Capitalization Rules in English

1. Capitalize the first word of every sentence.
2. Capitalize the pronoun "I": I have a jacket.
3. Capitalize proper nouns: I visited California on my vacation.  
   She gave Peter a present for his birthday.

Generally, proper nouns refer to specific people, places, things, pets,  
organizations, etc. Remember to always capitalize the name of someone or  
something. Here are some specific rules to follow:

- Capitalize North, South, East, and West when contained in the name of a  
  place (state, country, etc.) but not when used for giving directions.

Correct: I want to visit South Carolina.

Incorrect: *My brother lives in Southern Europe → My brother lives in southern  
  Europe.

- Capitalize the group name of members of an organization:  
The Neighbourhood Players are presenting a musical next week.

- Capitalize company trademarks (product names):  
My niece loves Converse shoes.

- Capitalize common names of periods of time in history:  
The Sixties were pretty groovy baby!

- Capitalize specific events:  
Have you ever attended the Mobile World Congress?

- Capitalize acronyms which refer to specific names:  
I took his ID by mistake (Spanish DNI)

- Common nouns may be capitalized when used as names for the entire  
class of something:  
Some feel that Man is destined for outerspace!

- Names of gods are capitalized, including Allah, Vishnu, and God. The  
  word god is generally not capitalized if it is used to refer to the generic  
  idea of a deity, nor is it capitalized when it refers to multiple gods:  
The pastor prayed that God should deliver us from our sins.
4. Capitalize the **days of the week**, **holidays**, and **months of the year**.
   Do not capitalize **seasons**:
   
   Peter flew to Dallas in September.

   I love skiing in winter.

5. Capitalize **countries**, **languages**, and **nationalities** (**adjective form of a specific country**):
   
   I lived in Italy for over 10 years.
   Have you ever had any really expensive French wine?
   Do you speak Russian?

6. Capitalize **family relationships** when used in place of a name:
   
   Have you given Mom her present yet?

7. Capitalize **titles** that come before names. Do not capitalize titles that follow names.
   
   **Correct:** The soldier wrote to General Smith and asked for advice.
   **Incorrect:** * George Washington was the first President of the United States. → George Washington was the first president of the United States.

8. Capitalize **letter salutations (openings)** and closings:
   
   Dear Mr. Smith,
   Best regards,

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**Special Capitalization Issues**

1. Capitalize the **first word in a quote** (if the quote occurs in the middle of a sentence):
   
   The last time I talked to Peter he said, "Study hard and get to bed early!"

2. Capitalize **content words in titles** (Remember that content words include nouns, pronouns, principal verbs, adjectives, and adverbs):
   
   A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man

3. Capitalize the **first word in each line of poetry**:  
   
   *Roses are red*
   *Violets are blue*
   *I think I said He's in love with you!*