Capitalization
Growing big with letters

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What Is a Capital Letter?

The capital letter has many names. It is called an uppercase letter or a big letter. Some people also call it ‘capital’
There are rules to adhere to when using capital letters. Once these rules are applied, you will be on your way to writing better.
1. Always begin the first letter in a sentence with a capital letter.

The dog eats his bone.

Do not sit there!

2. The word ‘I’ should always be written with a capital letter.

I will be ten years old tomorrow.

Samantha and I look alike.

3. The names of people should begin with a capital letter.

Conway Twitty, Martin Luther King

Michael Jackson, Clarence Burris, Oprah Winfrey
Days of the week and months of the year should begin with an uppercase letter.

Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday
February, March, June, January, December

Use a capital letter for the first word in a direct speech.

Clarke asked, “Where is my ball?”
Roy shouted, “Get out of the rain!”

Holidays and special celebrations should begin with a capital letter.

Columbus Day, Christmas Day, New Year’s Day
Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Independence Day
The names of books, films, or plays should start with capital letters.

Curious George, Charlotte’s Web, The Hobbit
The Lion King, Beauty and the Beast, Frozen

A capital letter is used after the initials in a person’s name.

S.E. Hinton, Samuel L. Jackson, J. K. Rowling
Vivica A. Fox, O. J. Simpson, George R. R. Martin

Use a capital letter for the names of places.

American Samoa, Black Canyon of the Gunnison
Crater Lake, Gates of the Arctic, Hot Springs
Languages and nationalities should begin with a capital letter.

English, Spanish, French, Mandarin, Burmese

Jamaican, American, African, British, Egyptian
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