

Grammar 2A

Definite article (*the*)

Why is a definite article (*the*) used in these sentences?
Write a, b, c or d next to each sentence.

- a there is only one person or thing
- b the person or thing has been referred to before
- c it's part of a name
- d it's part of a superlative

- 1 My new mobile didn't work, so I took the phone back to the shop. _____
- 2 People get a lot of news from the internet. _____
- 3 Google is one of the most popular internet search engines. _____
- 4 New insects are still being discovered in the Amazon rainforest. _____
- 5 New Caledonia is an island in the Pacific. _____
- 6 Scientists believe the world is around 4.5 billion years old. _____
- 7 The oldest tree ever known was around 5000 years old. _____
- 8 Her elderly neighbour doesn't have any family, so she visits the old lady regularly. _____

Grammar 2B

Definite article (*the*)

Complete the text with *the*, *a* or no article (-).

In 1964, (1) *a / the* researcher got permission from (2) *- / the* United States Forest Service to cut down (3) *the / a* bristlecone pine tree in (4) *the / a* Great Basin National Park. (5) *The / A* park is in (6) *the / -* Nevada in (7) *- / the* west of (8) *- / the* US and contains many very old trees. (9) *The / -* researcher wanted to study (10) *the / a* rings inside these ancient trees. When he counted (11) *the / a* rings inside (12) *a / the* tree he had cut down, he found that there were around 4,900 growth rings. This meant it was almost 5,000 years old, (13) *an / the* oldest known tree.