### 1. Focus

#### Explain Capitalization and Punctuation in Sentences

**Say:** We know that all sentences are supposed to begin with capital letters and end with end marks like periods. That’s easy to do when there is only one sentence. We capitalize the first letter. We put a period at the end.

Write the modeling text on the board.

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The water park was fun.
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**Modeling Text**

**Say:** I know I need to capitalize the *t* in *the* because that is the first word in the sentence. (Mark through, or erase, the lower case *t* and replace with a capital *T*.) And I know I need a period at the end of the sentence. (Place a period at the end of the sentence.) But how do we know when to use capital letters and periods in a paragraph when there is one sentence after another? Well, the first thing we have to do is identify complete thoughts.

#### Model Capitalization and Punctuation in Sentences

Write the modeling text on the board without capital letters or periods. Rapidly, read the words out loud.

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Baby presents were all over the floor. My sister was in bed. Nazaih was next to her.
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**Modeling Text**

**Say:** This is a mess. I can’t tell one thought from another thought because I didn’t add capital letters or periods. I need to read these words again, but this time I need to read them slowly and find complete thoughts. Then I’ll know where to put the capital letters and periods. Baby presents were all over. That doesn’t sound right. All over where? Oh! All over the floor. So I need to put a period after floor. That means I need to capitalize the *m* in *my*. (Place a period after *floor* and capitalize the *m* in *my.*) So the next sentence starts with *my*: “My sister was in bed nazaih was.” Whoops. Wrong again. That sentence must be “My sister was in bed.” Period. (Place a period after *bed.*) So the last sentence starts with *Nazaih*: “Nazaih was next to her.” Period. (Place a period after *bed.*) Now that I know the beginning and end for each sentence, I know which words need to be capitalized. (Capitalize *baby*, *my*, and *Nazaih*.)
Say: Now I’ll read the sentences again. Read sentences aloud making sure to pause at each period. Capital letters and periods separated the thoughts. The sentences are easier to read and sound better.

2. Rehearse

Practice Using Capital Letters and Periods in Sentences

Display the practice text on chart paper or using the interactive whiteboard resources.

1. Grandpa said that we could ride our bikes to the park. We need to put our helmets on before we go. We don’t want to get hurt.
2. We went on a picnic this weekend we had hotdogs for lunch then we swam in the lake and chased squirrels.
3. It was almost Dad’s birthday I didn’t know what to get him it’s too bad he didn’t make a wish list.

Practice Text

Ask students to form pairs. Invite pairs to include capitalization and periods in the sentences. (Students do not need to copy sentences.)

If your class includes English learners or other students who need support, use “Strategies to Support ELs.”

Share Sentences with Correct Capitalization and Punctuation

Discuss pairs’ responses. Ask the following questions:
• Where did you place capital letters and periods?
• What did you do to help you figure out where to put capital letters and periods?
• What did this lesson teach you how to do?

3. Independent Writing and Conferring

Say: Remember to use capital letters and punctuation in your sentences. Read your sentences out loud to make sure you have complete thoughts.

You may wish to have students complete BLM 10. Encourage students to pay attention to capitalization and punctuations when they edit during independent writing time.

4. Share

Review and provide corrective feedback based on students’ answers to BLM 10. Ask students to share what they learned about capitalization and punctuations.

Strategies to Support ELs

Beginning
Display photographs (available on the interactive whiteboard resources). Model saying complete sentences about each photograph. For example, say: I see the girl. Write your sentence on chart paper. Demonstrate how you capitalize the first letter of the first word in the sentence and how you use end punctuation. Repeat, having students say and help you write the sentence.

Intermediate and Advanced
Provide simple sentences to help ELs use capital letters and periods.
For example:

i can’t go swimming the water is cold
look at the shirt a button is missing
my dad made a sandwich it is peanut butter and jelly