

# ARTICLES (a/an/the)



## Article Def.

An **article** is a word used to modify a noun, which is a person, place, object, or idea. Technically, an article is an **adjective**, which is any word that modifies a noun.

## Types

There are two types of Article:  
Definite Article & Indefinite Article

## Examples

- "Somebody call a policeman!" ...
- "When I was at the zoo, I saw an elephant!"
- "Somebody call a policeman!"



# TYPES OF ARTICLE

## INDEFINITE ARTICLES

a / an



Used to indicate a countable noun

- army, children, class, crowd

Used to indicate uncountable noun

- advice, beef, cash, data

Used for similar type things

- phone, sheep, apple

Used for first time we introduce an object

- I saw a movie last night.

## DEFINITE ARTICLES

the

Before countries names

- The China, The Pakistan

Names of river/ocean

- The Nile, The Chenab

For specific objects well known by listener and speaker

- Can you give me the books on table.

When we mention a object again

- The movie was awesome.

# DEFINITE VS INDEFINITE ARTICLE

**Countable nouns** i.e. the thing we can count take “a” or “an” in the singular form. ‘A’ and ‘an’ are called the **indefinite article**. “A” is used before

- A consonant; as “a child”
- U and e (pronounced as use); as “a university”, “a European”
- O (pronounced as well) as “a one-sided game.”

**Uncountable nouns** i.e. the things we cannot count may not take the indefinite article. That is why such nouns do not have any plural form:

- Coffee, ink, paper.

**The indefinite article has two kinds of plurals:**

➤ **The general plural.**

No word is used to denote this kind of plural.

**Example:**

A cow-cows are animals.

➤ **Plural used for small number or quantity.**

The word is “some” which changes to “any” in the negative sentence and something in the interrogative sentence also.

- “some” is also used before uncountable nouns to convey the idea of a small number or indefinite quantity:

The child wants some bread to eat.

**Definite article ‘the’ is used before:**

- A noun that has already been mentioned or that is already known to us;
- A noun we think the speaker has in mind;
- A noun representing a whole class;
- Name of ranges of mountains, rivers, gulfs, seas and oceans.
- Superlatives.



**Examples:**

- Did you see the review?
- Could you please meet me at airport?
- The lion is the king of animals.
- The Himalayas, the Ravi, the Persian Gulf, the Arabian Sea, the Atlantic Ocean.
- He is the most intelligent person I have come across.