Case in Titles

It is possible to create titles for topics, figures and tables with letter case structures including the following:

- start case (first letter of each word capitalised, with the remainder lower case)
- all capitals
- title case (first letter of the first and last words capitalised, nouns and verbs initial capitalised, with the remainder lower case)
- all lower case
- all lower case except the first letter
- sentence case (first word and proper nouns initial capitalised, with the remainder lower case)
- camel case (the first letter of each word capitalized, with spaces and punctuation removed)

Other variations are also possible, such as "all lower case except nouns".

For titles in publications, the following options are the most common.

- all capitals
- title case
- sentence case
- all lower case

See *Examples of Letter Case in Titles*

Some, but not all, letter case formats can be transformed automatically into other letter case formats. For example, a sentence case title can be transformed into an all capitals title. However, an all capitals title cannot be transformed automatically into a title case title, because it cannot be deduced which letters should remain in capitals (unless the parts of speech of individual words are marked up as metadata). The matrix below shows which letter cases can be automatically converted to another.

	ALL CAPITALS	Title Case	Sentence Case	all lower case
ALL CAPITALS LETTER CASE (OR ACLC) FORMAT		NO (Can't identify nouns and verbs)	NO (Can't identify proper nouns)	YES
Title Case Letter Case (or TCLC) Format	YES		NO (Can't identify nouns and verbs)	YES
Sentence case letter case (or SCLC) format	YES	NO (Can't identify nouns and verbs)		YES
all lower case letter case (or alclc) format	YES	NO (Can't identify nouns and verbs)	NO	

Title case or sentence case afford the maximum re-use possibilities, because they can be easily transformed, in the processing stage, into:

- start case
- all capitals
- all lower case
- camel case

If proper nouns are semantically identified in the title, title case could also be derived from sentence case, and vice versa.

Sentence case is easier for an author to use, as it has simpler rules (first word and proper nouns must be initial capitalised). Title case is defined by the complicated rules of:

- Always capitalise the first and last word.
- Capitalise all nouns and verbs.
- Do not use full stops or exclamation points.

Source: http://editing.suite101.com/article.cfm/how_to_write_in_title_case

The above applies to English, and may not be applicable in other languages (and writing systems) including German, where the first letter of all nouns, for example, is capitalised.