Grammar

a The article 'the'

We use the definite article **the** before uncountable nouns and countable nouns both in the singular and in the plural.

We use **the** before:

- somebody or something **specific** or **already mentioned**.
  The T-shirt that Paul is wearing today is very nice.
  There is a new armchair in the living room. It's the armchair Tom bought last week.
- things that are **unique**.
  How many astronauts have walked on the moon?
- names of **seas**, **rivers**, **oceans**, **deserts**.
  the Mediterranean (Sea) the Amazon (River) the Atlantic (Ocean)
  the Gobi (Desert)
- **groups of islands**, **mountain ranges** and **countries** in the plural.
  the Maldives the Rocky Mountains the Netherlands

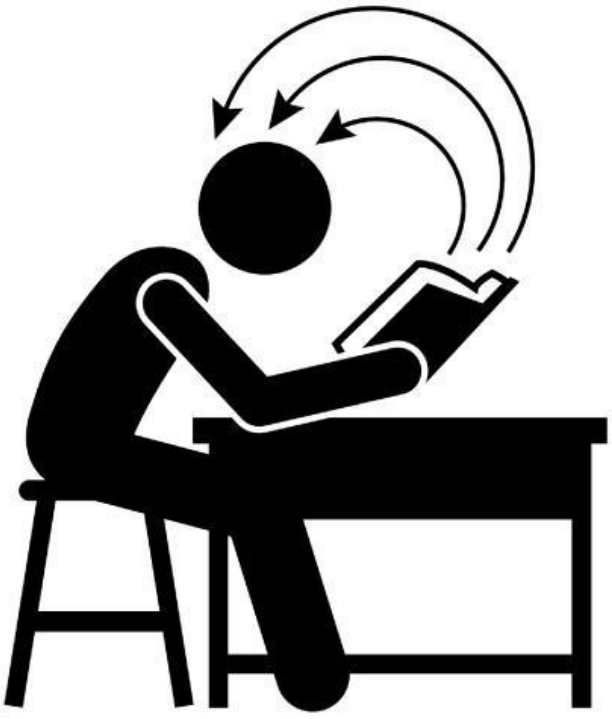
- **musical instruments** (with the verb *play*).
  I play the guitar.
- the **cardinal points**.
  Sussex is to the south of London.
- adjectives and adverbs in the **superlative** form.
  Ann is the best student in the class.
  Gary runs the fastest of all his friends.

REMEMBER! →

LIVEWORKSHEETS

We **do not** use **the** before:

- uncountable nouns and countable nouns in the plural, when we are talking about something **in general**.
  Milk is good for children.
  Monkeys are funny animals.
- names of **people**, **mountains**, **islands**, **lakes**, **countries** and **continents**.
  Susan Daniels Mount Everest Sicily Lake Michigan France Asia
- names of **cities**, **streets**, **parks**, **squares**.
  In London, you can find Oxford Street, Hyde Park and Trafalgar Square.
- names of **sports**, **games**, **colours**, **magazines** and **languages** (when they are not followed by the word *language*).
  Gina likes tennis. My favourite colour is blue.
  'Super' is a very popular magazine. Kate speaks Italian.
- names of **days** and **months**.
  We have football practice on Fridays.
  My birthday is in August.
- **abstract nouns** (hope, love, help, etc.).
  George needs help with his homework.
- the words **breakfast**. **lunch**. **dinner**.
  Breakfast is ready.
- the words **home**, **school**, **bed**, **church**, **hospital**, **work**, **prison**, **university**, when they are used for the purpose for which they exist.
  Nobody is at home in the morning. My parents are at work and I'm at school.



LIVEWORKSHEETS

Complete with the or ------

1. **Lily** When you go to _____ Maldives, make sure you try scuba diving.
   Nina Yes, definitely! They say that people from all over _____ world travel there to go scuba diving.
2. **Mia** When did you start learning _____ Chinese, Leo? You speak very well.
   Leo Five years ago. But I spent nine months in _____ Shanghai last year, and it helped me get better.
3. **Ruby** Can you help me with _____ jigsaw puzzle? It's so difficult!
   Nora Sorry, I'm not good at jigsaw puzzles. Why don't you ask Dad for _____ help?
4. **Charlie** Where are your cousins going?
   Oliver They are going out for _____ dinner to that Italian restaurant on _____ Arthur Street.
5. **Jack** I'm taking part in _____ school competition tomorrow and I'm nervous.
   Rory You'll do great! You're really good at playing _____ violin.
6. **Abbie** I've heard that your sister is in _____ hospital. What happened?
   Lucas She had an accident on her bike, but she's OK now.

Complete with the or ------

1. _____ Sutton Park is one of _____ largest parks in _____ UK.
2. What time are we having _____ lunch? I'm hungry!
3. We stayed at a lovely hotel near _____ River Seine.
4. Have you ever been to _____ Netherlands?
5. Manchester is to _____ north of Birmingham.
6. Mark doesn't like _____ tennis, but he loves playing _____ football with his friends.

LIVEWORKSHEETS