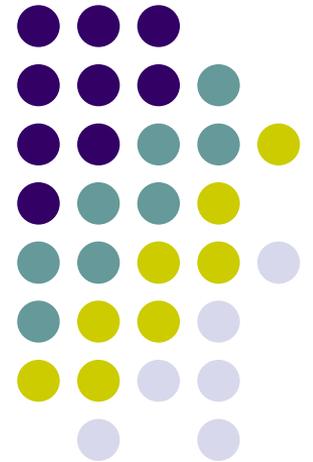
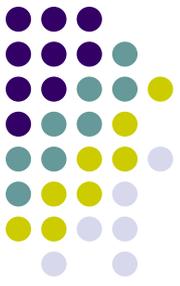


Capital letters

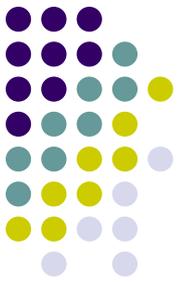




A capital letter is used:

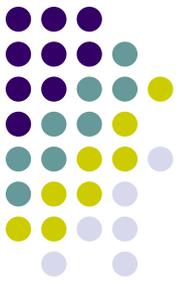
- To mark the beginning of a sentence and the start of direct speech.
- With the specific names of people, places, events and organisations.
- To show a person's title (e.g. Doctor Jones, Prince William).
- With abbreviations of names or titles.
- With the days of the week, the months of the year, and festivals.
- With the main words of a title (of a book, film, newspaper).
- To show nationality.
- With languages and school subjects.
- To write the pronoun 'I'.

Capitals are **not** necessary for the seasons of the year.



In summer, in autumn, in winter, in spring.

In the jokes below, underline and correct any word that should start with a capital letter.



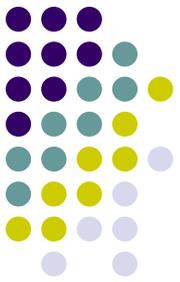
1. an englishman, a scotsman and a welshman were stranded on a small island in the atlantic ocean. one day they found a magic lamp. when they rubbed it, a genie appeared and granted each of them one wish.

“i’d like to be back in birmingham,” said the englishman. puff! he disappeared.

“i’d like to be back in glasgow,” said the scotsman. puff! he disappeared.

“gosh,” said the welshman, “i’m very lonely here on my own. i wish my friends were back again.” puff! puff!
2. my dad is the meanest person in the world. on christmas eve he fired his air-pistol outside our house. then he came in any told us that father christmas had committed suicide!

Try not to confuse common nouns with proper nouns.



The particular name of a person, place or institution is classed as a proper noun. A common noun is a normal noun being used in a general sense.

Examples:

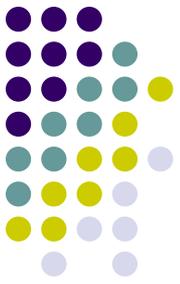
Here are two *common* nouns:

He is a doctor. He works in a hospital.

Here are the same nouns being used as *proper* nouns:

Do you know Doctor Smith? He works at St George's Hospital.

In the following sentences, underline and correct those words that should start with a capital letter.



1. we asked our teacher whether king arthur had been a real king.
2. the pacific ocean is the largest ocean in the world.
3. when sir walter raleigh introduced tobacco into england in the early 1600s, king james 1 wrote a booklet arguing against its use.
4. the world's first underground railway was the metropolitan railway, which was opened in london in 1863.
5. on easter day in 1722, a dutch admiral called jacob roggeveen landed on a grass-covered island in the south pacific. he named it easter island.
6. my eldest brother is studying economics at essex university, but I don't want to go to university. when I leave school, I'm going to be a hairdresser.
7. she turned round and asked, "do you know which judge is trying the case? is it judge henson?"
8. "have you met professor oshima? he's a very famous professor from tokyo."