

## Articles

An article is a word that modifies or describes the Noun. It is used before the noun to show whether it refers to something specific or not.

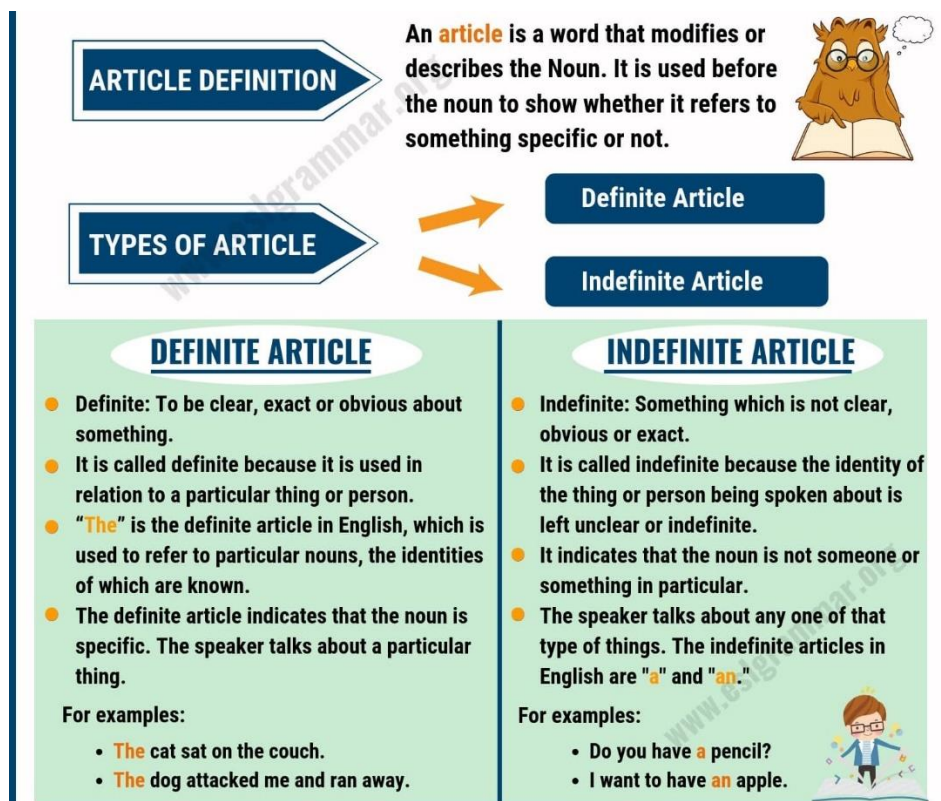
There are two types of articles in the English language, they are **definite article** (the) and **indefinite articles** (a, an).

**“The”** is the definite article in English, which is used to refer to particular nouns, the identities of which are known. The definite article indicates that the noun is specific.

- ***The** dog attacked me and ran away.*
- *Let's go to **the** movies this evening.*

**“A”** and **“An”**, the indefinite articles indicate that the noun is not someone or something in particular or the identity of the thing or person being spoken about is left unclear or indefinite.

- *There was **a** sudden loud noise.*
- *That was **an** excellent meal!*



### Where Articles Are Not Used?

1. **When you talk about things in general.**
  - For example: I like birds.
2. **When talking about plural count nouns.**
  - For example: Dogs make great pets.

### **3. When talking about non-count nouns.**

- For example: I love music.

### **4. When talking about specific days or holidays, geography, companies, languages.**

- For example: I have bought candles for Diwali.

### **5. When talking about Geography.**

Articles are not used before countries, states, cities, towns, continents, single lakes, single mountains, etc.

- I live in Canada.
- Mt. Rosa is part of the Alps mountain range.

#### **NOTE:**

- The United Arab Emirates, The Russian Federation, The People's Republic of China, The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, The Dominion of Canada, etc., all contain articles because of the usage of common nouns such as kingdom, republic, states, united, dominion, emirates, etc.
- The Netherlands, The Philippines, The Bahamas, The Maldives, etc. have 'the' before them due to the plural nature of the names of the countries.
- The Ukraine, The Sudan, etc. are exceptions to all of these rules. There have been historical uses of articles before names of countries that don't fit into either category.

### **6. When you talk about companies.**

- Steve Jobs founded Apple.

### **7. When you talk about languages.**

- I speak Hindi.

### **8. When you talk about places, locations, streets.**

- My house is located on Callowhill Drive.
- I left my pen at home.

### **9. When you talk about sports and physical activities.**

- I love to play cricket.
- She enjoys dancing.

**10. When there is a noun + number**

- She is staying at the Hilton hotel in room 127.
- The train to Montreal leaves from platform 9.

**11. When talking about academic subjects.**

- I hate attending Mathematics classes.

Some examples:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ man is mortal. (no article)
2. \_\_\_\_\_ camel is \_\_\_\_\_ ship of \_\_\_\_\_ desert. (the, the, the)
3. I am fond of \_\_\_\_\_ classical music. (no article)
4. There is \_\_\_\_\_ institution for \_\_\_\_\_ blind in \_\_\_\_\_ city. (an, the, the)