

Read and Analyze

Leif Erikson may have been the first European sailor to reach North America. He built a community in what is now Canada nearly 500 years before Columbus landed in the Americas.

Circle words that name specific people, places, or things.

A common noun names a person, place, thing, or idea. A **proper noun** names a specific person, place, thing, or idea. The important words in proper nouns are **capitalized**. **Proper adjectives** are descriptive words formed from proper nouns. They must be capitalized. A **title of respect**, such as *Mr.* or *Judge*, may be used before a person's name. It is capitalized.

See Handbook Sections 1, 14, and 15

Practice

Circle lowercase letters that should be uppercase letters. Draw a line through uppercase letters that should be lowercase. (1–16)

Leif Erikson was born in iceland about A.D. 960. His father was named erik the Red. Erik had moved to Iceland from norway. After a Series of fights, Erik the red was banished from Iceland for three years. Banishment was a common punishment in ancient icelandic society.

A skilled Norse sailor, Erik the Red decided to spend his banishment investigating reports of Islands off Iceland's west coast. Erik sailed across the atlantic in an open boat called a *knörr*. 'In July of that year, Erik' with 'He' reached a huge, uninhabited Island mostly covered by ice. However, the island's southwestern coast was ice-free and fertile. Erik named this land greenland.

When Erik returned to Iceland, he told tales of a rich land to the west. The next summer he returned to Greenland with a group of icelandic settlers. These people became Greenland's first European community. Leif erikson was among them. Erik named the community brattahild. For 14 years the Greenland colony grew, but problems persisted. Supplies had to be shipped from norway, and Greenland's limited supply of timber was rapidly being depleted. Leif Erikson set out to search for a "heavily wooded land" to the west, which a sailor named bjarni had described. That land was North america.

Apply

Rewrite these sentences to correct the errors.

17. leif's crew sailed northwest, passing what is known today as baffin island, canada.

18. They eventually landed near where a River met the atlantic ocean. _____

19. The greenlanders were impressed with the thick forests, the mild Weather, and the giant salmon in the streams. _____

20. They stayed through the winter, and when they left for greenland in the spring, Leif named this land vinland. _____

21. The small community they founded is believed to have been the first european settlement in north america. _____

Reinforce

Imagine you were on Leif's crew. Write a note to your parents. Describe the voyage and the settlement you founded. Use at least three proper nouns and two proper adjectives.
