre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>their (vous)</em></td>
<td>leur</td>
<td>leur</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Mon père est grand. (père is masculine and singular)*
*C'est ma tante. (tante is feminine and singular)*
*Mes frères sont sportifs. (frères is plural)*

Use the masculine singular forms mon, ton, and son before nouns that begin with a vowel or a vowel sound.
Voilà mon amie Claudine.
Quelle est ton activité préférée?
B Underline the possessive adjectives in the following sentences, then circle the noun they modify.

1. Sa tante est très chic.
2. Leurs enfants sont pénibles.
3. Quel âge a ton frère?
4. Votre fils est super gentil.
5. C’est une photo de ma grand-mère.
6. Il n’a pas son cahier.

C Fill in the blanks with the appropriate possessive adjectives.

Madeleine  Comment s’appelle ton demi-frère?
Étienne  demi-frère s’appelle André. Il est sympa mais amis sont pénibles.
Madeleine  Et parents, ils sont comment?
Étienne  parents s’appellent Lucie et Georges. Ils sont marrants. Ils ont deux petits chiens. chiens s’appellent Plif et Plouf. Et toi, tu as un chien, n’est-ce pas?
Madeleine  Oui. chien s’appelle Puce.

D What are the possible meanings of the phrases below? In your own words, explain how the use of third person possessive adjectives in French is different from English.

son frère  sa sœur  ses cousins