TLS Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #1

FOCUS Proper Nouns

A **proper noun** is the name of a person, place, or thing. It can be acted upon and is capitalized.

CONNECT TO WRITING

Whenever possible, use specific proper nouns rather than common nouns. A proper noun may be a single word, a group of words (with or without abbreviations), or a hyphenated word. Capitalize all words that make up proper nouns, except articles (*a*, *an*, and *the*), prepositions, such as *of*, *to*, and *from*, and conjunctions, such as *and*, *or*, and *but*.

Examples:	*Josh* was honored	person
	at *U.S. Memorial Auditorium*	place
	with the *Smith-Lee Award*.	thing

PRACTICE

Circle or highlight the proper nouns in the following story.

John Francis left his home in Beatrice, Nebraska in 1941, shortly before the start of World War II. Traveling first by bus to Chicago, he then boarded the *Southwestern Chief* to ride to Los Angeles. At Grand Central Station, John met his sister, Jane, and immediately began looking for part-time work and an apartment. He found employment at Blix Hardware on Western Avenue and a room to rent in nearby South Hollywood.

When war was declared, John enlisted in the army and was stationed at Fort Ord. He played trumpet in the Army Band and was promoted to the rank of Staff Sergeant. The United States was fortunate to have so many young men, like John, serving their country.

After the war in 1945, John enrolled in the University of Southern California, paying his tuition with money from the G.I. Bill. Graduating Cum Laude with degrees in Business and Social Science, he continued to play trumpet in clubs all over Southern California. Upon marrying Janice Jones, he took a job at California Federal Savings and Loan and was promoted to Senior Vice-President. He and his wife raised two children, Mark and Robin.

WRITE

Compose your own sentence with person, place, and thing proper nouns.

_____

_____