

How to Format Titles

Titles that you refer to must be in either quotation marks or italics. Learn when each is needed by reviewing the following lists:

Italicize the following titles and in general any titles of long works:

- Books, such as *A Brief History of Time*
- Novels, such as *Great Expectations*
- Plays, such as *Hamlet*
- Long poems, such as *The Odyssey*
- Newspapers, such as *The New York Post*
- Speeches, such as *The Gettysburg Address*
- Magazines and journals, such as *Sports Illustrated*
- Album/cd titles, such as *Abbey Road*
- Television series, such as *The Big Bang Theory*

Put **quotes** around the following and in general any titles of works that appear within larger works:

- Short stories, such as “The Birthmark”
- Essays, such as “The Lost Art of Argument”
- Newspaper articles, such as “Men Walk on Moon”
- Journal/Magazine articles, such as “To Cheat or Not to Cheat”
- Song titles, such as “Here Comes the Sun”
- Television episodes, such as “Homer the Moe”

Exercise on Title Format

Directions: Decide whether the title should be italicized or surrounded by quotes. Write *italicized* or *quotes* on the line near the title.

1. The Joshua Tree, a CD by the band U2. _____
2. Man Jumps into River to Save Drowning Boy, an article in a newspaper. _____
3. Cosmos, a book about the universe by Carl Sagan. _____
4. The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald, a song by Gordon Lightfoot. _____
5. Long Day’s Journey into Night, a play by Eugene O’Neill. _____

6. The Wall Street Journal, a newspaper. _____

7. How Children Acquire Language, a chapter from a journal. _____

8. Dexter, a television series. _____

9. I Have a Dream, a speech by Martin Luther King. _____

10. The Great SAT Swindle, a novel by Mike Hartnett. _____