

Grammar Worksheet:

Here's an old children's rhyme about the eight parts of speech of English grammar. It gives you an idea of what grammar is all about.

Every name is called a **noun**,
As *field* and *fountain*, *street* and *town*.
In place of noun the **pronoun** stands,
As *he* and *she* can clap their hands.
The **adjective** describes a thing,
As *magic wand* or *bridal ring*.
Most **verbs** mean action, something done,
To *read* and *write*, to *jump* and *run*.
How things are done the **adverbs** tell,
As *quickly*, *slowly*, *badly*, *well*.
The **preposition** shows relation,
As *in* the street or *at* the station.
Conjunctions join, in many ways,
Sentences, words, or phrase *and* phrase.
The **interjection** cries out, "*Heed!*"
An exclamation point must follow me!"

The **capital letter** is also called a **big letter** or **uppercase letter**, or sometimes just a **capital**.

Capital letters of the alphabet: A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Lower case letters of the alphabet: a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z

When do you use a capital letter?

- First letter in a sentence
- Always for the word I
- Names of people
- Names of places
- Names of festivals, holidays, days of the week, months of the year

Nouns are divided into **common nouns** and **proper nouns**.

Common nouns are words for people, animals, places or things. They are lower-case unless beginning a sentence. Some examples are artist, teacher, eagle, zebra, dog, beach, park, library, basket, drum, bed, cake.

Proper nouns are names for particular people, places or things. They always begin with a capital letter. The names of countries and their people are also proper nouns.

U.S.A = Americans	Egypt = Egyptians	Italy = Italians	Mexico = Mexicans
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The formal names of towns, cities, buildings and landmarks are proper nouns.

Great Wall of China	Plymouth Plantation
Statue of Liberty	Plymouth, Massachusetts

Formal names of mountains, seas, rivers and lakes are proper nouns.

Mount Everest also known as Mt. Everest	Pacific Ocean
Niagara Falls	Yellow River

Names of festivals and holidays are proper nouns.

Halloween	Valentine's Day	New Year's Day	Fourth of July
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Exercise #1

Underline the nouns that should be capitalized. Circle nouns that should not be capitalized. What other words in each sentence should be capitalized, if any?

1. robert louis stevenson wrote the book treasure island.
2. the capital of illinois is springfield.
3. my friends and i prefer colgate toothpaste.
4. their family visited yellowstone national park last july.
5. juan and maria attend kennedy middle school.
6. we had a surprise party for aunt helen.
7. spring and fall are my favorite seasons.
8. the manager yelled at the lazy employees.

Nouns can be singular or plural. When you are talking about one person, animal, place or thing, use a singular noun.

a train	a woman	a flower	an owl
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