

Capitalization

Capitalization can be something automatically known, but also something easily second-guessed.

The following types of words are usually capitalized: names for the deity, religions, religious followers, sacred books; words of family relationship used as names; particular places; nationalities and their languages, races, tribes; departments, degrees, particular courses, organizations, political parties, historical movements, periods...

In general, titles or subtitles have the first word, the last word, and all major words (including both parts of hyphenated words) capitalized.

Capitalizations when writing titles:

Here are the words that **are** capitalized when writing a title:

- Nouns (e.g., *cat* as in *The Cat in the Hat*)
- Pronouns (e.g. *her*, *The Writer on Her Work*, *that* as in *The Light That Failed*)
- Verbs (e.g. *rises* as in *The Sun Also Rises*)
- Adjectives (e.g., *old* as in *The Old Man and the Sea*)
- Adverbs (e.g., *quickly* as in *How to Learn Anything Quickly*)
- Subordinating conjunctions (e.g. *after*, *although*, *as if*, *as soon as*, *because*, *before*, *if*, *that*, *unless*, *until*, *when*, *where*, *while*, as in *Because of Winn-Dixie*)

The following parts of speech are **not** capitalized when they occur in the middle of the title:

- Articles (*a*, *an*, *the*)
- Prepositions (e.g., *against*, *between*, *in*, *of*, *to*, as in *The Catcher in the Rye*)
- Coordinating conjunctions (*and*, *but*, *for*, *nor*, *or*, *so*, *yet*, as in *Like Water for Chocolate*)
- The *to* in infinitives (as in *A Time to Kill*)

For more information:

<http://dictionary.reference.com/help/faq/language/c/capitalization.html>