

11C definite article

1 the

Can you close **the window**, please?
Can you check their address on **the internet**?
It's **the best** restaurant I know.

11.12

2 no article

Men are usually more interested in sport than **women**.
She's **my mother's cousin**. That's **Tom's chair**!
What time did you **have breakfast**?
Jim goes **to school by bus**.
Karen's studying physics **at university**.

a / an or the?

We often use a the first time we mention a person or thing. The next time we use *the* because it is now clear what we are talking about, e.g. Let's have **a** pizza. **The** pizzas are very good here.

1 We use *the*:

- when it is clear what we are talking about, e.g. Close **the window**. = the window that is open.
- when there is only one of something, e.g. *the internet*, *the sun*, etc.
- before superlative adjectives, e.g. *the biggest*, *the best*, etc.

2 We don't usually use *the*:

- when we talk about people or things in general.
Men are more interested in sport than **women**. (general)
BUT The women in this class work harder than **the men**. (specific)
- before possessive 's.
She's my mother's cousin. **NOT** ~~She's the my mother's cousin.~~
- with:
meals: have breakfast, lunch, dinner, etc.
by + transport: go by car, travel by train, etc.
general places: work, school, university, bed, home.

11C

a Circle the correct word or phrase.

How much time do you spend on *internet* / *the internet*?

- 1 My brother is at *university* / *at the university* studying maths.
- 2 I love travelling *by train* / *by the train*.
- 3 We're going to visit my aunt at *weekend* / *at the weekend*.
- 4 Let's stay at *home* / *at the home* tonight. I don't want to go out.
- 5 I love reading *novels* / *the novels*.
- 6 Yolanda is *best* / *the best* student in our class.
- 7 I love clear nights when you can see *moon* / *the moon*.
- 8 That's *the man* / *a man* I told you about yesterday.
- 9 Can you open a *door* / *the door* for me, please?
- 10 He had *breakfast* / *the breakfast* late this morning.

b Complete with *the* or –.

It's the longest river in the world.

- 1 What time do you finish _____ work?
- 2 I don't like _____ people who talk loudly in the cinema.
- 3 _____ children behaved very badly yesterday.
- 4 Lorena doesn't like _____ dogs.
- 5 Where do you usually have _____ lunch during the week?
- 6 _____ sun came out so we went for a walk.
- 7 Can you pass _____ salt, please?
- 8 My brother chose _____ most expensive ice cream.
- 9 Last year we went on holiday by _____ car.
- 10 Is James in _____ office today? He wasn't in yesterday.

p.91