

**C.O.P.S.**  
**A Skit for a Writing Strategy**

**Officer #1:** “Hi boys and girls, I’m Officer #1 and this is Officer #2.”

**Officer #2:** “We’re the cops from Communication Station.”

**Officer #1:** “Your teacher has been looking for a way to help teach you good writing skills, so she called the cops.”

**Officer #2:** “Yes, and writing is one way of communicating. Instead of speaking words, you are writing words.”

**Officer #1:** “Cops do a lot of communicating. We do a lot of speaking and we do a lot of writing. As a matter of fact, any job you may choose when you grow up will require writing skills, because every job has some writing involved.”

**Student #1:** “Are you going to write us a ticket?”

**Officer #2:** “You’ll get a ticket all right, but not the kind of ticket you’re thinking of. We’re going to give you all a ticket with the C.O.P.S. strategy on it so that you can become good writers.

**Officer #1:** You see, cops is spelled “cops” and the letters c, o, p, and s each stand for an important item that all good papers need to have. The c stands for capitalization, o is for organization, p is for punctuation, and s stands for spelling. So, when you have to complete a writing assignment, call the cops!”

**Officer #2:** “Let’s go over them. The letter c stands for capitalization. Does every sentence start with a capital letter? Are all proper nouns capitalized? That is what you will look for after you finish an assignment. What does the letter c stand for everyone?”

**All Students:** “Capitalization”

**Officer #1:** “The letter o stands for organization. Are your paragraphs indented, is there space between your words, and is it neat? If your paper is organized, it makes it easier to read. What does the o stand for?”

**All Students:** “Organization”

**Officer #2:** “The letter p stands for punctuation. There are many types of punctuation that help the reader to make sense of what you are trying to say. Commas, question marks, exclamation points, and quotations are just a few. What does the p stand for?”

**All Students:** “Punctuation”

**Officer #1:** “And finally, the s stands for spelling. That’s why your spelling tests are so important. What does the s stand for?”

**All Students:** “Spelling”

**Officer #2:** “So, anytime your teacher has you write an essay, a letter, or another type of assignment, just call the C.O.P.S.”

**Officer #1:** “Yes, and it’s easy to remember. Did you notice that the first three words rhyme? They all end with “ation”. Capitalization, organization, punctuation, and then there is spelling. Let’s go over them one more time together, ready?”

**Both Officers and all Students:** “Capitalization, organization, punctuation, and spelling.”

**Student #2:** “Have you ever arrested anyone?”

**Officer #2:** Well yes, but I don’t think your teacher will have you arrested for writing a bad paper. But, if you use the C.O.P.S. strategy, I bet you’ll get a better grade!”

**Officer #1:** “That’s right! And because we think it is so important to learn good writing skills, we have written a rap song to help everyone remember this strategy. We’ll demonstrate it and then you all can join in. Are you ready?”

**All Students:** “Yes”

**Officer #2:** “We are the cops from Communication Station.”

**Officer #1:** “To teach a strategy to the education nation.”

**Officer #2:** “You need this information for a writing situation.”

**Officer #1:** “So here’s a demonstration to the C.O.P.S. creation.”

**Both Officers:** “C, C, Capitalization”

**Both Officers:** “O, O, Organization”

**Both Officers:** “P, P, Punctuation”

**Both Officers:** “S is the last thing, Spelling”

**Officer #2:** “So, if you’re ready, we’ll sing the next verse and you join in on the chorus.

**Officer #1:** “Now that we’ve given you all the information.”

**Officer #2:** “We hope that you use it as a foundation.”

**Officer #1:** “Writing good papers is an inspiration.”

**Officer #2:** “When you get an “A”, it’s a celebration.”

**Both Officers and all Students:** “All together now, C, C, Capitalization, etc”

**Officer #1:** “Excellent job! I think you are all on your way to becoming wonderful writers!”

**Officer #2:** “Let’s do a little review. Who would like to tell us why we use the C.O.P.S. strategy?”

**Student #3:** “We use it so we can become better writers.”

**Officer #1:** “Who can tell us when we use the C.O.P.S. strategy?”

**Student #4:** “We use it anytime we have to write a paper.”

**Officer #1:** “Perfect! You were really paying attention. The C.O.P.S. strategy is a writing strategy. What does the c stand for?”

**Student #1:** “Capitalization, I have to make sure that all my sentences begin with a capital letter.”

**Officer #2:** “Good job, here’s your ticket to writing success!”

**Officer #1:** “What does the o stand for?”

**Student #2:** “The o stands for organization. I want to make sure that my paragraphs are indented, that there is spaces between my words, and that it is neat.”

**Officer #2:** “That’s right, here’s your ticket to success!”

**Officer #1:** “Tell us what the p stands for.”

**Student #3:** “It stands for punctuation. I need to make sure all my sentences have periods, commas, and if I quote somebody that I use quotation marks.”

**Officer #2:** “You’ve got it, here’s your ticket to success!”

**Officer #1:** “Linda, what does the last letter, s, stand for?”

**Student #4:** “That would be spelling. If I don’t know how to spell a word I should look it up in the dictionary.”

**Officer #2:** “Correct, here is your ticket to success!”

**Officer #1:** “Congratulations class, you have all learned a very important writing strategy.”

**Officer #2:** “That’s right, don’t forget that when you have to write a paper in school, just all the cops!”

**Officer #1:** “Wonderful job boys and girls, give yourselves a hand!”

C apitalization  
O rganization  
P unctuation  
S pelling



C apitalization  
O rganization  
P unctuation  
S pelling



C apitalization  
O rganization  
P unctuation  
S pelling



C apitalization  
O rganization  
P unctuation  
S pelling



C apitalization  
O rganization  
P unctuation  
S pelling



C apitalization  
O rganization  
P unctuation  
S pelling



C apitalization  
O rganization  
P unctuation  
S pelling



C apitalization  
O rganization  
P unctuation  
S pelling



C apitalization  
O rganization  
P unctuation  
S pelling



C apitalization  
O rganization  
P unctuation  
S pelling



C apitalization  
O rganization  
P unctuation  
S pelling



C apitalization  
O rganization  
P unctuation  
S pelling



