

A

B

C

D

Capitalization

Growing big with letters

Samantha Burris

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'

When to Use a Capital Letter

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

4

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

5

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!"

6

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

7

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

8

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

9

Use a capital letter for the names of places.

American Samoa, Black Canyon of the Gunnison

Crater Lake, Gates of the Arctic, Hot Springs

10

Languages and nationalities should begin with a capital letter.

English, Spanish, French, Mandarin, Burmese

Jamaican, American, African, British, Egyptian

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