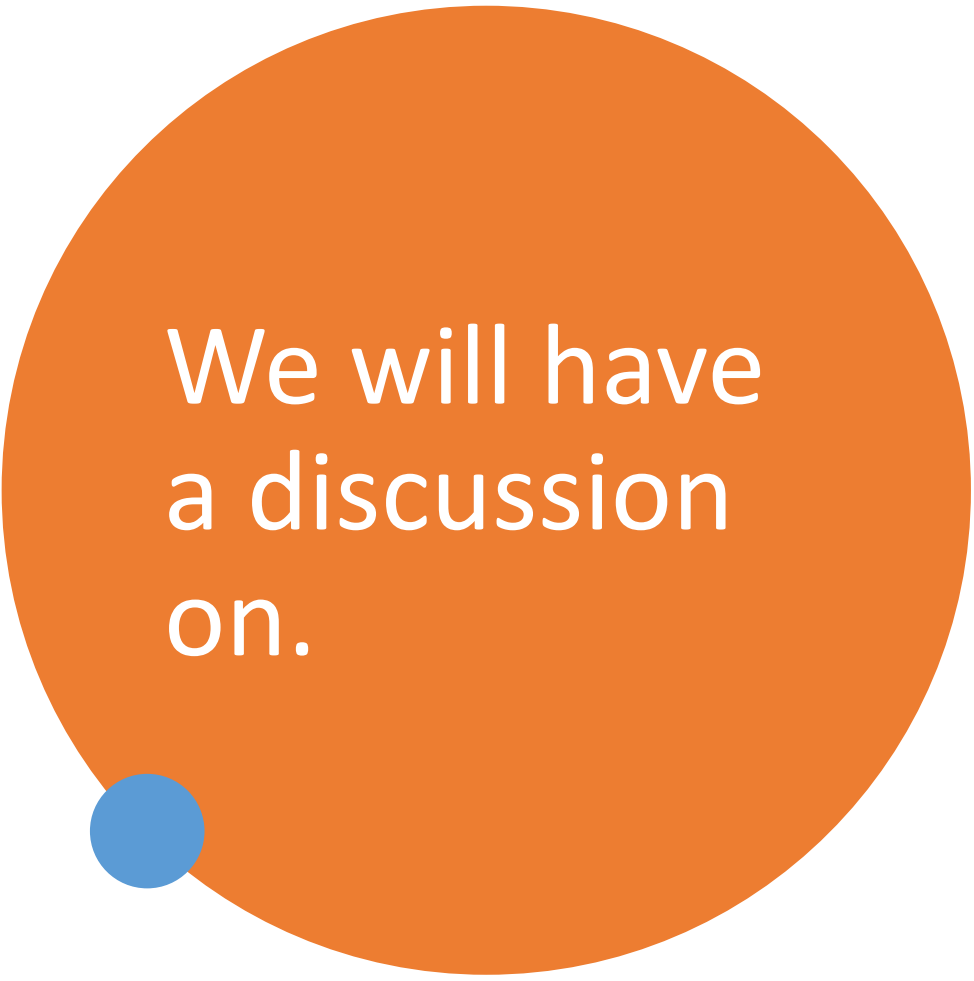


ARTICLES


An article is a word that combines with a noun/s and helps to determine whether a noun in any sentence or phrase is specific or general. There are three articles in English – ‘a’, ‘an’ and ‘the’. These articles are divided into two types namely:

- Definite Article
- Indefinite Article





We will have
a discussion
on.

- 
- Basic usage of articles
 - Indefinite articles
 - The definite article
 - No article

Indefinite Article (A/ An)

- Used before singular countable nouns.
- Article A or An is used before a singular noun.
- The choice between A or An is determined by the first sound of pronunciation (not by the letter of alphabet even it may be A, E, I, O, U) of the noun.
- If it is pronounced with a vowel sound, use An otherwise A.

Usage of indefinite article

Eg: Not a word was spoken.

I bought a dozen of eggs.

- 2. To denote 'a certain'- eg: *A Rameshkumar is suspected by the police.*
- 3. To denote any.- eg: *She is looking for a book.*
- 4. To generalize. Eg: *A cat is a furry animal.*
- 5.To make a common noun of a proper noun. Eg: *She is a real Einstein. Mumbai is the Manchester of India.*
- 6. To talk about a occupation, job. Eg: *She is a doctor, He is a musician.*

Definite Article(The)

Can be used before any noun singular, plural, countable, uncountable.

1. It is used to refer shared knowledge of the situation or context.

2. Unique objects.

3. Superlative adjectives and unique adjective.

4. 'The' is used with the names of renowned building, gulf, river, ocean, sea etc.

Example The Taj Mahal, The Persian Gulf, The Char Minar, The Pacific, The Ganges, The Red Sea

5. 'The' is placed only before the plural names of islands and the mountain ranges, chains of mountains, plural names of countries.

- The Netherlands, The Philipians, The Bahamas, The Laccadive islands, The Himalayas, The Alps etc.
- 'The' is not used before the names of countries but if the name of the country contains words like; States, Kingdoms, Republic, we use 'the' before them. e.g. The USA, The Republic of Ireland

6. 'The' is used before names consisting of adjective + noun (Provided the adjective is not east-west etc)

Example The Arabian Gulf, The New Forest, The High Street

7. 'The' is also used before names consisting of noun + of + noun.

Example The cape of Good Hope, The Boy of Biscay, The Gulf of Mexico

8. 'The' is used before the adjectives east/west etc. + noun in certain names.

Example The East/West End, The East/West Indies, The North/South Pole

9. 'The' is also used before the name of directions.

Example The East, The West, The North, The South

10. 'The' is used before the name of persons (Family) in plural.

Example The Raymonds, The Ambanis, The Birlas

11. Before the names of important and renowned books.

Examples

a) The Kuran b) The Ramayana c) The Mahabharata

But we say- Homer's Iliad, Valmiki's Ramayana, Jaidev's Geet Govind.

12. Before Musical instruments and name of Inventions use the.

Examples: a) He can play the flute/ the table/ the harmonium well.

13. 'The' is used before name of Newspaper, Community, Political Party, Historical event, Train, Ship,

Aeroplane etc.

14. When two or more nouns refer to one person, put 'the' before the first noun only. If both the nouns refer

two different persons or thing, 'the' is used before both of them.

a) The producer and financier was present there.(Producer and financier is one person)

b) The producer and the financier were present there.(Producer and financier are two different persons)

15. Before the names of Committee, Club, Foundation and Trust.

Zero article

1. before a proper noun

Example Akbar was a great king.

2. before a Common Noun, used in its widest sense.

a) Man is mortal. (Referring to all men, not a specific man)

b) Gold is a precious metal. (Referring to gold in general, not a particular piece of gold)

3. Games and Sports- football, chess

4. Meals- breakfast, lunch, dinner(when used in general sense.)

5. We use no article with uncountable nouns when we are referring in general.

6. Before material nouns. Eg: Gold is a precious metal.

The gold we use in India is all imported.

QUESTIONS

1. She is staying at ____ hotel in ____ small town in Colorado.
2. ____ Woodcock flies from ____ Himalayas to ____ Nilgiris without ____ pause.
3. Ramu had applied for ____ post of ____ cashier in ____ bank.
In ____ interview he answered some questions well.
4. The scientist won ____ Nobel Prize for his research.
5. She was looking for ____ apartment near ____ university where she could attend lectures by ____ professor she admired.
6. ____ Mettur dam is ____ old multipurpose project of ____ South Indian state of Tamil Nadu across ____ Cauvery River.

7. He can play ____ guitar.
8. Rajani can play ____ piano well.
9. _____ Gita is a holy book.
10. He died without _____ heir.