

Definite and Indefinite articles



1 We use **a/an** when we don't need to indicate which one but we use **the** when it's clear which one we mean.

2 We say **the** when there's only of something (including superlatives here).



3 We usually say **the sea, the ground, the sky, the countryside** but we say **go to sea, be at sea** meaning go/be on a voyage.

4 We need the definite article when we talk about **the cinema, the theatre, the radio** but we usually say **television**.

5 When we mean **something in general** we don't use the article

6 We use **the + musical instruments** and also **the + adjectives** such as **rich, poor, old, young, unemployed**, meaning plural.

7 We don't use the definite article before the **names of meals**

8 With words such as **prison, school, church, university, college, hospital** we don't use the article when we think about what they are used for.

9 We don't use **go + article** before **bed, work, home**.

10 We don't use articles before names of **continents, countries, states, cities, towns or villages** except when the countries are **groups of islands or states**.



A/AN/THE or NO ARTICLE (X)

My cousin works for ____¹ international airline in ____² USA.
Did she go to ____³ university?
Yes. She has just graduated with ____⁴ first-class honours in psychology.
Do you work for ____⁵ big company?
No, not yet. I'm still ____⁶ student but I can play ____⁷ violin very well.



If you ever get ____⁸ computer virus, stop sending ____⁹ emails immediately. If your monitor stops working, turn off ____¹⁰ computer and wait ____¹¹ minute. One of ____¹² most famous viruses was ____¹³ Love Letter, created in May, 2000. It was so dangerous that when ____¹⁴ people thought they had got rid of ____¹⁵ virus it sat waiting in ____¹⁶ unopened file to be spread all over ____¹⁷ world. The man who created it was from ____¹⁸ Philippines. ____¹⁹ American programmer created ____²⁰ Melissa virus in 1999. He was in ____²¹ prison for only 20 months. ____²² first virus to travel from ____²³ computer to ____²⁴ computer was Brain, in 1986.
I started going to ____²⁵ evening classes and soon I realised I was going to work with ____²⁶ computers for ____²⁷ rest of my life. I've been very interested in ____²⁸ smartphones and ____²⁹ tablets for some time now.



Do you sometimes listen to ____³⁰ radio?
Are you at ____³¹ home? Would you like to go to ____³² theatre?
I rarely see ____³³ play. There isn't ____³⁴ theatre in my town.

Do you want ____³⁵ coffee? I've just put ____³⁶ kettle on.
Have you had ____³⁷ lunch? You look tired! Why don't we spend the weekend in ____³⁸ countryside?

I won't go to ____³⁹ work tomorrow. I'll stay ____⁴⁰ home and have some rest. I've got to go to ____⁴¹ hospital to visit ____⁴² friend of mine this evening.
Why is she in ____⁴³ hospital?
____⁴⁴ rich are always worried about their appearance. She had ____⁴⁵ cosmetic surgery. By the way, what ____⁴⁶ lovely dress you're wearing! Are you still working as ____⁴⁷ designer?
Yes, I've just sold my summer collection to ____⁴⁸ famous department store chain in ____⁴⁹ Ireland.
Such ____⁵⁰ lucky girl!