

Articles

What are Articles?

Basically, articles are words that show if a noun is specific or not!

How do Articles do that?

They do this by using two different forms; **The** or **A/An**

Create a complex thesis by considering these questions

- Is the thesis arguable and supportable?
- Is the thesis directly and completely supported by the content of the essay?
- Is the thesis just a description or does it contain analysis and opinion?
- Does the thesis consider the “so what?” question?

Definite Article: The

- “Definite” means “clear” or “specific”
- Can be used with singular (“one”) or plural (“more than one”) nouns
- For something already mentioned
- Sometimes used with geographical areas, rivers, groups of islands, canals, oceans, mountain ranges, and countries with plural names!
- Famous buildings works of art museums monuments hotels and restaurants

Example: Look, the rabbit is hiding.

We use the in this sentence because we are looking at a specific rabbit: the one that hiding.

But there are some exceptions to this rule...

Do not use articles with:

- Names of countries
- Languages
- Meals (breakfast, lunch, and dinner)
- People's names
- Titles when combined with names (President Obama)
- Non-countable nouns
- Conceptual nouns like “education” and “development”
- Individual geographic locations (single mountain, lakes, islands, towns, and streets)

Indefinite Articles: A or An

- Indefinite” means “unknown” or “not specific”
- Used when talking in general about nonspecific nouns
- Can only be singular

Example: I am going to go buy an apple.

We use an because it is not a specific apple (it could be any apple).

When do we use A or An?

- You use A for nouns that start with a consonant sound
- I eat a bowl of oatmeal for breakfast every day.
- I saw a unique painting yesterday.
- You use AN for nouns that start with a vowel sound
- I have an idea!
- I have to go to the store in an hour.

When do we use Articles?

Singular(1)	Plural (2+)	
A/An	No Article!	General
The	The	Specific