

Sentence Detectives

Students identify capitalized first words and ending punctuation marks.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RF.1.1a "Recognize the distinguishing features of a sentence (e.g., first word, capitalization, ending punctuation)."

NAME _____

DATE _____

Teacher: this page is run aloud. The script and answers are on the guide page.

1 START WORDS _____

a	my	dog	My
b	We	we	play
c	are	Are	You

2 END MARKS _____

a	.	?	!
b	!	?	.
c	?	.	!

HOW TO RUN THIS PAGE

Read each sentence and its choices aloud. Students listen for the first word and the way the sentence ends, then circle the printed choice that matches.

Students never read directions on this sheet. Read each part's script aloud, then each prompt, giving think time before students mark.

PART 1 • START WORDS

SAY “Listen to each sentence and the words in its row. Which word comes first and begins with a capital letter? Circle it.”

ROW	SAY	STUDENTS CIRCLE
a	Listen: My dog runs. The choices say my, dog, My. Which word comes first and begins with a capital letter?	My
b	Listen: We play. The choices say We, we, play. Which word comes first and begins with a capital letter?	We
c	Listen: Are you ready? The choices say are, Are, You. Which word comes first and begins with a capital letter?	Are

PART 2 • END MARKS

SAY “Listen to each sentence and the marks in its row. Which mark belongs at the end? Circle it.”

ROW	SAY	STUDENTS CIRCLE
a	Listen: Sam has a hat. The choices are a period, a question mark, and an exclamation mark. Which mark belongs at the end?	.
b	Listen: Is it time to eat? The choices are an exclamation mark, a question mark, and a period. Which mark belongs at the end?	?
c	Listen: Watch out! The choices are a question mark, a period, and an exclamation mark. Which mark belongs at the end?	!

WHAT TO ACCEPT

Start Words answers: row 1, My; row 2, We; row 3, Are. End Marks answers: row 1, period; row 2, question mark; row 3, exclamation mark.