#### Names

A name is an alias for a constant, a [cell](cell.docx) [reference](reference.docx), or a formula. [Note: A name in a [formula](formula.docx) can make it easier to understand the purpose of that formula. For example, the [formula](formula.docx) SUM(FirstQuarterSales) is easier to identify than SUM(C20:C30). end note]

Here is the syntax for name:

name:
[ workbook-name ! ] name-start-character [ name-characters ]

name-start-character:
letter
\_
\

name-characters:
name-characters name-character

name-character:
letter
any decimal digit 0–9
\_
.

[name](name.docx)[s](s.docx) are not case-sensitive.

All names within a [workbook](workbook.docx) shall be unique. If the same names are defined in two workbooks, both names can be used in the same context be prefixing them with their corresponding [workbook](workbook.docx) name and an exclamation mark (!). [Example: SUM(Sales.xlsx!ProjectedSales) refers to the named range ProjectedSales in the [workbook](workbook.docx) named Sales.xlsx. end example]

A name shall not have any of the following forms:

* [TRUE](TRUE.docx) or [FALSE](FALSE.docx)
* user-defined-function-name
* cell-reference

[Guidance An implementation is encouraged to support names at least as long as 255 characters. end guidance]

For rules on how deal with potential ambiguities between function names and defined names, or between [cell](cell.docx) [references](references.docx) and defined names, see §.