



**Definite**

**&**



**Indefinite**

**articles**





**the**

**with**

**place names**

# the

we use **the** with names

of:

- newspapers (**the Guardian, the Sun**)
- cinemas (**the Odeon, the Rex**)
- theatres (**the Empire**)
- museums / art galleries (**the Louvre**)
- ships (**the Titanic**)
- organisations (**the United Nations**)
- rivers (**the Thames**)
- oceans / seas (**the Atlantic, the Mediterranean Sea**)
- canals (**the Panama Canal**)
- groups of Islands (**the Bahamas**)



# the



- mountain ranges (**the Alps**)
- deserts (**the Sahara Desert**)
- countries when they include w  
as

**States, Kingdom, Republic (the USA)**

- names or nouns with **of** (**the Houses of Parliament**)

- geographical terms such as:

**the Antarctic / Arctic / equator**  
**the North of Germany BUT**

**northern Germany**

**the North / East / South / West**

~~the~~

we don't use **the** with names

of:

- countries which **don't include** words **States, Kingdom, Republic (Germany, India, China) BUT the Netherlands, the Gambia, the Vatican**
- streets (**Bond Street, Penny Lane, Oxford Street**)
- squares (**Trafalgar Square**)
- bridges (**London Bridge BUT the Golden Gate Bridge**)
- parks (**Hyde Park**)
- railway stations (**Euston, King's Cross**)
- mountains (**Mount Everest, Mont Blanc**)



~~the~~

- lakes (**Lake Baikal, Ontario**)
- continents (**Europe**)
- restaurants, shops, banks, hotels, etc.

Which are named after

the people who started them (**Harrods, Tony's Restaurant**)

- cities, towns (**London, Paris, Manchester**)





**a / an**

**indefinite**

**articles**

# a / an

we use a / an

- when we mention something for the first time

(I have got a pencil.)

- with **There is a ... / Is there a ...**  
?

(**There is a shop. / Is there a bank near here?**)

**A + consonant** (spoluhláska)

**AN + vowel** (samohláska)





**the**



**definite**

**article**

# the

we use **the**

- when we mention something again  
(Bill owns a car and a bike. **The car** is blue and **the bike** is red.)
- nouns that are unique (**the sun, the Earth**)
- with superlatives (**the best** film I have ever seen)

## BUT

**most + a noun – without THE**

- (**most people** enjoy going to the theatre)
- with ordinal numbers (**the first, the third, the twelfth**)
- with words **day, morning, afternoon, evening**



# the

we use the

- musical instruments and dances (**the guitar, the salsa**)
- names of families (**the Jones, the Smiths**)
- titles (**the ambassador, the President**)

**BUT**

- not with titles including a proper name (**Prince Charles**)
- nationalities ending in **-sh, -ch, -ese** (**the Chinese**)
- other nationalities can be used **with** **without the** (**the Egyptians / Egyptians**)



# the

we use the

- with **station, cinema, theatre, library, shop, coast, sea (side), beach, city, country (side), jungle, world, ground, weather** (They went to **the cinema.**)



~~the~~

we don't use **the**

- with proper names (**Bob** is my cousin.)
- with uncountable and plural nouns when talking about something in general (**Coffee** is a very popular drink.)
- with possessive adjectives and possessive case (**Nelson's Column**)
- with names of **sports, games, activities, days, months, celebrations, colours, drinks, meals** (They are leaving on **Sunday**.)
- languages not followed by the word language  
**Italian, French, English**



~~the~~

we don't use **the**

- with names of illnesses (**pneumonia**)

**BUT**

**flu / the flu, measles / the measles,  
mumps / the mumps**

- **Mr, Mrs, Captain, Doctor etc. + a name**  
(**Mr Johnson, Uncle Robert, Aunt Jane,  
Princess Anne etc.**)

- with the word **work** (I start work by 9  
o'clock.)

- with words **home, mother, father, etc.** when  
we talk about our

own home / parents

- with **by + means of transport** (**by bus / ferry**)

