



SCHOOLHOUSE NEWS

The Purcell Register

4th Grade

Name _____ Date _____

Capitalization and Writing Titles

Capitalize important words in the titles of movies, books, chapters, and articles in a newspaper or magazine. Short words such as *in*, *if*, *of*, *a*, and *the* are not capitalized unless they are the first word in the title.

When writing the title of a shorter work, such as a story or news article, use quotation marks. When writing the title of a longer work, such as a book, magazine, or movie, underline the title.

book title	story
<u>A Pizza for Jin</u>	"The Diary of a Mouse"

Thinking Questions
Which words in this title should be capitalized? Does the title name a long work or a short work?

1–4. Rewrite each sentence. Add capital letters, underlining, and punctuation where they are needed.

- The headline in Friday’s newspaper read “clowns lead parade.”

- the little mermaid is my little sister’s favorite movie.

- Jesse’s story about his trip to Mexico was called “crossing the border.”

- benson elementary wins trophy was the front page headline in the school paper.

Grammar

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Grade 4, Unit 5

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Background In the mid-1800s, people began refining “rock oil,” or petroleum, to make fuels and other products. The first modern oil well in the United States was drilled in Pennsylvania in 1859. This text, from an online encyclopedia entry, gives factual information about the beginnings of the oil industry in Texas.

Setting a Purpose Read the text to learn how the Texas oil industry began.

Spindletop

Informational Text

CLOSE READ Notes

geologist:

- 1 Read** As you read, collect and cite text evidence.
- Underline problems faced by the men who wanted to start the Texas oil industry.
 - Circle the solution to each problem.

In the 1890s Texas produced only small amounts of oil. But one risk-taker thought that east Texas was worthy of further study. In 1892, Pattillo (puh TIH loh) Higgins, a self-taught geologist, began drilling for oil. He drilled near Beaumont, Texas, in an area called Spindletop Hill. Spindletop was a salt dome, a hill formed by rising underground mineral salts. Higgins’s

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first drills found nothing. His financial situation was looking bad. So he hired Captain Anthony F. Lucas to take over.

The Lucas Geyser

Lucas was a leading geologist with a reputation as an expert on salt domes. He began drilling at Spindletop in 1899. At first, he, too, had no luck. The money he relied on was running out. Lucas escorted businessmen to Beaumont, hoping that they would invest in the well. Most of them felt that he did not deserve their help. But Lucas defended his ideas about salt domes and oil. Finally, his investors were satisfied that his project was worthwhile, and the funds came in.

On the morning of January 10, 1901, Lucas’s team drilled down 1,139 feet—and found oil. “The Lucas Geyser,” as it came to be called, blew oil more than 150 feet in the air. In time, it would produce 100,000 barrels per day. Until then, few oil fields in Texas had produced more than 25 barrels per day!

CLOSE READ Notes

financial:

invest:

2 Reread Reread lines 1–23. How did Higgins and Lucas overcome problems to start the oil industry in Texas? Cite details in your response.

Name _____ Date _____

End Punctuation

The punctuation at the end of a sentence helps to show its meaning. Use a period (.) at the end of a statement or a command. Use a question mark (?) at the end of a question and an exclamation mark (!) to show strong feeling.

declarative	I like to play basketball.
imperative	Hand me the ball, please.
interrogative	What is the score?
exclamatory	What a great game!

Thinking Questions
What kind of sentence is it? Does the sentence tell something, ask a question, or show excitement?

1–8. Add the correct end mark for each sentence. Write *declarative*, *interrogative*, *imperative*, or *exclamatory* on the line.

- A voice command can make the mechanical dog walk and sit _____
- Insert a quarter into the machine _____
- How many centuries have passed since the Revolutionary War _____
- The building inspector will come here to check next week _____
- Your picture is amazing _____
- What a waste of time this is _____
- How much progress have you made with your work _____
- Try not to miss your bus _____

Grammar

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