

Names with and without **the** 1

A

We do *not* use **the** with names of people ('Helen', 'Helen Taylor' etc.). In the same way, we do *not* use **the** with most names of places. For example:

<i>continents</i>	Africa (<i>not</i> the Africa), Europe, South America
<i>countries, states etc.</i>	France (<i>not</i> the France), Japan, Brazil, Texas
<i>islands</i>	Sicily, Bermuda, Tasmania
<i>cities, towns etc.</i>	Cairo, New York, Bangkok
<i>mountains</i>	Everest, Etna, Kilimanjaro



But we use **the** in names with **Republic, Kingdom, States** etc. :

the Czech **Republic** **the** United **Kingdom** (**the** UK)
the Dominican **Republic** **the** United **States** of America (**the** USA)

Compare:

☐ Have you been to **Canada** or **the United States**?

B

When we use **Mr/Mrs/Captain/Doctor** etc. + a name, we do not use **the**. So we say:

Mr Johnson / **Doctor** Johnson / **Captain** Johnson / **President** Johnson etc. (*not* the ...)
Uncle Robert / **Saint** Catherine / **Princess** Maria etc. (*not* the ...)

Compare:

☐ We called **the doctor**.
 We called **Doctor** Johnson. (*not* the Doctor Johnson)

We use **Mount** (= mountain) and **Lake** before a name in the same way (without **the**):

Mount Everest (*not* the ...) **Mount** Etna **Lake** Superior **Lake** Victoria
☐ They live near **the lake**.
 They live near **Lake Superior**. (*not* the Lake Superior)

C

We use **the** with the names of oceans, seas, rivers and canals:

the Atlantic (Ocean) **the** Red Sea **the** Amazon
the Indian Ocean **the** Channel (between **the** Nile
the Mediterranean (Sea) France and Britain) **the** Suez Canal

We use **the** with the names of deserts:

the Sahara (Desert) **the** Gobi Desert

D

We use **the** with *plural* names of people and places:

<i>people</i>	the Taylors (= the Taylor family), the Johnsons
<i>countries</i>	the Netherlands, the Philippines, the United States
<i>groups of islands</i>	the Canaries / the Canary Islands, the Bahamas
<i>mountain ranges</i>	the Rocky Mountains / the Rockies, the Andes, the Alps

☐ The highest mountain in **the Andes** is (**Mount**) Aconcagua.

E

We say:

the north (of Brazil) *but* **northern** Brazil (*without* the)
the south-east (of Spain) *but* **south-eastern** Spain

Compare:

☐ Sweden is in **northern Europe**; Spain is in **the south**.

Also **the** Middle East, **the** Far East

We also use **north/south** etc. (without **the**) in the names of some regions and countries:

North America **South Africa**

Note that on maps, **the** is not usually included in the name.