

Read and Discover

Proper Nouns and Proper Adjectives

Lesson 42

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

Part 1

Circle lowercase letters that should be capital letters. Draw a line through capital 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 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.