

## Italics

### LEARN TO USE ITALICS

Italic style uses letters that slant upward and to the right. If you are not using a typewriter or computer that makes italics, underline words that would appear in italics. When underlining is not possible (such as in a text – based email message, often an underscore character ( \_ ) is used to indicate italics or emphasis.

1. Emphasize a word or phrase.

The speaker said, “The U.S. owes its lenders three trillion dollars. Now that’s a *deficit*.”

The speaker said, “The U.S. owes its lenders three trillion dollars. Now that’s a \_deficit\_.”

2. Show that a word or letter is being used as a word or letter.

The word *separate* contains two e’s and two a’s.

3. Write the title of a book, magazine, play, film, television show, long poems, or newspaper.

*The Stranger* (novel)  
*The Atlantic Monthly* (magazine)  
*Macbeth* (play)  
*High Noon* (film)  
*Sesame Street* (television show)  
*The Canterbury Tales* (long poem)  
*The Christian Science Monitor* (newspaper)

### Sample Quiz questions:

1. Click on the sentence that uses italics correctly.
  - a. The New York Evening Post was founded by Alexander Hamilton.
  - b. The “New York Evening Post” was founded by Alexander Hamilton.
  - c. The *New York Evening Post* was founded by Alexander Hamilton.

Answer: c. The *New York Evening Post* was founded by Alexander Hamilton.

2. Click on the sentence that uses italics correctly.
  - a. *Life* magazine bought us vivid pictures of wars, floods, famines, and other international tragedies when there was no television.
  - b. Life magazine bought us vivid pictures of wars, floods, famines, and other international tragedies when there was no television.

- c. "Life" magazine brought us vivid pictures of wars, floods, famines, and other international tragedies when there was no television.

Answer: a. *Life* magazine brought us vivid pictures of wars, floods, famines, and other international tragedies when there was no television.