

Language Summary

Indefinite and definite articles: a/an and the

Indefinite article: a

• You use **a/an** when you are talking about something for the first time. It means one thing or person.

My office has **a large desk**. (one desk)

I'm looking for a house near my office. (one house)

Indefinite article: an

You use an (not a) before a/e/i/o/u spelling (or sounds).
I saw an advertisement for an office furniture sale. (spelling)
We have an hour for lunch. (sound - h is not pronounced: an [h]our)

• You *don't* use *a/an* before uncountable nouns.

The report has **information** about the company.

Definite article: the

• You use *the* when it is clear what person or thing you are talking about.

The manager at my office works late every night.

(= my manager)

These are the new computers I want to buy.

(= the computers in the shop)

Here's a photo of my office. **The furniture** is very modern.

(= the furniture in my office)

