

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

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