

# Shopping Bag Capital Letters

Jo Williams, the contributor, says:

*Hi Maggie,*

*I used Margaret's 'capital letter' resource with my class today; it was excellent. I adapted it slightly and having visual (see flipchart list) and tactile (shopping bag list) aids really seemed to help my students think. I also hoped it would give them some 'memory aids'.*

*The attached shopping bag list can be adapted by teachers to reflect whatever they have available.*

*Best wishes,*

*Jo*

## Instructions

- I introduced the topic, explaining that we were going to look at nouns that need to have capital letters. (I had already explained about common and proper nouns in a previous lesson).
- Next I explained that I had brought some 'hints' with me: students could look, touch and open the objects and discuss them with the rest of the class.
- I then spread the contents of the shopping bag (see page 2) over 2 desks and put up a flipchart. For items that I couldn't find (to put in the shopping bag) I had drawn pictures onto a flipchart (couple getting married – Mr & Mrs, mountain / river, car registration, etc.). See list on page 3.
- I don't have access to PowerPoint but this would be an excellent alternative to a flip chart and would be much quicker to prepare.
- After learners had had some time to review and discuss the items I moved to the shopping bag items and held up 'groups' of items (see the teacher handout for groupings on page 2) and highlighted any missing groups using the flipchart pictures (see flipchart list on page 3).
- We then had a class discussion on the students' findings, with one member of the class writing a summary on the whiteboard.
- I then gave out Margaret's handout.

Note: Margaret Lagoyianni's 'We Need Capital Letters' resource is available at <http://www.skillsworkshop.org/sentence/capitals.pdf>

## Curriculum References

Rs/E2.4 Rs/E3.3 Rs/L1.2 – Use punctuation and capitalisation to aid to understanding

Ws/E2.3 – Use punctuation correctly (e.g. capital letters, ...)

Ws/E2.4 – Use a capital letter for proper nouns

Ws/E3.3 – Use punctuation correctly (e.g. capital letters, ...)

Ws/L1.3 – Punctuate sentences correctly and use punctuation so that meaning is clear.

## Teacher's list of shopping bag items

<b>Book titles</b>	Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets (explain small 'and', 'the') Life, the Universe and Everything (as above)
<b>Days and Months</b>	calendar birthday card with 'October' on it diary
<b>Film titles</b>	Meet the Parents (explain small 'the') It's a Wonderful Life (explain small 'a')
<b>Brand names</b>	Walker crisps Colgate toothbrush Coca Cola bottle
<b>Abbreviations</b>	BBC Skillswise CD Nutcracker (RBS) program BBC Cashwise CD NASA bookmark AA flyer NHS flyer
<b>Names of companies</b>	letter – Liverpool & Victoria credit card sample business cards
<b>Insurance numbers</b>	NI cards
<b>Forms</b>	college registration form
<b>Cities and towns</b>	postcards - London / Budapest / New York map - Madrid snow shaker - Bournemouth
<b>Important places</b>	photo - Big Ben photo - Statue of Liberty small model - Eiffel Tower
<b>Sporting clubs / stadiums</b>	trophy rugby shirt
<b>Organisations</b>	letter – Inland Revenue
<b>Crossword</b>	sample
<b>Railway stations / airports</b>	train timetable Birmingham Airport magazine china ashtray with London underground map
<b>Titles</b>	name change document

**Note:** this list to be adapted by the teacher according to available materials, interests of student group, locality, etc. Refer to Margaret Lagoyianni's resource (see page1) for a comprehensive list of 'When we use capital letters'.

## List of pictures for flip chart or PowerPoint

**Mountain**

**River Thames**

**Crossword**

**Rugby ball, football, football shirt**

**Wedding couple**

**Wine bottle, glasses, beer glass on table, 'Cheers' sign above**

**Frowning man holding briefcase (word 'tax' on briefcase)**

**Bus / train**

**Palace (the Queen in window)**

**Can of Heinz baked beans / Heinz ketchup / Coca Cola bottle**

**Car registration plate**

**Television**

**Big Ben**

**Person holding cup / trophy**

**Note:** this list should be adapted by the teacher to suit the learning group and to reflect items NOT included in the shopping bag. Refer to Margaret Lagoyianni's resource (see page1) for a comprehensive list of 'When we use capital letters'.