

Article is a word that describes a noun. It makes a noun general/common or particular.

Types of Articles:

1. Indefinite Articles
2. Definite Article

Using Indefinite Article: a & an

Rule No 1

They are used with

- 1) A common
- 2) A singular noun.

I saw a snake. (Refers to a random snake)

I saw snakes in a zoo. (No article is required)

Rule No 2

A:

Before words beginning with consonant sounds

A BA, A book, a girl, a boy, a university, a union, a useful book, a one-dollar note

An:

Before words beginning vowel sounds

An apple, , an LLB ,an MA, an MBBS, an inkpot

Rule No 3

Before common noun and name of profession.

Examples:

- He is **a** teacher.
- I ate **an** apple.

Rule 4:

Sometimes indefinite articles are used to refer the number 'one' / 'per'.

Example:

I earned **a** thousand dollar in that job. (One thousand dollar)

I have **a** car. (One car)

It goes 50 miles **an** hour. (Per Hour)

Rule 5:

Indefinite articles often precede descriptive adjective.

Example:

He is **a** good boy.

What **a** nice car!

Rule 6:

'A' sometimes comes before determiners, for example, *a few, a little, a lot of, the most* but in the case of '**many, a or an**' - comes after.

Example:

I have **a few** friends coming over.

There is **a little** milk in the jar.

Many a fan welcomed me.

Omission of Indefinite Article:

Rule 1

Do not use A/An with uncountable nouns.

- **Example:**
- He needs a wood to burn for bonfire. (Error)
- He needs wood to burn for bonfire. (Correct)

Rule 2

– Do not use A/An after the words “sort of-”, “type of-” “kind of-” .

- **Example:**
- What kind of a book would you like to read? (Error)
- What kind of book would you like to read? (Correct)

Using Definite Article: *the*

Rule 1:

'The' is used to indicate a particular person(s) or thing(s) in the case of common nouns. Proper nouns generally do not take an article.

Example:

I saw **the boy** stealing.

Where is **the pen** I gave you last year?

I gave him a ball, but he lost **the ball**. ('a ball' became 'the ball' in the second clause because that ball was not a random ball anymore.)

Rule 2:

- Use 'The' Before

1.	Directions	The east, the west, the south
2.	Names of Allah	The knowing, The seeing
3.	Holy books & famous books	The Quran, The Bang-e-Dira
4.	Newspapers, magazines	The Times, The Daily Jang
5.	Water bodies	Rivers, lakes, oceans, seas
6.	Mountain Ranges	The Himalayas
7.	Heavenly bodies related to humans	The universe, the cosmos, the milkyway, the sun, the moon
8.	Deserts	The Sahara, The Gobbi
9	Family Names	The Maliks, The sheikhs
10	Nations	The Muslims, The Sikhs
11	Abbreviated Countries & Countries with Kingdoms, states, republic, and united	The USA, The UAE, The Islamic Republic of Pakistan, The people republic of China
12	Plural Islands and countries with plural names	The West Indies, The Netherlands
13	Phases of the day	The morning, the noon, the evening
14	Titles	The Quaid e Azam
15	Part of the bodies	The arms, the nose
16	Superlative Degrees of Adjectives	The best student, The tallest, the funniest
17	Parallel comparative degrees	The higher you go, the cooler it is.
18	Ordinal Numbers	The First, The second
19	Before nominal adjectives	The poor, the rich
20	Before a singular common noun to represent the whole class	The dog is a faithful animal.
21	Before the word Whole & Same	The whole class ,The same student
22	Historical and famous	The Baadshahi Mosque
23	The + Noun+ Relative Clause	The man who helped me The pen which I bought The match that Pakistan lost

• Rules and Exceptions for Definite Article

Rule 1: No article with abstract nouns

Honesty is the best policy.

Exception: Definite article with abstract nouns when talking in particular

The honesty that Ali showed can motivate many others.

Rule 2: No article with diseases

Cancer is a deadly disease.

Exception: Definite article with phenomenon/ causes of diseases

The Aids Virus is very dangerous. (**Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome**)(AIDS)

Rule 3: No article with Proper Nouns

I met Asif Ali Zardari last year.

Exception: Definite article with Proper Nouns when they are entitled to another person

He is the Bill Gates of our class.

Rule 4: No article with Titles + Names

President Arif Alvi is planning to Visit Lahore.

Exception: Definite article with Titles

The Quaid-e-Azam led the nation from the front.

Rule 5: No Articles with names of planets.

Mars is also called the red planet.

Exception: Definite article with heavenly bodies that are unique and only one of their types in the universe like “the sun”, “the moon”, “the earth”, “the Milky way”, “the cosmos”, and “the universe” etc.

The sun rises in the east.

Rule 6: No use of article with the directions “East, West, North, South ”when they directly come after the verb.

I like West, but my brother wants me to visit North.

Exception: Definite article “The” with directions when they come after a preposition.

The sun sets in the west.

Rule 7: No Article with names of mountains.

Mount Everest is the highest peak in the world.

Exception: Definite article “the” with mountain ranges.

K-2 is the second highest peak in the world, and it lies in the Karakorum range in Pakistan.

Rule 8: No article with the names of countries, cities, provinces, and continents.

Pakistan is an atomic power.

Exception: Definite Article with the name of Abbreviated Countries & Countries with Kingdoms, states, republic, and united Plural Islands and countries with plural names.

The United States of America is a veto country in the Security Council of the UNO.

Exercise No 1

1. I bought pair of shoes.
2. I saw movie last night.
3. They are staying at hotel.
4. Look at woman over there! She is a famous actress.
5. I do not like basketball.
6. That is girl I told you about.
7. night is quiet. Let's take a walk!
8. price of gas keeps rising.
9. John traveled to Mexico.
10. Juan is Spanish.
11. I read amazing story yesterday.
12. My brother doesn't eat chicken.
13. love is such beautiful thing.
14. I live in apartment. apartment is new.
15. I would like piece of cake.
16. I was in Japanese restaurant. restaurant served good food.
17. Sara can play guitar.

Exercise No 2

1. Are you coming to party next Saturday?
2. I bought new TV set yesterday.
3. I think man over there is very ill. He can't stand on his feet.
4. I watched video you had sent me.
5. She was wearing ugly dress when she met him.
6. I am crazy about reading history books.
7. She is nice girl.
8. Do you want to go to restaurant where we first met?
9. He is engineer.
10. He thinks that love is what will save us all.