

How to Use This Book . . .

The activities in this book provide an excellent source of grammar practice for elementary students. The pages can be used as drill reinforcement or as independent instructional material and are designed to help motivate students to learn through a variety of exercises. The activities in this book are grouped by skill; these skills may overlap more than one grade level and should be used in ways that best meet each student's needs. The reproducibles are created so that a student can work with a minimum of supervision in a classroom or at home. Answer keys to all exercises have been provided in the back of the book.



EXTRA! EXTRA! When you see this symbol, be sure to check out the "extra" extension activity provided.

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Harry's hints:

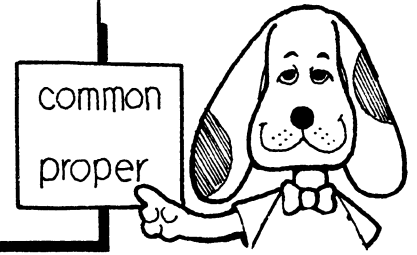
A **common noun** names any person, place, or thing.

Examples: trainer, zoo, bird cage

A **proper noun** names a particular person, place, or thing.

Examples: Mr. Johns, St. Louis Zoo, World's Fair Bird Cage

Begin each important word with a capital letter.



In the following paragraph, underline the common nouns. Circle the proper nouns that should be capitalized.

susan and john arrived at the midtown movie theater too late to see the matinee. They decided to take a walk through forest park and see the animals at the st. louis zoo. It was labor day and they knew there would be a big crowd watching all the animals. The chimpanzee show was very popular.

Rewrite only the proper nouns correctly in the following list.

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. mississippi river _____ | 8. september _____ | 15. town _____ |
| _____ | 9. mayor _____ | 16. nbc network _____ |
| 2. school _____ | 10. abraham lincoln _____ | _____ |
| 3. new york _____ | _____ | 17. airplane _____ |
| 4. boy _____ | 11. mexico _____ | 18. jimmy carter _____ |
| 5. thanksgiving _____ | 12. saturday _____ | _____ |
| 6. city _____ | 13. friend _____ | 19. france _____ |
| 7. lake _____ | 14. dog _____ | 20. raincoat _____ |

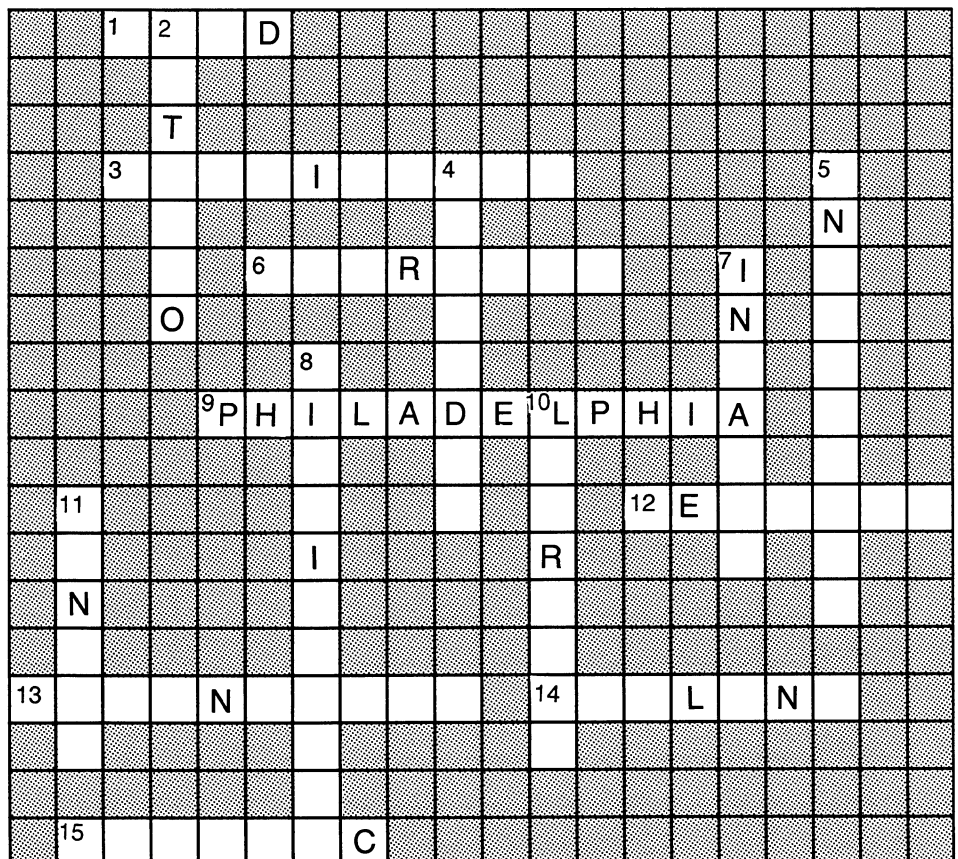
Finish the crossword puzzle by changing each common noun into a proper noun.

ACROSS

1. automobile
3. president
6. month
9. city
12. country
13. special day
14. city
15. ocean

DOWN

2. great lake
4. day of the week
5. continent
7. author
8. river
10. breed of dog
11. state

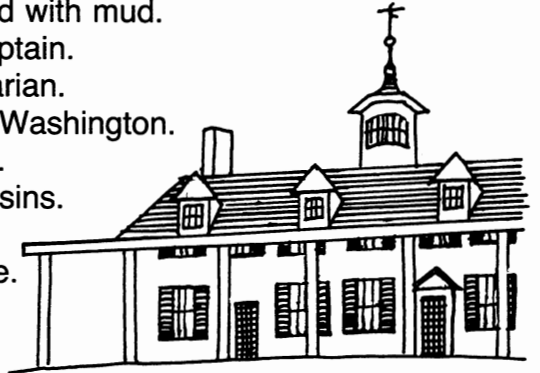


An **appositive** is a word or group of words that explain or mean the same thing as the noun they follow.

Example: We had my favorite dessert, **chocolate cake**.

In each of the following sentences, underline the appositive and circle the noun it explains.

1. The uniform of George Martlin, the quarterback, was caked with mud.
2. The trophy, a tall bronze statue, was given to the team captain.
3. Shelley returned the books to Mrs. Hartzfeld, the new librarian.
4. The tour bus stopped at Mt. Vernon, the home of George Washington.
5. The hound, a mean-looking beast, bounded after the deer.
6. We went on vacation with Kim Ling and Su Yung, our cousins.
7. Karate, a martial art, requires a lot of mental discipline.
8. The judge asked to see Mr. Dwyer, the lawyer on the case.
9. We just met the Wileys, our nextdoor neighbors.
10. His burial site, an ancient mausoleum, has been restored.



Make the following subjects into complete sentences by writing an appositive and a predicate for each one.

1. The crew _____
2. The house _____
3. A bird _____
4. The song _____
5. A large leaf _____
6. Louise _____
7. The skaters _____
8. Dr. Leo _____
9. The score _____
10. Wayne _____

Choose an appropriate appositive from the right column and write it on the line next to a noun in the left column.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Marie, _____ 2. The rose, _____ 3. My name, _____ 4. James Howard, _____ 5. Their house, _____ 6. The director, _____ 7. The professor, _____ 8. Rev. Smith, _____ 9. The head nurse, _____ 10. The dalmation, _____ | <p>the author</p> <p>John's wife</p> <p>a competent woman</p> <p>a graduate of Harvard</p> <p>a pink species</p> <p>known as Sparky</p> <p>Veronica Birney</p> <p>the tax assessor</p> <p>a fine speaker</p> <p>the town's landmark</p> |
|--|---|

On a separate paper, rewrite the following story about the Vikings. Add an appropriate appositive where there is an asterisk (*).

The Vikings, sea rovers from Scandinavia, loved war and fighting. Their ships * carried raiding parties to many lands. The Runic alphabet * was used by the Vikings. Some of the Vikings explored and settled Greenland *. Most people were frightened when they heard of the approach of the Vikings. Before they set out on voyages, the men planted crops *. Grain * was harvested on their return. In the winter, the raiders prepared for the next trip. Games and entertainment * helped pass the long cold evenings.

Harry's hints:

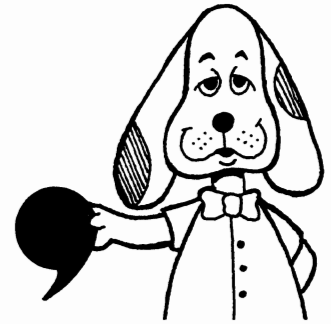
A **contraction** is a shortened form of two words. An **apostrophe** is used to show where one or more letters have been left out.

A contraction can be made of a **verb** and **not**.

Examples: did not—didn't, are not—aren't

A contraction can be made of a **pronoun** and a **verb**.

Examples: she has—she's, they are—they're



Write the pronoun and the verb that creates each contraction:

she's _____ I'm _____ you've _____

it's _____ they'd _____ I'll _____

Write the contraction for each pronoun and verb:

I have _____ they will _____ it has _____

he is _____ you are _____ we had _____

In the Word Find below, circle pairs of words that will form a contraction. Write the contraction of the words on the lines at the right.

WORD FIND

I F V T J Q T P H I R M Q W X	1. _____	6. _____
Y O U H A V E H S W E H A D P	2. _____	7. _____
H E J T Z B M A Y I H E H A S	3. _____	8. _____
E D U Y O U W I L L X I E F O	4. _____	9. _____
H C S R L A K T C L I S O N Y	5. _____	10. _____
A I H A V E B I L N A M Z F D		
D K V X B C D S H E W I L L G		

In the following paragraph, circle the contractions. On the blanks following the paragraph, write the pronoun and the verb each contraction represents.

We're planning a camping trip to the Colorado Rockies this spring. We think it's a great experience to sleep in tents under the beautiful sky. Our leader taught us what we'll need to know to survive in the wilderness. She's explained how to use a knife and build a campfire. It'll be very exciting. We've heard about the great adventure of riding the rapids in a raft.

Write five sentences about an adventure that you have had or would like to have someday. Choose five of the following contractions and use one correctly in each sentence.

i'll he'd she'll we'd it's they're you'll

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Sometimes possessive pronouns are confused with contractions. Possessive pronouns **do not** have apostrophes. In the sentences below, circle the correct possessive pronoun or contraction.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. (It's, Its) time to put up the tent. | 4. (You're, your) really a big help. |
| 2. What sturdy fabric (it's, its) made from! | 5. I think we have room for (you're, your) sleeping bag. |
| 3. Please give me (it's, its) stakes. | |