Chapter 2: Genitive: the possessive form of nouns

2.1 authors, theories, companies, products

*Underline the correct form. If both are correct, underline both.*

1. Yin / Yin’s paper was the first to...
2. Yin’s et al. / Yin et al’s paper was the first to...
3. Jones / Jones’s / Jones’ most recent investigation into...
4. We have addressed all the referee / referee’s / referees’ requests.
5. A Boolean / Boolean’s operator may refer to one of the following...
6. In our work Fourier / Fourier’s analysis was used to derive the...
7. They used a Turing / Turing’s machine simulation to obtain their result.
8. A Turing / Turing’s machine is a device that...
9. Turing / Turing’s / The Turing’s original thesis was that... He then went on to reformulate this thesis by...
11. Physicist Stephen Hawking / Hawking’s early career was...
12. We used an Apple / Apple’s G6 Powerbook laptop running LION to...
13. Apple / Apple’s / The Apple’s initial decision to make iPods solely compatible with iTunes caused...
14. The iPad / iPad’s potential for education has been investigated...
15. The Thatcher / Thatcher / Thatcher’s administration caused tremendous...
1. Yin's
2. Yin et al's
3. Jones's
4. referees'
5. Boolean
6. Fourier
7. Turing
8. Turing
9. Turing's
10. Beer's, the Beer-Lambert
11. Hawking's
12. Apple
13. Apple's
14. iPad's
15. the Thatcher / Thatcher's
2.2 various 1

Select the correct form (a or b).

1. How do you measure (a) a circle’s area (b) the area of a circle?
2. I have just been studying (a) the fundamental theorem of integral calculus (b) the integral calculus fundamental theorem.
3. I think that (a) the sum of the angles of a triangle is… (b) the triangle angles sum is…
4. Let us look at (a) Pascal’s hexagon theorem (b) Pascal hexagon theorem (c) the Pascal’s hexagon theorem.
5. I think that (a) the last theorem of Fermat was… (b) Fermat’s last theorem was… (c) the Fermat last theorem was…
6. Have you ever studied (a) the binomial theory (b) the binomial’s theory (c) the binomials theory.
7. Can you explain the (a) large numbers law to me (b) the law of large numbers to me?
8. I studied at (a) Harvard’s university (b) Harvard University (c) the University of Harvard (d) the Harvard University.
9. The area of (a) the box’s base. (b) the base of the box.
10. The size of (a) the function’s parabola. (b) the parabola of the function.
11. (a) The solution to our problem may be stated as… (b) Our problem’s solution may be stated as…
12. As a heading (a) The problem’s definition. (b) Defining the Problem (c) The problem definition (d) Definition of the Problem
13. This is (a) a China law (b) a Chinese law (c) a law in China (d) a China’s law.
14. I have (a) a computer’s problem (b) a computer problem (c) a problem with my computer.
15. The (a) best solution to the problem (b) problem’s best solution (c) problem’s best solution.

(1) b  (2) a  (3) a  (4) a  (5) b  (6) a  (7) b  (8) b and c  (9) b (a)  (10) b  (11) a  (12) b and d  (13) b and c  (14) c  (15) a
2.3 various 2

1. IBM’s / IBM first computer.
2. Gates’s / Gates’ philosophy.
4. The Koreans’s / Koreans’ plans for the future.
5. These are the results of ten year’s / years’ / year studying, which was divided into two five-year / years / years’ periods.
6. A mile’s / mile walk.
7. I am on a six month / month’s sabbatical.
8. I’m taking six month / month’s sabbatical next year.
9. The number of cancer / cancer’s cases is increasing.
10. Cancer / Cancer’s principal health hazard is the ability of malignant tumors to invade.
11. Such patients do not tolerate goat / goat’s milk or cheese.
12. We analysed the function of goat / goat’s milk and its products in nutrition.
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