

TEXAS GRADE 1 WRITING

Developmental Series Sample

Objective 6: The student will proofread for correct punctuation, capitalization, and spelling in written text.

Knowledge and Skills Statement

(1.17) Writing/penmanship/capitalization/punctuation: The student develops the foundations of writing.

Student Expectation

(G) The student is expected to use basic capitalization and punctuation, such as capitalizing names and first letters in sentences, using periods, question marks, and exclamation points.

CAPITALIZATION ACTIVITY

Is It Proper?

Materials

Is It Proper? activity sheets— 1 set per pair

Procedure

Before starting this activity, review with students the difference between common and proper nouns, if necessary.

Note: The proper nouns that appear in this activity have been limited to the names of people, days of the week, months of the year, places, and holidays.

Divide students into pairs, and distribute the sets of *Is It Proper?* activity sheets. Have students read the directions and the riddle on the first page of the activity sheets.

Students in each pair work together to complete the activity sheets and answer the riddle. All items on the activity sheets have been capitalized even though only some of them are proper nouns that should be capitalized. Students decide which of the items are correctly capitalized proper nouns. They circle the letters that are after these items. Then, they fill in the boxes on the first page of the activity sheets with these letters, making sure to write the circled letters in the order they appear on the second page of the activity sheets. When all the boxes are filled, the letters inside them should spell out the answer to the activity's riddle.

When all pairs are finished, discuss with students their answers.

Answer Key

The answer to the riddle should read—

QUACKERS



Names _____ Date _____

Is It Proper?

Look at the words on the next page. All the words start with capital letters. Only some of the words are proper nouns. Decide which words are proper nouns. Circle the letters after just those words. Then, write the first letter that is circled in the first box. Write the second letter that is circled in the next box. Keep going until you have put a letter in each box.

When you are done, the letters in the boxes will spell out the answer to this riddle:

What do ducks put in their soup?

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--





Yesterday T

Texas Q

Sam U

House R

Girl O

Thursday A

Park M

Baby I

June C

School T

Mother's Day K

America E

State S

Tomorrow L

May R

Today M

Sunday S



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Sharif is in the first grade. He wrote this paper about a special day called Arbor Day. Sharif wants you to help him with his paper. Read Sharif's paper. Think about corrections he should make. Then answer the questions after the paper.

A Special Day for Trees

(1) Each year we have many special days. (2) One of these days is for trees. (3) This day is called Arbor Day.

(4) Every year on Arbor Day, people all over the United States plant trees.

(5) Arbor Day was begun many years ago by a man named Julius Morton. (6) Mr Morton lived in the state of Nebraska.

(7) He did not think there were enough trees in his state.

(8) So, he called for a special day for planting trees.



(9) People named this day Arbor Day. (10) The first Arbor Day was April 10 1872. (11) On that date, people in Nebraska planted more than one million trees.

(12) People in other states heard about Arbor Day.

(13) They liked the idea. (14) They wanted to have a day for trees, too. (15) It did not take long before each state had its own Arbor Day. (16) Just like in Nebraska, this was a day set aside for planting trees.

(17) Today, people still plant trees on Arbor Day.

(18) They know that trees are pritty to look at and good for the land. (19) Will you plant a tree this Arbor Day.

1 What change is needed in sentence 5?

- A change *man* to **Man**
- B change *julius* to **Julius**
- C no change

2 What change is needed in sentence 6?

- A add a . after *Mr*
- B change the . after **Nebraska** to a ?
- C no change



3 What change is needed in sentence 10?

A add a , after **April**

B add a , after **10**

C no change

4 What change is needed in sentence 18?

A change **pritty** to **pretty**

B change **land** to **lann**

C no change

5 What change is needed in sentence 19?

A change the . after **Day** to a !

B change the . after **Day** to a ?

C no change

