

Name: _____ Date: _____

Capitalization and Proper Adjectives

Words that are capitalized in English include the first words of sentences and questions, the major words of titles, proper nouns, and proper adjectives. Proper adjectives include family or professional titles, cultural references, and regional and country designations. Use a dictionary or online resource to check any spellings you are unsure of.

Examples: The proper adjectives are in boldface.

- I just met **Mr.** Porter, who is the new band director in our school.
- Juan's dad is **Puerto Rican** and his mom is **Chinese American**.
- I love **Italian** cooking.
- My aunt has some beautiful **Persian** carpets and **Indian** tapestries.

Note: Family titles like *aunt* and *uncle* are only capitalized as part of a person's name, such as *Uncle Don*.

Example: My uncle is coming to town with Aunt Carrie.

Some adjectives that were once proper may now be common, and some can be spelled either way. For example, *French fries* may also be spelled as *french fries*. Both are acceptable.

Circle the proper adjectives that should be capitalized in the sentences below.

1. Would you like a belgian waffle for breakfast?
2. Gary loves the bright orange sunset over the mexican landscape.
3. My uncle Robert lives in the pacific northwest region of the United States.

Complete each sentence by placing a proper adjective in each blank. Challenge a partner to come up with common adjectives that might also fit the sentence.

1. Ana likes to wear the _____ outfit her mother gave her.
2. Give that seat to _____ Sebastian, who will be speaking later.
3. The museum displayed treasures from the _____ people.
4. My friend Rene goes to the _____ church.
5. I have an appointment with _____ O'Shea for a checkup.