

ENGLISH GRAMMAR

ARTICLES Power Point Presentation BY **B.N.PRATHYUSHA**,
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ARTICLES

a an the



ARTICLES

- ✘ **Definition** : - An article is a word used to modify a noun, which is a person, place , object or an idea.
- ✘ Technically, an article is an Adjective, which is any word that modifies a Noun.
- ✘ Usually adjectives modify nouns through description, but articles are used instead to point out or refer to nouns.

What is an article



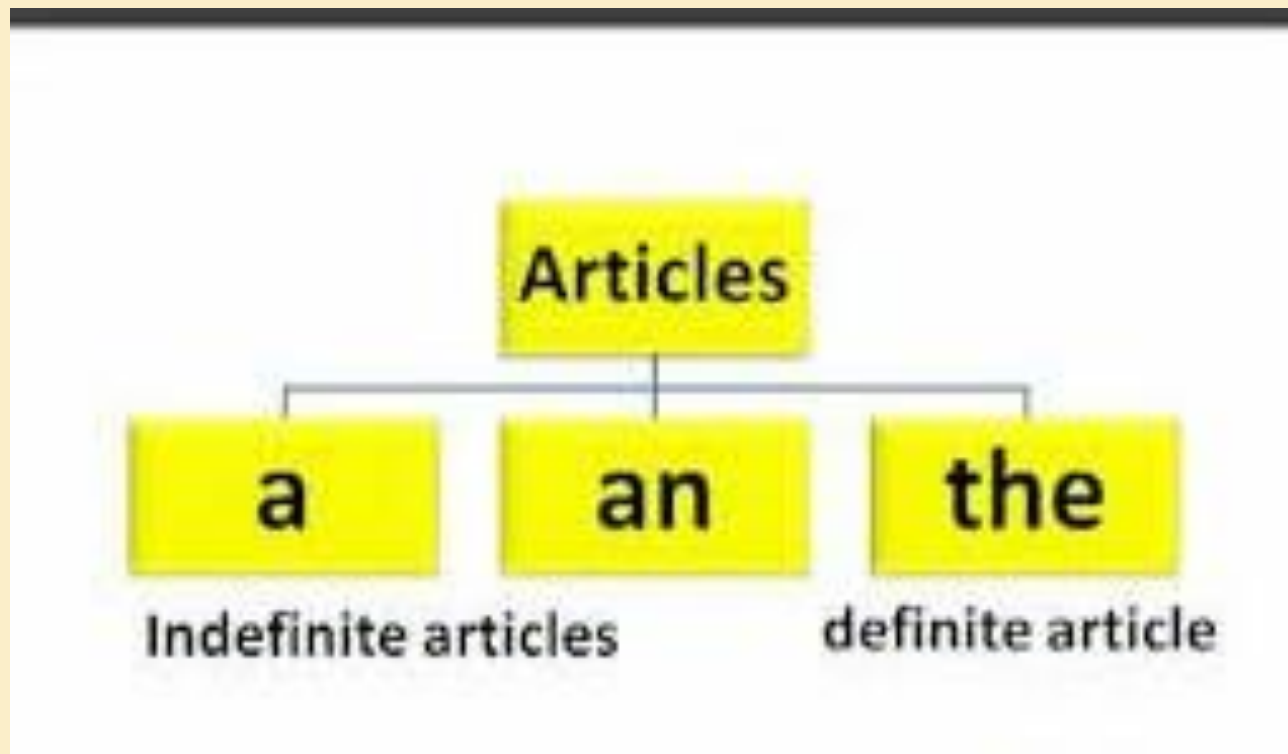
- It is an adjective.
- It modifies a noun.



TYPES OF ARTICLES

✘ Definite Article

✘ Indefinite Articles



Articles – a, an, the

Use **a, an**
for one out of many

Use **a** when the noun
begins with a **consonant**

Example:

a bag

a cat

Exception:

When the **vowel u**
sounds like **you**.

Example:

a university

a utensil

Use **an** when the noun
begins with a **vowel**

Example:

an apple

an umbrella

Exception:

When the **consonant h**
is silent.

Example:

an hour

an honor

Use **the**
for a specific item

Example:

The umbrella in **the** bag

The cat in **the** tree

INDEFINITE ARTICLES

- ✘ A and An are called indefinite articles.
- ✘ A and An do not refer to any particular or definite person, place or thing
- ✘ **Examples :** an umbrella
- ✘ a boy
- ✘ a book

Indefinite Articles

Examples

- I drove **a** **Truck**.
- Truck begins with a **consonant**.
- A is an **indefinite** article.
- You **don't know which** **truck**.

DEFINITE ARTICLE

- ✘ The is called the definite Article, because it always points out some particular object.
- ✘ **Example** : This the boy who had stolen my purse.

"The" = definite article

- **The** dog my father bought for me is a poodle.
- **The** bike that Pablo bought cost him Bs2,000.
- **The** movie we saw last night was very funny.
- **The** doctor who assisted us was an intern.

'The' is used



1. *Before unique objects*

(Eg) the sun, the sky, the moon

2. *Before the names of mountains, rivers, oceans, deserts etc.*

(Eg) the Ganges, the Sahara, the Pacific



3. *Before the names of books*

(Eg) the Bible, the Ramayana, the Quran

ARTICLE

rules

(a, an, the)



Indefinite Articles

- Using a or an depends on the sound that begins the next word. So...
- *a*+ singular noun beginning with a consonant:
 - a boy; a car; a bike; a zoo; a dog.
- *an*+ singular noun beginning with a vowel:
- An elephant, an egg, an apple, an idiot, an orphan.



HOW TO USE A-AN

Usage

- Used before words beginning with a consonant sound

- Used before words that begin with a vowel sound.

Examples



a man



a lamp



a cat



an apple



an eraser



an umbrella

RULES

A IS USED

- × A is used before a consonant -
b,c,d,f,g,h,j,k,l,m,n,p,q,r,s,t,v,w,x,y,z
- × **Example** : a boy
- × a cow
- × a pen

Indefinite Article (A)

Check the first letter of the word following the article.

- Use **a** when the next word starts with a consonant.

Example :

- a girl
- a bus
- a frock
- a table

A IS USED

- ✘ A is also used before a word beginning with a vowel but sounding like a consonant.
- ✘ **Example** : a one rupee coin
- ✘ a European
- ✘ a utensil

Indefinite Article (A)

➤ before words starting in **u** and **eu** when they sound like **you**.

Example:

- a **u**niversity
- a **Eu**ropean
- a **u**nit

A IS USED

- ✘ If sentence is spoken empathetically
- ✘ **Example** : Rome was not built in a day

Indefinite Article

- Use indefinite articles to name the members of a group

Example:

- Rahul is a doctor.
- She wants to be a dancer.
- She aspires to become an engineer.

AN IS USED

- ✘ AN is used before a word beginning with a vowel –
a,e,i,o,u
- ✘ **Example** : an umbrella
an egg
an ice cream
an orange
an apple

AN IS USED

- ✘ An is used before a word beginning with a consonant but having a Vowel sound.

Example : an M.L.A

an hour

an honest man

Articles a or an



___ book



___ ant



___ cat



___ apple



___ bow



___ girl



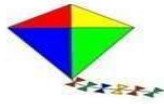
___ elephant



___ igloo



___ eye



___ kite



___ egg



___ octopus

Usage

the definite article



“The”

THE IS USED

- ✘ The is used before a word denoting a particular person or thing.

Example : Let's go to the Cinema

Before the titles : The great

Before the words denoting numbers, weight -

Example : cloth is sold by the metre.

We use **the**:

- **With things we have already mentioned or when it's clear who/what we are referring to:**

*Example: She bought a laptop. They told her that **the** laptop had a three-year guarantee.*

- **With things which are unique:**

*Example: **the** Internet, **the** world, **the** sun*

Definite Articles

Do Not Use Before:

1. Names of most countries (exceptions the U.S.A, the Netherlands).
2. Names of cities or towns.
3. Names of streets
4. Names of lakes or bays
(except groups of lakes like the Great Lakes).
5. Names of mountains (except ranges like the Green Mountains, the Rocky mountains).
6. Names of specific islands (except island chains such as the canary islands).

OMISSION OF ARTICLES

Omission of Articles

- RULE 1– articles are not used before the name of languages.
- Eg. English, Hindi
- RULE 2– before the names of days, months, subjects, disease, festivals and seasons articles are not used.
- Eg. I have no interest in Physics
- I shall go Shimla in summer.

Omission of Articles

- Before certain places when they are visited or used for their primary purpose
- School, college, university..
- Temple, Mosque, Church..
- Bed, hospital, prison..
- I go to *college* everyday (to study).

Omission of Articles

- Before most Proper Nouns..
- Names of People..
- Names of Continents, Countries, Cities..
- Names of individual mountains, hills..
- Individual islands, lakes..

Thank you!

