

Grammar articles

ARTICLES

Definite article

We use *the* with:

- the names of deserts, seas, oceans, and rivers: *the Gobi Desert, the North Sea, the Atlantic Ocean, the Amazon River.*
- plural names or place names with words like *kingdom, states, east/west*: *the Alps, the Maldives, the United States of America, the United Kingdom, the East Coast.*

No article

We don't use an article with the names of continents, countries, lakes, or a single mountain: *Europe, Brazil, Lake Como, Mount Kilimanjaro.*

- 9 Look at the article and photo of an ancient map. Complete the text with *the* or – (no article).



- 8 Look at the grammar box. Match the places (1–8) with the categories (a–h). Then write *the* or – (no article) for each place.

- 1 the Bahamas
 - 2 - Mount Kilimanjaro
 - 3 - Pacific Ocean
 - 4 - Africa
 - 5 - Nile River
 - 6 - Merume Mountains
 - 7 - Peru
 - 8 - Lake Titicaca
- a group of mountains -
b name of a country -
c name of a continent -
d name of a mountain 2
e name of a river -
f group of islands 1
g name of a lake -
h name of an ocean -

This map of Earth is from the 12th century. At the time, the king of ¹ - Sicily wanted a map of the countries around ² - Mediterranean Sea. He paid a man called Al-Idrisi to make one. Al-Idrisi was from ³ - Morocco, but he lived in ⁴ - Spain. Al-Idrisi interviewed thousands of travelers for information about the oceans and the continents, including Arabia (now ⁵ - Middle East) and ⁶ - Asia. The map is difficult to understand because old maps used to put south at the top and north at the bottom. So this map shows ⁷ - North Africa at the top and ⁸ - Europe at the bottom.