**The Proper Noun**

**Recognize a *proper noun* when you see one.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Common Noun** | **Proper Noun** |
| writer  teacher  cat  cookie  city  restaurant  document  school | Stephenie Meyer  Mr. Hacket  Garfield  Oreo  Herriman  Winger’s  Declaration of Independence  Fort Herriman Middle School |

A *proper* noun has two distinctive features: 1) it will name a specific [usually a one-of-a-kind] item, and 2) i***t will begin with a capital letter***

Read the following sentences. Notice the difference between the common and proper nouns.

Tina offered Antonio one of her mother's homemade oatmeal ***cookies*** but only an ***Oreo*** would satisfy his sweet tooth.

***cookies*** = common noun; ***Oreo*** = proper noun.

Charlie had wanted an easy ***teacher*** for his English class, but he got ***Mr. Hacket***, whose short temper and unreasonable demands made the semester a torture.

***teacher*** = common noun; ***Mr. Hacket*** = proper noun.

Gloria wanted to try a new ***restaurant***, so Richard took her to ***Winger’s***, where no one dips into the hot sauce until the drinks have arrived at the table.

***restaurant*** = common noun; ***Winger’s*** = proper noun.

Capitalization Practice

Correct the capitalization errors of the following sentences by triple underlining the letters that should be capitalized.

1. i went with martha to guatamala.
2. i have an appointment on monday with dr. harris.
3. my favorite holiday is valentine’s day.
4. my favorite day of the week is friday because my mom always makes pizza.
5. he is going to dress up as a doctor for halloween.
6. i went to see the empire state building with mom, dad, and my cousins.
7. i asked my dad last night if i could go to the taylor swift concert.
8. did you see *the office* on television last night?
9. my favorite thing about thanksgiving is eating pie.

10. fort herriman middle school is a great school!