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Proper Nouns

Brenda Gregoline

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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 riversCompass 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 lake. There is no

Geographic Names

Brenda Gregoline

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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 riversCompass 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 lake. There is no party like a West Coast party because a West Coast party doesn't stop.

Sociocultural Designations

Brenda Gregoline

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Capitalize names of languages, nationalities, ethnicities, political parties, religions, and religious denominations. Do not capitalize political doctrines (conservative, progressive). Do not capitalize white or black as a designation of race.African American an Arab man the Berbers the Catholic Church (but: a Methodist church, First Methodist Church) English language Ethiopian food the French Hispanic population Indian American community of Italian heritage Latina girls Native American Protestant Sanskrit Although she has been a member of the Republican party for years, at one time she was a Democrat. This legislation endorses the principles of democracy in our republican form of government.

Events, Awards, and Legislation

Brenda Gregoline

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Capitalize the names of historical and special events, historical periods, and awards (but not common nouns that may follow the names). Capitalize the official names of awards and specific parts of laws and bills, but follow the official name (as in the lowercase w in Americans with Disabilities Act).

Eponyms and Words Derived From Proper Nouns

Brenda Gregoline

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Item type: section

With eponyms, capitalize the proper name but not the common nouns that follow it.Most common words derived from proper nouns are not capitalized. In general, follow the current edition of Merriam-Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary or Dorland’s Illustrated Medical Dictionary (for medical terms).

Proprietary Names

Brenda Gregoline

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Item type: section

Capitalize trademarks and proprietary names of drugs and brand names of manufactured products and equipment. Do not capitalize generic names or descriptive terms.The patient had swallowed 46 tablets of acetaminophen (Tylenol; Johnson & Johnson, New Brunswick, New Jersey) and was treated for acetaminophen overdose.All references to exact brand names must be verified and include the city and state or country of the manufacturer. (See also , Nomenclature, Equipment, Devices, and Reagents.) The trademark and copyright symbols are not used in JAMA and Archives Journals style.

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Organisms

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Capitalize the formal name of a genus when used in the singular, with or without a species name. Capitalize formal genus names but not traditional plural generic designations (eg, streptococci) or derived adjectives (streptococcal) (see also , Plurals, Microorganisms). Do not capitalize the name of a species, variety, or subspecies. Do capitalize phylum, class, order, or family (see , Nomenclature, Organisms and Pathogens). For capitalization of virus names, see , Nomenclature, Organisms and Pathogens, Virus and Prion Nomenclature.

Seasons, Deities, Holidays

Brenda Gregoline

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Do not capitalize the names of the seasons. Do capitalize the names of specific deities and manifestations.Capitalize recognized holidays and calendar events.

Tests

Brenda Gregoline

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The exact and complete titles of tests and subscales of tests should be capitalized. The word test is not usually capitalized except when it is part of the official name of the test. Always verify exact names of any tests with the author or with reference sources.

Official Names

Brenda Gregoline

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