

# Week 1

## My Space



This week you will learn to:

- Produce a vox pop activity.
- Describe an item you wouldn't leave home without.
- Review the use of capital letters.
- Select a suitable **Wide Reading** book.

# Give me some space!

‘My Space’. What do these words mean to you? For the next couple of weeks we are going to spend some time looking at the idea of personal space and the fascinating question of identity.

Read over the descriptions of ‘my space’ in the Vox Pop below and compare them with your own. What do they all have in common? Whether it is a description of a physical space or a virtual space everyone seems to want a space that is highly personal. Somewhere they can truly be themselves.

## VOX POP

### What do the words ‘my space’ mean to you?

| Josephine, 14                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Jack, 15                                                                                                                                                 | David, 41                                                                                                                                 | Lauren, 14                                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| To me the words “My Space” mean a lot of things. My space is on my farm where I can go and work and not hear anything but myself, the birds and the occasional car whizzing past. I am also in my own space when I dance. | I know it’s a web site where you can do stuff but to me my space is my room. My posters, my bed, my music, my guitar, my food. It’s a place just for me. | My Space is my shed. It’s a place where I can be myself. I can work on my car or fix things and listen to music or sport on the weekends. | My space is my music. Whenever I am bored, sad, or happy I pick up my guitar and play. I feel like I’m in another world. |



Whenever you see this little icon, it is a reminder to take a small break. Go and get yourself a glass of water or have a little stretch before getting back to work.

### A1.3

As you can see 'My Space' means different things to different people. Some people think about the physical space that they like to be in and others think about virtual space. Blogs and social networking web sites have become incredibly popular in recent times.

What are some of these sites that you know about? .....

.....

Which ones (if any) do you use? .....

.....

What would you say if someone interviewed you about what the words 'My Space' mean to you? **Write two or three sentences in the space provided below.** Also include **an image of yourself**. This can be a photo or a drawing or a symbol that represents you in some way.

**SEND**      **Work for submission**      (Week 1 Vox Pop activity)

| <b>VOX POP</b>                                      |       |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------|
| <b>What do the words 'My Space' mean to you?</b>    |       |
| [place photo, drawing (of yourself) or symbol here] |       |
| Name:                                               |       |
| Age:                                                |       |
| Location:                                           |       |
| To me, the words 'My Space' mean:                   |       |
|                                                     | _____ |
|                                                     | _____ |
|                                                     | _____ |
|                                                     | _____ |
|                                                     | _____ |

## A1.4

You may have heard of William Shakespeare. He was a very popular writer way back in the 16<sup>h</sup> century and many of the lines in his plays and poems still ring true today. Here is a quote from his play *Hamlet*:

‘This above all: to thine own self be true’

The message in this quote is that it’s important to be yourself and be true to your own ideas and beliefs. But how do we know who we are and does that stay the same forever?



Your identity is made up of the qualities that make you unique and different to other people. The special things about you. There is also a social aspect to your identity. Your family and cultural background influence your identity as do the friends you choose to be a part of your world.

Let’s have a quick look at some of the ways your identity can be expressed:

- The way you dress
- How you communicate
- Your beliefs
- Music & Art
- Sport
- Your other interests
- The food you eat
- The people you choose to be your friends
- Places you like to be – both physical and virtual.



**'Any place I hang my hat is home.'**

This is the title of an old jazz song. This phrase uses the hat as a symbol for something that goes with you wherever you go, and which makes you feel you belong.

Is there a particular item that generally goes with you wherever you go?

Perhaps it is:

- a book
- an mp3 player
- a mobile phone
- a particular pair of shoes or an item of clothing
- an item of jewellery
- a photograph
- a diary
- a gameboy



Describe this item and explain why you like to have it with you. Is it an important part of your identity?

You should present this task in a **creative** way. In addition to **writing approximately 250 words** about your favourite item, you can also **show us what the item looks like**. Some ideas about how to do so include:

- Attaching a photograph of your favourite item
- Drawing or painting a picture of your favourite item
- Inserting an image using Photoshop, PaintShop Pro, Publisher or other similar software
- Creating a PowerPoint presentation.



# Capital Letters

## Let's Focus on Capital Letters

When I'm reading your work this week I will be looking at how you use capital letters. Here is a brief refresher on where and how you should use capital letters. It is followed by a practice exercise. Before you send in your work this week I want you to check to see if you have used capital letters correctly and fix up any mistakes you have made.

**Capital letters (or letters in the upper case) show the reader where sentences begin. They also help us recognise names of particular people, places and things.**

**1. Capitalise the first word in every sentence and the first word in direct speech.**

Eels are slippery.  
Joe asked, 'Catch anything?'

**2. Capitalise every proper noun.**

**For people:**

Frances Smith  
Uncle Dave  
Mrs Rogers  
Doctor Fisher

**For places:**

Melbourne, Australia  
Telstra Dome  
Victoria

**For organisations or institutions:**

Royal Children's Hospital  
Distance Education Centre Victoria

**3. For names of brands and products:**

Ford cars  
Kellogg's Corn Flakes

**4. For nationalities, languages and religions:**

Japanese  
Hebrew  
Buddhism



**5. For the days of the week, months of the year and holidays (but not the seasons).**

Monday  
June  
Christmas Day

**6. For titles of books, film, plays, works of art and musical compositions:**

Star Wars  
Pride and Prejudice  
Phantom of the Opera

*Note that the small words such as 'and', 'the' and 'of' are not capitalised.*

**7. Capitalise adjectives formed from proper nouns.**

the Australian flag

**8. Capitalise the pronoun 'I' at all times.**

Everyone hoped that I would do well at school.

**9. Do not capitalise common nouns that refer to general people, places or things.**

the teacher  
your mum and dad

**See the box below for how this works with 'mum' and 'dad' or 'Mum' and 'Dad'.**

**What about capital letters for mum and dad?**

You do not capitalise the words "mum" and "dad" unless you can replace the words with their actual, given names. Suppose that your parents' names are Ann and Matt.

The words 'mum' and 'dad' would not be capitalised in the following sentence: 'Yesterday, my mum and dad came to visit me.' You would not capitalize 'mom' and 'dad' because you could not replace the words with their names. You would not say, 'Yesterday, my Ann and Matt came to visit me.'

However, you would capitalise 'mum' and 'dad' in the following sentence: 'Yesterday, Mum and Dad came to visit me.' You could replace the words 'mum' and 'dad' with their given names: 'Yesterday, Ann and Matt came to visit me.'

Also, if the word 'mum' or 'dad' begin the sentence, then the word should be capitalised. For example: 'Mum came to visit me yesterday' or 'Dad came to visit me yesterday' are correct.

**Common nouns:** A common noun is a word that names a person, place or thing. It does not begin with a capital letter unless it starts a sentence.

*Example: Visitors to the zoo love seeing the reptiles and monkeys.*

**Proper nouns:** A proper noun names a particular person, place or thing. A proper noun always starts with a capital letter.

*Example: Batman visited Sydney on his way to Florida with Robin.*

**SEND**

**Work For Submission**

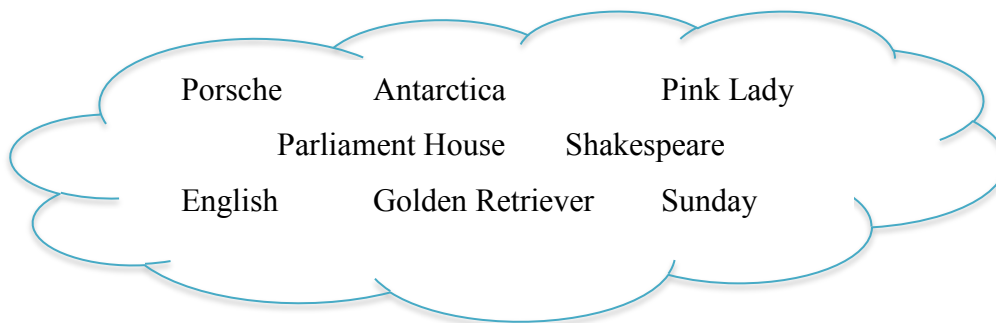
(Week 1 Your activity on capital letters)

**Using proper nouns**

1. When writing down dialogue (a conversation between two people) capital letters are needed to start off the first word in each sentence *and* to start the first spoken word.

| A conversation needing capital letters                                        | Correct version                                                 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| a) 'what are you doing?' asked John as he sat down beside his dad.            | 'What are you doing?' asked John as he sat down beside his dad. |
| b) his dad looked up. 'just trying to fix this toaster for your mum.'         |                                                                 |
| c) 'why don't you buy her a new one?' asked John'.                            |                                                                 |
| d) 'mother's day is coming up.'                                               |                                                                 |
| e) his dad shook his head. 'I'm thinking of getting her a chainsaw for that!' |                                                                 |

2. Fill in the table below using the proper nouns in this bubble:



| Common nouns          | Proper nouns        |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Example: river</b> | <b>Murray River</b> |
| writer                |                     |
| apple                 |                     |
| continent             |                     |
| building              |                     |
| dog                   |                     |
| car                   |                     |
| day                   |                     |
| language              |                     |



## A1.9

**Use each of these common and proper nouns in a sentence. You do not need to start the sentence with the word.**

| Common noun used in a sentence                                                       | Proper noun used in a sentence                                         |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Example:</b> (captain): I would like to be a <u>captain</u> of the football team. | <b>Example:</b> (Captain): Brave <u>Captain</u> Forbes led the attack. |
| doctor:                                                                              | Doctor:                                                                |
| street:                                                                              | Street:                                                                |
| river:                                                                               | River:                                                                 |

### 3. Begin each of the proper nouns with a capital letter.

|         | Incorrect use                                                      | The correct use of proper nouns                        |
|---------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| Example | <i>The <u>salvation army</u> helps people in need.</i>             | <i>The <u>Salvation Army</u> helps people in need.</i> |
| a)      | In australia we celebrate christmas in the summer.                 |                                                        |
| b)      | Aunt sarah lives in south australia.                               |                                                        |
| c)      | Dad drives a ford but mum prefers a Ferrari.                       |                                                        |
| d)      | The <i>cat in the hat</i> was my favourite book when I was little. |                                                        |
| e)      | The pacific ocean is vast.                                         |                                                        |



# Wide Reading

## Reading Made Easy

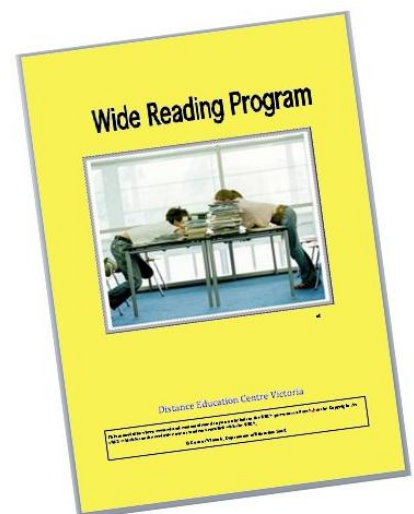
Take some time to choose and read your Wide Reading Book now. **See the Wide Reading Program Booklet for details.** If you have some difficulties disciplining yourself to read, here are a few tips to help you stick with it — and enjoy it!



- Work out how long you have to read the book and read an equal number of pages each day so that you finish in time.
- Before you start your lessons each day, read for ten or twenty minutes.
- Read regularly before you go to sleep each night.
- If you have a friend studying Year 9 English, choose the same book. You can then discuss the novel with them.
- Have a dictionary with you when you read. It can be frustrating to enjoy a book if you do not understand some of the words you're reading.
- Encourage another member of your family to read the book too. You'll be able to discuss it with him/her.

## Wide reading timeline

- Start reading this week if you haven't already done so.
- **Make sure that you are filling in your Reading Notes as you read. See pages 4 and 10 of the Wide Reading Booklet.**
- You will be completing work on your book in **Week 2 of Module B.** That will give you three weeks to finish it. It would be a good idea to write this date in your diary or on a wall calendar so that you remember.



## Checklist

This week you should have sent this work to me.

Please tick the item you have sent, and keep this as your record:

- Your Vox Pop activity.
- Your description of an item you never leave home without.
- Your activities on capital letters.

**END OF WEEK 1**

## References

Shakespeare, W., *Hamlet*

*English Skills Builder*, Manning, M., and McKenzie.M., Oxford, 2000.

<http://www.reference.com/motif/society/do-you-capitalize-mom-and-dad>

|                             |
|-----------------------------|
| <b>STUDENT NUMBER</b> _____ |
| <b>STUDENT NAME</b> _____   |
| _____                       |

**SUBJECT**                                      English

**MODULE**                      A                      **WEEK**                      1

**TEACHER**                      \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE CHECK THAT YOU HAVE ATTACHED:**

|                                                                                    |                                                           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Your Vox Pop activity                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Your activity on capital letters |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Your description of an item you never leave home without. |                                                           |

**REVIEW, REFLECT AND ASK**

|                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                       |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>I found this week's course work:</b><br><br>( ) Very interesting<br><br>( ) Interesting<br><br>( ) Sort of interesting<br><br>( ) Not interesting | <b>I think the work was:</b><br><br>( ) Too easy<br><br>( ) Easy<br><br>( ) OK<br><br>( ) Challenging |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

|                                                                                                                      |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Questions I have about this week:</b> <i>(Why? What? When? Who? How?)</i><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**TEACHER'S COMMENTS**

**Some things I liked about your work:**

**Please consider doing the following next time:**