

Capital Clues

Sort phrases by their capitalization.

4.L.GC.1.35 "Mechanics: Recognize and use conventional capitalization in abbreviations, proper adjectives, and formal titles. (Master)"

NAME _____

DATE _____

CORRECT CAPITALIZATION

Capital letters are used correctly in formal titles, abbreviations, and proper adjectives.

Professor Diaz visited the Canadian museum.

NEEDS FIXING

One or more words need a capital letter.

captain Rivera spoke to mr. Ortiz.

1 SORT

8 items

Circle the tag for each phrase, then choose two items and explain which capital letter clue helped you sort each one.

1. Dr. Patel

CORRECT

FIX

2. mexican music

CORRECT

FIX

3. Mayor Chen

CORRECT

FIX

4. mr. Jordan

CORRECT

FIX

5. NASA scientists

CORRECT

FIX

6. Oak Ave.

CORRECT

FIX

7. african art

CORRECT

FIX

8. a Brazilian dancer

CORRECT

FIX

2 PROVE IT Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ HOW I KNEW _____

ITEM # _____ HOW I KNEW _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN One of each

Write one new example with correct capitalization and one new example that needs fixing.

CORRECT _____

FIX _____

CHALLENGE

Write one sentence that correctly uses a formal title, an abbreviation, and a proper adjective.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Dr. Patel	CORRECT	Dr. is a capitalized abbreviation for a title before a name.
2	mexican music	FIX	Mexican is a proper adjective and needs a capital M.
3	Mayor Chen	CORRECT	Mayor is a formal title before a name, so it is capitalized.
4	mr. Jordan	FIX	Mr. is an abbreviation and needs a capital M.
5	NASA scientists	CORRECT	NASA is correctly capitalized as an abbreviation.
6	Oak Ave.	CORRECT	Oak and the abbreviation Ave. are correctly capitalized in a street name.
7	african art	FIX	African is a proper adjective and needs a capital A.
8	a Brazilian dancer	CORRECT	Brazilian is a proper adjective and is correctly capitalized.

PART 2 • PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 • MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **CORRECT:** Correct Capitalization: Capt. Wu
- **FIX:** Needs Fixing: spanish class

Challenge: Dr. Lopez gave Mayor Adams a Peruvian book.

For Part 2, students should name the capitalization clue for each chosen item, such as a formal title, abbreviation, or proper adjective. Accept different original examples in Part 3 when they fit the selected category.