

Capitalization Rules

Give examples to go along with the capitalization rules below:

Names of people: _____

Days of the week, months: _____

Holidays, holy days: _____

Periods, events in history: _____

Battles: _____

Official documents: _____

Languages, nationalities, religions: _____

Political Parties: _____

Trade names: _____

Official titles used with names: _____

Formal epithets: _____

Planets, heavenly bodies: _____

Continents: _____

Countries: _____

States, provinces: _____

Cities, towns, villages: _____

Streets, roads, highways: _____

Landforms: _____

Bodies of water: _____

Buildings, monuments: _____

Public Areas _____

Capitalization Rules

Match the rule with the correct example on the right:

Names of people	Maple Ave.
Days of the week, months:	Mediterranean Sea, Lake Huron
Holidays, holy days:	French, German, Islam
Periods, events in history:	Magna Carta
Battles:	Tuesday, October
Official documents:	Mars, Milky Way
Languages, nationalities, religions:	Empire State Building
Political Parties:	Acadia National Park, Times Square
Trade names:	Catherine the Great
Official titles used with names:	Renaissance
Formal epithets:	Democrats, Republicans
Planets, heavenly bodies:	Fritos, Chevrolet
Continents:	President Obama
Countries:	Antarctica
States, provinces:	John Smith, Katie Jackson
Cities, towns, villages:	Thanksgiving, Hanukkah
Streets, roads, highways:	the Appalachian Mountains, Sahara Desert
Landforms:	Kenya
Bodies of water:	Oklahoma, Ontario, Queensland
Buildings, monuments:	Seattle, Middletown
Public Areas	Battle of Yorktown

Capitalization Rules Answer Page

Names of people	John Smith, Katie Jackson
Days of the week, months:	Tuesday, October
Holidays, holy days:	Thanksgiving, Hanukkah
Periods, events in history:	Renaissance
Battles:	Battle of Yorktown
Official documents:	Magna Carta
Languages, nationalities, religions:	French, German, Islam
Political Parties:	Democrats, Republicans
Trade names:	Fritos, Chevrolet
Official titles used with names:	President Obama
Formal epithets:	Catherine the Great
Planets, heavenly bodies:	Mars, Milky Way
Continents:	Antarctica
Countries:	Kenya
States, provinces:	Oklahoma, Ontario, Queensland
Cities, towns, villages:	Seattle, Middletown
Streets, roads, highways:	Maple Ave.
Landforms:	the Appalachian Mountains, Sahara Desert
Bodies of water:	Mediterranean Sea, Lake Huron
Buildings, monuments:	Empire State Building
Public Areas	Acadia National Park, Times Square

Capitalization Rules

1. Capitalize the first word of every sentence
2. Capitalize the first word in a sentence in a parentheses, but do not capitalize the first word if the parentheses appears within another sentence.
3. Capitalize the first word in a complete sentence that follows a colon when you want to emphasize that sentence or when the sentence is a quotation.
4. Capitalize words that indicate a particular section of the country.
5. Capitalize certain religious words
6. Capitalize the first word of a title, the last word, and every word in between except articles (a, an, the), short prepositions and coordinating conjunctions. This is also true for titles of books, newspapers, magazines, poems, plays, songs, films, words of art, stories.
7. Capitalize the letters used to indicate form or shape.
8. Capitalize the name of an organization, association or team.
9. Capitalize abbreviations of titles
10. Capitalize words like father, mother, uncle and senator when they are used as title with a personal name or when they are substituted for proper nouns.
11. Capitalize words like sociology and history when they are used as titles of a specific course.

Correct the capitalization problems and write the rule that applies:

_____ a. t-shirt, v-shaped

_____ b. Dad always used to say: "early to bed and early to rise makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise."

_____ c. Have you read the book, island of the blue dolphins.

_____ d. god bible allah the savior genesis ra

_____ e. Can you sing the star spangled banner?

_____ f. She is from the south.

_____ g. the green bay packers, the lakers

_____ h. My aunt Lucy is funny.

_____ i. I tried numerous times to get a hold of her. (she must have been out of town.)

_____ j. When the car broke down, we called AAA.

_____ k. Did dad tell you to move that?

_____ l. In May 2015 some dead ground squirrels found in Idaho tested positive for the plague.

_____ m. My older brother is taking history 102.

Capitalization Rules Examples

1. Capitalize the first word of every sentence

We are going out to dinner tonight.

2. Capitalize the first word in a sentence in a parentheses, but do not capitalize the first word if the parentheses appears within another sentence.

Can you come over tomorrow? (It's not supposed to rain.)

3. Capitalize the first word in a complete sentence that follows a colon when you want to emphasize that sentence or when the sentence is a quotation.

When I complained about eating vegetables, my mom said: "The more colorful the food, the better they are for you."

4. Capitalize words that indicate a particular section of the country.

My family is from the West.

5. Capitalize certain religious words

God, the Bible, the Lord, Jehovah

6. Capitalize the first word of a title, the last word, and every word in between except articles (a, an, the), short prepositions and coordinating conjunctions. This is also true for titles of books, newspapers, magazines, poems, plays, songs, films, words of art, stories.

Gone with the Wind, The New York Times

7. Capitalize the letters used to indicate form or shape.

T-shirt, U-turn, S-curve

8. Capitalize the name of an organization, association or team.

Boston Celtics, Lakers

9. Capitalize abbreviations of titles

AAA M.D. PhD NAACP

10. Capitalize words like father, mother, uncle and senator when they are used as title with a personal name or when they are substituted for proper nouns.

Aunt Jackie, Uncle Jack, Mom, Dad

You usually do not capitalize if it falls a possessive... my mom, his dad, her father

11. Capitalize words like sociology and history when they are used as titles of a specific course.

History 365, Sociology 210

Answer Page

Correct the capitalization problems and write the rule that applies:

7 a. T-shirt, V-shaped

3 b. Dad always used to say: "Early to bed and early to rise makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise."

6 c. Have you read the book, Island of the Blue Dolphins.

5 d. God Bible Allah the Savior Genesis Ra

6 e. Can you sing the Star Spangled Banner?

4 f. She is from the South.

8 g. the Green Bay Packers, the Lakers

10 h. My Aunt Lucy is funny.

2 i. I tried numerous times to get a hold of her. (She must have been out of town.)

9 j. When the car broke down, we called AAA.

10 k. Did Dad tell you to move that?

1 l. In May 2015 some dead grounds squirrels found in Idaho tested positive for the plague.

11 m. My older brother is taking History 102.