

INDEFINITE ARTICLES A AND AN

1. We use **a/an** with singular nouns
2. We use **a/an** when talking about something in general, it is not necessary to make clear which particular thing we are talking about
3. We use **a/an** with certain phrases to show how often someone does something
once a week, once a month, once a year

DEFINITE ARTICLE THE

DO

1. We use **the** when we are talking about something specific, when the noun is mentioned for a second time or is already known
2. We use **the** with nouns which are unique
the Earth, the Sun
3. We use **the** before the names of rivers *the Amazon*, oceans *the Atlantic*, mountain ranges *the Rocky Mountains* and countries when they have 2 words *the United Kingdom*
4. We use **the** before the names of music instruments *the violin, the guitar*
5. We use **the** before the names of hotels *the Hilton* and museums *the Louvre*
6. We use **the** before the nationality words *the French* and before families *the Johns'*
7. We use **the** before titles when the person's name is not mentioned *the Queen*
8. We can use **the** with uncountable nouns *music, water, rice, food*

DON'T

1. We don't use **the** before first names
2. We don't use **the** before plurals or uncountable nouns when we are talking about something in general
3. We don't use **the** before the names of meals *breakfast, lunch, dinner*

PRONUNCIATION

The is pronounced [ðə] before words which begin with a consonant sound
the door, the book, the biscuit

The is pronounced [ði:] before words which begin with a vowel sound
the orange, the elephant