

Punctuating Titles

Reteaching

Quotation marks, italics, and underlining used correctly in titles show what kind of work or selection is named.

Quotation marks Use quotation marks to set off the titles of short works.

Quotation Marks for Titles			
Book chapter	"Summer Days," from <i>Charlotte's Web</i>	Magazine article	"Hands and Hearts"
Short story	"Scout's Honor"	Song	"Streets of Laredo"
Essay	"Americans All"	Poem	"Analysis of Baseball"

Italics and underlining Use italics for titles of longer works and for the names of ships, trains, spacecraft, and individual airplanes (not the type of plane). In handwriting, use underlining to indicate words that should be in italics in printed material.

Italics or Underlines for Titles			
Book	<i>Stuart Little</i>	Epic poem	<i>The Odyssey</i>
Play	<i>The Miracle Worker</i>	Painting	<i>American Gothic</i>
Magazine	<i>Time</i>	Ship	<i>U.S.S. Arizona</i>
Movie	<i>James and the Giant Peach</i>	Train	<i>Twentieth-Century Limited</i>
Long musical selection or CD	<i>Peter and the Wolf</i>	Airplane or Spacecraft	<i>Columbia</i>

Punctuating Titles Correctly

Write each sentence, using quotation marks or underlining correctly to set off titles.

1. In the Louvre Museum, in Paris, you can see the Mona Lisa.

2. Ann did her book report on Ben and Me; her favorite chapter was The Lightning Rod.

3. The Ransom of Red Chief is a funny short story by O. Henry.

4. In Baltimore harbor, we photographed the U.S.S. Constellation.

5. The Dance of the Sugarplum Fairy is a melody in The Nutcracker Suite.

6. My father once rode the New York Central Railroad's famous Empire State train.

Punctuating Titles

More Practice

A. Punctuating Titles Correctly

In each sentence below, insert quotation marks where needed and underline words that should be italicized.

1. William Shakespeare wrote Hamlet, King Lear, Macbeth, and Romeo and Juliet.
2. For homework, we have to read two chapters of Johnny Tremaine.
3. The artist's title for "Whistler's Mother" was Study in Gray and Black.
4. Two poems by Robert Frost are The Road Not Taken and Mending Wall.
5. The U.S.S. Constitution is also known as "Old Ironsides."
6. I get the Titanic confused with the Lusitania.
7. Naomi's favorite song from the musical My Fair Lady is On the Street Where You Live.
8. We saw a production of Oklahoma! by a touring company.
9. The magazine Calliope is all about world history.
10. The President of the United States flies on Air Force One.

B. Punctuating Titles Correctly

Use each title given in parentheses in a sentence, punctuating the title correctly.

1. (patriotic song: Yankee Doodle) _____

2. (long musical work by Ludwig van Beethoven: Fifth Symphony) _____

3. (short story featuring Sherlock Holmes: The Speckled Band) _____

4. (poem from *Alice in Wonderland*: Jabberwocky) _____

5. (lunar landing craft: The Eagle) _____

Punctuating Titles

Application

Punctuating Titles Correctly

Several titles of literary or musical works are listed below. Add underlining or quotation marks to the listed titles. Then write a paragraph that includes at least five of the titles. Include other works that are not listed, if you wish. Be sure to punctuate correctly. (Suggestion: In your paragraph, explain to a friend why you like or dislike—or think you would like or dislike—some of the works listed.)

Books

- The Indian in the Cupboard
- Charlotte’s Web
- Holes
- The Westing Game

Poems

- The Tyger
- The Walrus and the Carpenter
- Light in the Attic
- The Owl and the Pussycat

Short Stories

- Rip Van Winkle
- The Little Match Girl
- Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde
- The Happy Prince

Plays

- Oklahoma!
- Hamlet
- The Sound of Music
- Romeo and Juliet
