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Lesson 2. Capitalization

Capitalize:

1. the first word of a sentence. **T**ortoises live on land, not in water.
Alex asked, “**W**hy are you crying?”

2. the first word of a direct quotation. **A**lex asked, “**W**hy are you crying?”

3. proper nouns
 - names or nicknames..... **S**amuel likes to be called **S**am.

 - a relationship when it substitutes for a person’s name..... **M**other and **F**ather like to scuba dive.

 - initials..... Robert Jame’s mom calls him **R. J.**

 - people’s titles and their abbreviations..... My doctor’s name is **D**octor Raymond.
My doctor’s name is **D**r. Raymond.

 - names of streets, roads, avenues, etc.....Sonya lives on **G**reen **S**treet and **M**esa **A**venue.

 - names of places, cities, and states..... **P**anteria **P**ark is in **A**tanta, **G**eorgia.

 - names of groups..... Mike Jones is a **B**oy **S**cout leader.

 - days of the week, months of the year, and holidays..... My party will be on **F**riday, **D**ecember 14.
We will have a picnic on **M**emorial **D**ay.

 - the names of planets and stars..... The largest planet in our solar system is **J**upiter.
There really is a star called **H**ercules.

- titles of books, movies (DVDs), music (CDs), and magazines. *Little **W**omen* is a good book for girls. Have you ever read the book ***A** Tale of **T**wo **C**ities?* *The **N**ew **Y**ork **T**imes* has a variety of stories.
 - first and last words of titles
 - words with four letters or more
 - all verbs

- countries, languages, and nationalities. Most people in **I**taly speak **E**nglish and **I**talian. My friends in **A**ustralia are **A**boriginal.

- geographical terms immediately following the names. The Erie **C**anal was built in the 1800s. The Grand **C**anyon is deep and very, very wide. The Portage **G**lacier is located on the Kenai **P**eninsula.

- 4. the pronoun I. Seth and **I** are eating pizza in the park.

- 5. the first word in the greeting and closing in a letter or e-mail. **D**ear Aunt Suzie,
Your new friend,
Jason

- 6. compass points when they represent specific regions. You will find fields of barley in the **M**idwest. Canada is located in the **N**orthern **H**emisphere.

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Lesson 2. Capitalization (continued)

Capitalize:

- 7. acronyms (a word formed from the first letters of a series of words).

Everybody knows what **LOL** (laugh out loud) means.
FANBOYS (Correlating conjunctions: for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so)
FAQ (frequently asked questions) are on most websites.

- 8. *federal* or *state* when used as part of an official agency name or in government documents in which these terms represent an official name. If they are being used as general terms, lowercase letters are used.

The **S**tate Board of Education helps create learning standards.
 The **F**ederal Bureau of Investigation looks at crime scenes.
 Some crimes are **f**ederal offenses in America.
 Everyone in the United States lives in a **s**tate.

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