

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. 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

CONNECT TO WRITING

Whenever possible, use specific proper nouns rather than common nouns.

PRACTICE

List and capitalize the proper nouns at the end of each line in this biography.

John Fran left his home in Nebraska in 1941, _____
shortly before the start of World War II. Traveling first by bus to _____
Chicago, he then boarded the train to Los Angeles _____
and met his sister, Jane, at Grand Central Station _____

He got a job at Blix Hardware and found an apartment on _____
Western Avenue in Hollywood. _____

When war was declared, John enlisted in the Army and was _____
stationed at Fort Ord. He played trumpet in the Army band and earned the _____
rank of Staff Sergeant. He was discharged from the Army in 1945. _____

He took advantage of the G.I. Bill, which paid for his tuition at _____
Occidental College, and he graduated cum laude _____
with a Bachelor's degree in Social Science. _____

After college he worked at the Bank of America and saved up enough _____
money to buy a home in Glendale and marry his fiancé. _____

WRITE

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