

Read and Analyze

Why do tourists come to Scotland's **Shetland Islands**? They certainly don't come to bask in the sun—sunny weather is uncommon in Shetland, even in summer. They don't come to see forests or mountain scenery—Shetland's islands have only low hills and are mostly treeless. Most tourists don't come to shop, either, though **Harry's Departmental Store** offers a nice array of gifts, toys, and essential items such as **Yellowstone Headtorches** for seeing at night while camping.

Underline the boldfaced words that are the name of a place. Circle the boldfaced words that are the name of a product. Draw a box around the boldfaced words that are the name of a business.

Proper nouns are the names of particular people, places, or things. Capitalize each important word in geographic names and in the names of people, important events, holidays, periods of time, organizations, companies, and products.

See Handbook Sections 1 and 15

Practice

Circle each word that should begin with an uppercase letter.

- The shetland islands lie between the orkney islands, also a part of scotland, and the faroe islands, which are administered by denmark.
- To the west of the shetland islands is the atlantic ocean; to the east is the north sea.
- Although skies are often gray in shetland from memorial day through the fourth of july, the sky is light much of the time because of the island's northerly location.
- Shetland's hundred islands do offer dramatic landscapes and seascapes unspoiled by commercial development; tour companies such as wildabout orkney arrange treks for visitors.
- Scotland has designated shetland as a national scenic area; the islands of foula, muckle roe, fair isle, and herma ness are among the most scenic.
- Tourists can watch sea mammals such as the common seal and the gray seal all year on the beaches of shetland, and a number of marine mammal species from the arctic also visit these islands.
- An organization called the shetland sea mammal group publishes an annual report of all seal sightings in the shetland islands.
- Birdwatchers travel to sumburgh head national nature reserve to see seabirds such as kittiwakes and fulmars.
- The most prevalent animals on the islands are sheep, and shetland islanders have long been famous for the quality of their wool yarn and the beauty of their sweaters.
- The brand of yarn called shetland heritage can be purchased at jamieson & smith, 90 north road, lerwick, shetland, and local sweaters are offered at anderson & co. in the shetland warehouse in lewick.

Apply

Think of a proper noun to complete each sentence. Write it in the blank. Capitalize each important word.

11. If I could choose an island to visit, it would be _____.
12. A store where I could buy suitable clothes for a visit to that island is _____.
13. This store is located on a roadway named _____.
14. It is located in the community of _____.
15. A perfect holiday on which to visit this island would be _____.

Reinforce

Poets often choose to capitalize words that would not be capitalized in ordinary writing; they may do this to cause readers to notice and think about particular words. Read this verse by one of America's most famous poets:

I'll tell you how the Sun rose—
 A Ribbon at a time—
 The Steeples swam in Amethyst—
 The news, like Squirrels, ran.

—Emily Dickinson
No. 318

Why do you think the poet chose to capitalize the words she did? _____

Now try your hand at writing a short poem in which you capitalize particular words to grab the readers' attention and make them think about the words.
