

## Indefinite, Definite, & No Articles

Indefinite Article [a/an]	Definite Article [the]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When you mention people/things for the first time, or talk about them in general. <i>I saw <b>a</b> red dress that I really liked.</i> <i>We'd like to buy <b>an</b> apartment in the city.</i></li> <li>Instead of "one" <i>I've got <b>a</b> cat.</i></li> <li>To indicate <b>cost, speed, or frequency</b> <i>ten dollars <b>a</b> pound, four times <b>a</b> day, eighty miles <b>an</b> hour.</i></li> <li>For certain <b>numbers</b> <i><b>a</b> hundred, <b>a</b> thousand, <b>a</b> couple, <b>a</b> dozen</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When the people/things that you talk about were already mentioned or the people you talk to know them. <i>I saw a red dress. I want to buy <b>the</b> dress.</i> <i>I've just washed <b>the</b> car (our/this car).</i> <i>We made <b>the</b> beds. (our beds/the beds here).</i></li> <li>In a general sense, with <b>musical instruments</b> <i>Can you play <b>the</b> guitar?</i> <i>But: I just bought <b>a</b> guitar and a piano.</i></li> <li>When the <b>object is unique</b> <i><b>the</b> moon, to/in <b>the</b> North</i></li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>a/an + singular countable noun</b> <b>a + consonants</b></p> <p><i><b>a</b> boy, <b>a</b> cat, <b>a</b> door, <b>a</b> frog, <b>a</b> girl, <b>a</b> house, <b>a</b> jar, <b>a</b> key, <b>a</b> lemon, etc.</i> exceptions: <i><b>a</b> uniform, <b>a</b> university</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>an + vowels</b></p> <p><i><b>an</b> apple, <b>an</b> egg, <b>an</b> iceberg, <b>an</b> orange, <b>an</b> umbrella</i> exceptions: <i><b>an</b> hour</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>the + singular\plural countable noun/uncountable noun</b></p> <p><i>I read <b>the</b> book.</i> <i>I read <b>the</b> books.</i> <i>I drank <b>the</b> milk.</i></p>
<b>a/an/the + adj. + noun</b>	
<p><i>I read <b>a</b> great book.</i> <i>I read <b>an</b> interesting book.</i> <i>I read <b>the</b> interesting book(s) that he gave me for my birthday.</i></p>	
<b>No Article</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>With abstract nouns (e.g., <b>love, life, beauty</b>), languages, school subjects (e.g., <b>history</b>, etc.) <i>Love is a wonderful feeling.</i></li> <li>With materials (e.g., <b>sugar, wine, glass, gold</b>) when used in a general sense. <i>She doesn't take sugar in her coffee.</i> <i>The door is made of glass.</i></li> <li>Before countries and towns. <i>I live in Vancouver.</i> <i>They moved to Spain.</i></li> <li>Before <b>school, work, home, bed, hospital, church</b>. <i>She is at home.</i> <i>I came late from work.</i></li> </ul>	