

ARTICLES

Definite and indefinite

ARTICLES USE

	COUNTABLE NOUNS - SINGULAR	COUNTABLE NOUNS – PLURAL	UNCOUNTABLE NOUNS
INDEFINITE ARTICLE (A/AN)	√	x	x
DEFINITE ARTICLE (THE)	√	√	√
ZERO ARTICLE	x	√	√

COUNTABLE NOUNS - SINGULAR

- There is a man at the door.
- The man is asking about you.

COUNTABLE NOUNS - PLURAL

- Lions are dangerous animals.
- The zoo keeper was attacked by the lions.

UNCOUNTABLE NOUNS

- Money makes the world go round.
- Give me back the money you owe me.

- Love makes the world go round.
- The love between Romeo and Juliet was great.

DEFINITE ARTICLE - THE

- I saw the teacher today. / Give me the book.
- The Earth moves round the sun.
- The plane is faster than the train./ The elephant is the largest land mammal.
- She plays the violin.
- She is the best student in the class.
- This is the second day of my journey.

DEFINITE ARTICLE – THE

- Buildings: the Empire State Building, the White House, the Eiffel Tower
- the Acropolis, the Kremlin, the Pentagon
- Institutions: the European Union, the BBC, the Red Cross, the FBI, the British Council, the Ministry of Defence, the Houses of Parliament
- Hotels/restaurants: the Majestic, the Sheraton Hotel, the Bombay Restaurant
- Cinemas/theatres: the Odeon (Cinema), the Royal Theatre
- Museums/galleries: the Louvre, the British Museum, the Tate Gallery

DEFINITE ARTICLE – THE

- Rivers: the Danube, the Hudson
- Mountain ranges: the Alps, the Andes
- Seas: the Black Sea, the Mediterranean Sea,
- Oceans: the Pacific Ocean, the Atlantic Ocean
- Newspapers and magazines: the Times, the Washington Post, the Daily Mail, the Guardian

DEFINITE ARTICLE – THE

- Names of nationalities in plural form: the English, the Japanese
- Names in plural form: the Taylors, the Netherlands, the Bahamas
- Adjectives used as nouns: the poor, the rich, the young, the old
- Sides of the world; the north, the south, in the east, the Middle East, the Far East
- But: northern Europe, southern Serbia, North America

ZERO ARTICLE

- Personal names: Helen Taylor
- Titles: Mr/Ms/Captain/Doctor/President + name (Mr Smith, Ms Jones, Captain Grant, Doctor Ann Taylor, President Putin, Princess Maria etc)
- Continents: Africa, Europe, South America
- Countries: France, Japan, Serbia **but** The United Kingdom, The United States of America, The United Arab Emirates, The Czech Republic
- Islands: Sicily, Crete, Corfu
- Cities: New York, Belgrade, Moscow, Paris
- Mountains/Peaks: Everest, Etna, Kilimanjaro
- Lakes: Lake Superior, Lake Windermere

ZERO ARTICLE

- Streets, squares, parks: Wall Street, Times Square, Hyde Park
- Some public buildings and institutions: Manchester Airport, Victoria Station, Harvard University, Buckingham Palace
- Names of churches: St Patrick's Cathedral, St John's Church, Westminster Abbey
- Names of companies: Fiat, Kodak, Sonny
- Days, months, seasons: on Monday, in September, in winter
- Meals: have breakfast, prepare dinner

ZERO ARTICLE

- Fixed expressions:
 - To be at work/ go to work/ start work/ finish work
 - To be at home/ come home/ arrive home
 - Go to bed
 - Catch fire
 - Set sail
 - Shake hands
 - Lose courage
 - By land
 - Hand in hand
 - By heart
 - On board

ZERO ARTICLE OR DEFINITE ARTICLE

- School/ the school
 - Alice goes to school every day. School starts at 8 and finishes at 12.
 - Alice's mother wants to speak to her daughter's teacher, so she is going to the school today.
- Prison/ the prison
 - Ken's brother is in prison for robbery.
 - Ken went to the prison to visit his brother.
- Hospital/ the hospital
 - Joe is in hospital. (as a patient)
 - Jane has gone to the hospital to visit him.
- Church/ the church
 - My grandma goes to church every Sunday.
 - - Some workmen went to the church to repair the roof.

INDEFINITE ARTICLE A/AN

- Countable singular nouns mentioned for the first time:
 - She has a cat and a dog.
- Noun referring to the name of a species:
 - A cat is an animal.
- In the following expressions:
 - Eight hours a day/ five pounds a kilo/ twice a day/ three times a week/ once a year
- Expressions defining profession or a characteristic:
 - I am a good driver./ She is a really nice person.
 - She is a doctor./ He is an architect.