Clear Museum Labels

Notice how careful conventions make information clear.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.6.2 "Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Circle each comma that sets off extra information, and underline every capital letter in a proper noun. These marks show how writers make names and extra details clear.

Protecting Columbia

1. At the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum, visitors can see Columbia, the command module from Apollo 11. In July 1969, the small spacecraft carried astronauts Neil Armstrong, Michael Collins, and Buzz Aldrin toward the Moon. Columbia did not land on the lunar surface. Instead, it stayed in lunar orbit while Armstrong and Aldrin traveled in a separate lunar module. After the mission, Columbia splashed down in the Pacific Ocean, where a recovery crew lifted it aboard a ship.

2. Today, museum specialists protect Columbia from light, dust, and changes in humidity. The module's exterior, which was scorched during its return through Earth's atmosphere, still shows marks from the journey. Conservators, trained to handle fragile objects, examine the craft with cameras and gentle tools. They do not repaint every scratch because the scratches are evidence. A careful display helps people study the spacecraft while preserving the materials that traveled nearly 240,000 miles from Earth to the Moon during its historic mission.

3. Visitors often notice an American flag on Columbia's exterior. The flag, painted there before launch, is one of several markings on the capsule. Another detail is the heat shield, a protective layer on the bottom of the module. It absorbed enormous heat as Columbia entered Earth's atmosphere. When you read a museum label, look closely at the punctuation. Commas can separate items in a series or set off extra details, making the information easier to follow. Accurate spelling and capital letters also help labels communicate clearly.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Copy the complete museum name from paragraph 1 exactly as it is capitalized.

2. In paragraph 1, what words are set off by commas to give another name for Columbia?

3. Copy the extra information between commas in paragraph 2 that tells what happened to the module's exterior.

4. Copy the correctly spelled word in paragraph 2 for people who protect and care for objects.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write two sentences for a museum label about a real object or invention. Use at least one correctly capitalized proper noun, correct spelling, and a pair of commas to set off extra information.

ANSWER KEY

Clear Museum Labels

GRADE 6 · L.6.2

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Circle each comma that sets off extra information, and underline every capital letter in a proper noun. These marks show how writers make names and extra details clear. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Copy the complete museum name from paragraph 1 exactly as it is capitalized.	**Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum**
2	In paragraph 1, what words are set off by commas to give another name for Columbia?	**the command module from Apollo 11**
3	Copy the extra information between commas in paragraph 2 that tells what happened to the module's exterior.	**which was scorched during its return through Earth's atmosphere**
4	Copy the correctly spelled word in paragraph 2 for people who protect and care for objects.	**Conservators**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The Statue of Liberty, a gift from France, stands in New York Harbor. Visitors can explore the monument's history at the Statue of Liberty Museum.

Accept the passage answers only when capitalization, spelling, and punctuation are copied accurately. For the open response, accept any two factual sentences that include a properly capitalized proper noun and commas around extra information.