

AMA Manual of Style

You are looking at 51-60 of 698 items for:

False Singulars

Brenda Gregoline

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Item type: section

Some nouns, because they end in a “plural” form, are mistakenly taken to be plurals even though they should be treated as singular and take a singular verb (eg, measles, mumps, mathematics, genetics). Measles is a deadly disease in underdeveloped countries. A few nouns are usually used in the plural form; however, the distinction between plural and singular should be retained where appropriate. (See also , Grammar, Subject-Verb Agreement, False Plurals.) |

First Word of Sentences, Statements, Quotations, Titles, Subtitles, and Table Headings

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Item type: section

The first word of every complete sentence should be capitalized. The following should also be capitalized: # The first word of a formal statement that follows a colon Our conclusions may be stated thus: More research is needed. # The first word of a direct quotation (but see , Punctuation, Quotation Marks, Quotations)The report noted: “A candidate may be admitted after completing 2 years of medical school.” Kurt Vonnegut put it best when he said, “Writers can treat their mental illnesses every day.” Note: If the quotation is run into the sentence, a lowercase letter on the first word may

Titles and Headings

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Capitalize major words in titles, subtitles, and headings of publications, musical compositions, plays (stage and screen), radio and television programs, movies, paintings and other works of art, software programs, websites and weblogs, electronic systems,

trademarks, and names of ships, airplanes, spacecraft, awards, corporations, and monuments. Do not capitalize a coordinating conjunction, an article, or a preposition of 3 or fewer letters, except when it is the first or last word in a title or subtitle. (For more on typeface rules when referring to works of art, see , *Typography, Specific Uses of Fonts, Italics, and , Punctuation, Quotation Marks, Titles.*)

Correspondence

Richard M. Glass

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Letters to the Editor are an essential aspect of postpublication review. The International Committee of Medical Journal Editors has recommended that all biomedical journals provide “a mechanism for submitting comments, questions, or criticisms about published articles, as well as brief reports and commentary unrelated to previously published articles. This will likely, but not necessarily, take the form of a correspondence section or column. The authors of articles discussed in correspondence should be given an opportunity to respond, preferably in the same issue in which the original correspondence appears.” Published letters usually comment on an article previously published in the same

Proper Nouns

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Proper nouns are words used as names for unique individuals, events, objects, or places. | Capitalize names of cities, towns, counties, states, countries, continents, islands, airports, peninsulas, bodies of water, mountains and mountain ranges, streets, parks, forests, canyons, dams, and regions. If a common noun is capitalized in the singular, it is generally not capitalized in the plural. Atlantic and Pacific oceans Kennedy and Eisenhower expressways Mississippi and Missouri rivers Compass directions are not capitalized unless they are generally accepted terms for regions. There is a large time difference between Europe and the Far East. Walk east until you arrive at the

Designators

Brenda Gregoline

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When used as specific designations within a particular article, with or without numerals, capitalize Table, Tables, Figure, and Figures. summarized in Table 2 as seen in the Table

the middle third of the basilar artery (Figure 2) Do not capitalize the following words, even when used as specific designators, unless used as part of a heading or title: But: Step I diet, Schedule II drug, and Axis I of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (Fourth Edition) |

Types and Sections of Articles

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UPDATE: We will discontinue using quotation marks to identify parts of an article, but retain the capitalization; eg, This is discussed in the Methods section (not the “Methods” section). This change was made February 14, 2013. General terms used to refer to a type of article or a section within an article should be set lowercase. His letter to the editor was published in the December issue. The methods sections of articles are often inadequate. However, when referring to a specific type of article, or a section within a specific article, capitalize the first letter in the words of the category

Acronyms and Initialisms

Brenda Gregoline

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Do not capitalize the words from which an acronym or initialism is derived (see , Abbreviations). prostate-specific antigen (PSA) enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) Exception: When the words that form the acronym or initialism are proper names, use capitals as described in , Proper Nouns, Official Names: National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) When there has been a “stretch” to create a study name or the name of a writing group that makes sense, is easy to say, and somehow relates to the name of the group, but where the first letters of the major words do not match the acronym, do

Capitalized Computer Terms

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Use initial capitals with computer commands, functions, or features. Please do not press the Back button on your browser until we have finished processing your request. Enter one or more search terms and click Go. Items in the History folder will be deleted after 90 days. The word email takes a lowercase letter in JAMA and Archives Journals style except when

it starts a sentence. Please send email messages to my work address. Email submissions are preferred. |

“Intercapped” Compounds

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JAMA and the Archives Journals capitalize trade names according to the spelling of the legal trademarks, even if they begin with a lowercase letter and contain a capitalized letter. She sold her collection of vintage hats on eBay. Data were processed in the field on iBook computers (Apple, Cupertino, California). Avoid starting a sentence with one of these trade names. It is almost always preferable to reword the sentence so that it begins with a word that takes an initial capital letter, while retaining the preferred spelling of the trade name. |