# 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 | NEEDS FIXING |
| --- | --- |
| Capital letters are used correctly in formal titles, abbreviations, and proper adjectives.<br>Professor Diaz visited the Canadian museum. | One or more words need a capital letter.<br>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.

**ANSWER KEY** # Capital Clues

**GRADE 4 · 4.L.GC.1.35**

## 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.