

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	<u>the</u>	Bahamas
2	–	Mount Kilimanjaro
3	–	Pacific Ocean
4	–	Africa
5	–	Nile River
6	–	Meru 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	<u>2</u>
e	name of a river	–
f	group of islands	<u>1</u>
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.