

ARTICLES

- » Definition - Articles are used to make a noun definite (निश्चित) or indefinite.
- Articles belong to a group of words called determiners.
ARTICLES (sub-class of determiners)

① Indefinite Articles
(A/An)

② Definite Article
(The)

① Indefinite Articles -

- ⇒ A/An are known as Indefinite Articles because these are used for indefinite persons and articles and which are introduced for the first time.
- ⇒ used mainly before singular countable nouns.

e.g. → I saw a priest. [मैंने एक पुजारी को देखा]
 This is an elephant. [यह एक हाथी है]

② Definite Article -

- ⇒ 'The' is known as Definite Article because it is used for definite persons and articles and which has been already introduced earlier.

e.g. → This is the pen which I have bought. [यह वही पेन है जो मैंने खरीदा है]
The car which I sold was old. [कार जो मैंने बेची थी वो पुरानी थी]

Where Articles should be generally Used?

- ⇒ An Article generally needs a noun to make it definite or indefinite.

- If there is no noun, 'articles' will not be used.

e.g. - She is intelligent. (No noun → no article)
 She is an intelligent student. (Noun → article comes before noun)

NOTE - If an 'adverb/adjective' qualifies the 'noun', the 'article' comes before 'adjective/adverb' not before noun.

e.g. → She is an intelligent student.
She is a very industrious student.

USES OF ARTICLES

① Uses of A/An -

- used before indefinite singular countable nouns.

e.g. → I have a pen.
This is an egg.

① A → Article 'A' is used before the word which doesn't start with vowel sound but starts with consonant sound.

e.g.,

A singer	A university
A pen	A unique person.
A professor	A union
A car	A unit
A song	A European.
A student	A year. (<u>तीतिर</u> - not ईतिर)

N.B. - In abbreviations, we need to take care of pronunciation.

<u>'d' + Consonant sound</u>	<u>'an' + vowel sound</u>
e.g., → A B.A. (बी.ए.)	An M.P. (एम.पी.)
A C.A. (सी.ए.)	An M.L.A. (एम.एल.ए.)
A C.O. (सी.ओ.)	An F.I.R. (एच.आर.आर.)
A B.D.O. (बी.डी.ओ.)	An S.P. (एस.पी.)
A U.N. Member (यू.एन.)	An I.A.S. (आई.ए.एस.)

(ii) An -

- used before the words having vowel sounds.

- 'a, e, i, o, u' — vowels ; but they do not necessarily produce vowel sounds ; consonants words can also produce vowel sounds.

Use Phonetics - Focus on hindi pronunciation — अ, आ, इ, ई, उ, ऊ, ए, ऐ, ओ, औ (स्वर)

Exceptions 1 - (starting with constant but have vowel sounds)

Normals - (starting with vowels)

e.g., An hour (आवर)

An ox (आँस)

An umpire (अभिपारक)

An egg (एजा)

An heir (ऐर)

An Indian (इंडियन)

An honour (आँवर)

An owl (आँडल)

An honest man (आँवर)

An orator (आँवर)

Exceptions 2 - (starting with vowel but have consonant sounds)

A one-rupee note (वन-रुपी नोट)

A one-eyed woman (वन-आँकड़ वुमन)

A useless pen (यूसेलस पेन)

A utensil (यूटेंसिल)

Rules of Usage - (Some More Uses)

'A/An' is used for -

① singular countable nouns, in the sense of one.

e.g., (i) I have a pot.

(ii) She is a doctor.

② in the sense of some / a certain (कोई) - / any -

e.g., (i) A Mr. Ram wants to meet you.

[कोई मिस्टर राम आपसे मिलना चाहता है]

(ii) He did not give me a pen.

③ in the sense of Each/Every (एक/प्रत्येक), Per (प्रति) —

e.g., (i) Raj earns ten lakhs a month.

(ii) My car runs at a speed of 120 kms a hour.

④ for class representation — (गणित वर्गों के लिए)

e.g., (i) A cow is a useful animal. [A cow = Any cow / All cows]

⑤ in exclamatory sentences, when singular countable noun is used.

e.g., What a beautiful morning!

How handsome a boy!

⑥ to denote expressions of quantity and number.

e.g., A lot (of)

A good deal (of)

A number (of)

A large quantity (of)

⑦ in some useful expressions — (before verbs used as nouns)

e.g., In a dilemma

Give a chance

In a rage

Make a impression

Go on a trip

Have a drink

Bring a charge

Take a risk

→ It's a pity / a shame / a wonder / a surprise

⑧ with words that denote numbers — 'hundred', 'thousand', 'million', 'dozen', 'couple', etc.

e.g., (i) A dozen oranges.

(ii) A hundred rupees.

⑨ used before fractions.

e.g., (i) $3\frac{1}{4}$ m — three and a quarter metre.

(ii) $2\frac{1}{2}$ km — two and a half kilometre.

(iii) $\frac{1}{2}$ mile — half a mile

(10) with many / rather / quite / such — when they take a singular noun after them.

e.g., (i) Many a boy goes to school.

(ii) It is rather a shame.

(iii) It is quite an easy task.

(iv) It was such an awesome story.

(11) in some common phrases —

In a hurry Make a decision

In a nutshell keep a secret

In a fix as a rule

Take a dive into at a stone's throw

Take a fancy to at a loss

Tell a lie take an interest in

Catch a cold Take a hint.

Omission of 'A/An' —

A/An is not used —

(1) before just an adjective without a noun.

e.g., (i) He is ~~a~~ laborious [only 'laborious']

(ii) She is ~~a~~ naughty.

(2) before uncountable nouns.

(i) ~~A~~ Gold is more costlier than ~~the~~ copper. [Not: A gold]

(ii) He drinks ~~a~~ wine [only 'wine']

(3) before plural nouns.

(i) ~~A~~ Children like playing football. [only 'children']

(ii) ~~A~~ Goats eat grass. [only 'goats']

(6)

(4) not used in a few phrases.

e.g., in danger to set foot
by mistake to catch fire
by heart in hand
at last last but not least
to lose heart set on fire

(5) in sentences starting with → 'what sort of', 'what kind of', 'what variety of', 'what type of', etc.
e.g., (1) what sort of ~~a~~ person she is! [no article]

(6) with certain ^{Common} uncountable nouns —

'work, evidence, mischief, bread, hair, furniture, stationery, information, equipment, knowledge, scenery, poetry, news, luggage, baggage, advice, accommodation, money, jewellery, etc.'

e.g., (i) He provided me ~~a~~ information (remove 'an')
(ii) I bought ~~an~~ equipment (remove 'an')

N.B. — a few words can be used before them to make countable.

e.g., (i) I ate a slice of bread.
(ii) Ram has a piece of information for Sita.

(7) No article is used with abstract nouns.

e.g., Honesty is the best policy.
Diamond is precious.

(8) No article with the names of any person/place.

e.g., (i) ~~A~~ Ram is an obedient student.
(ii) ~~A~~ Rome ~~is~~ is situated in Italy.

Exceptions — A/An is used before proper nouns

e.g., This book is written by a Rajesh Chaudhary.

[Mr. Rajesh Chaudhary is already known to the speaker]

② Uses of 'The' -

→ 'The' is a definite article used before definite nouns which has already been mentioned, or towards which we can point out.

I bought a book yesterday.
e.g., (i) The book is not available in the market today.
(already mentioned)

(ii) I met an old man yesterday. The old man was very poor.

Other Rules of Usage -

→ 'The' is used -

- (i) before 'Proper Nouns' (unique objects) — names of
 - (i) Historical monuments — The Taj Mahal, The Burj Khalifa
 - (ii) Mountain ranges — The Himalayas, The Alps ~~(The)~~ Aravali/Everest
[Aravali is not a mountain range]
 - (iii) Planets — The Mars, The Earth
 - (iv) Heavenly bodies — The Sun, The Moon
 - (v) Rivers/Seas/Oceans — The Ganges, The Arabian Sea, The Indian Ocean
 - (vi) Groups of Islands — The Lakshadweep.
 - (vii) Bays/Canals/Deserts — The Bay of Bengal, The Suez Canal, The Thar Desert
 - (viii) Newspapers/Magazines — The Hindu, The Indian Express, The Frontline
 - (ix) Holy books — The Ramayana, The Bible
 - (x) Religion — The Hindus, The Muslims, The Sikhs
 - (xi) Political Parties — The Congress, The BJP
 - (xii) Hotels/Clubs — The Taj Hotel, The Lions Club
 - (xiii) musical instruments — The violin, the guitar
 - (xiv) inventions — The telephone, The Television
 - (xv) dates — the 10th of March
 - (xvi) Unique things — The world, the universe, the atmosphere
 - (xvii) body parts (when a possessive adjective is replaced by any other)
e.g., He was wounded in his/the leg.

- ② when a singular noun expresses a class of animal/things,
e.g. (i) The cow is a useful animal.
(ii) The rose is a sweet flower.

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N.B. - Do not use 'the' in their plural forms / before persons.
e.g. (i) ~~The~~ cows are economically useful. (do not use 'the')
(ii) ~~The~~ son should be obedient

③ before an adjective to represent a class.

e.g. (i) The rich should help the poor.

(ii) The young should respect the old.

④ as an adverb with a comparative sense. (double comparison)

e.g. (i) The higher you go, the colder it becomes.

(ii) The longer, the better.

⑤ before comparative degree to show choice.

e.g. (i) She is the taller of the two sisters.

⑥ before proper nouns — for comparison.

e.g. (i) Kalidas is the Shakespeare of Sanskrit/India.

⑦ before cardinals and directions.

e.g. (i) The East, The west.

(ii) He is the first President of India.

⑧ before certain adjectives - 'same', 'whole'.

after certain adjectives - 'all', 'both'.

e.g. (i) This is the same book that you bought yesterday.

(ii) The whole class is present today.

(iii) All the girls were present there.

(iv) Both the brothers are tall.

⑨ in certain idiomatic phrases —

e.g. (i) in the wrong

out of the question

on the contrary

in the air

(10) before a common noun to give it the sense of an abstract noun (feelings, qualities, etc.)

e.g., (i) The mother in her was born when she saw a lonely baby.
(ii) The beast in him. ('cruelty' of a beast)

(11) before language to signify nationality.

e.g. (i) The Chinese are talented.

(12) before nationality (plural)

e.g., The Greeks, the Indians [for

N.B. - An Indian, An Asian [for a particular person]

(13) before 'little and few'

(i) The little - some but all

(ii) The few - some but all.

(14) before superlative degree.

(i) He is the most intelligent student of our class

Omission of Article - 'The'

- In the following cases, 'The' Article is not used →

(1) Names of - Months - January, December

Days - Tuesday, Thursday

Languages - Sanskrit, Hindi

Subjects - Chemistry, Biology

Games/Hobbies - Football, Chess, Dancing, Singing

Roads - M.G. Road, Aurangzeb lane

Meals - Breakfast, Dinner

Materials - Gold, Silver

Places (if direction comes before name) - West Bengal

Adjectives (direction) - Northern, Southern, Eastern, Western

Diseases - Measles, Cancer

Body parts - Liver, Lung

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e.g., Assam is in ~~the~~ North-eastern India. [Do not use 'the']

② before common noun used (to represent entire species) in widest sense. — cattle, gentry, people (in general sense)

e.g. (i) ~~The~~ Man is Mortal. [Do not use 'the']

(ii) ~~The~~ God is omnipotent.

N.B. - The gods and the goddesses are kind to him. (in the sense of deities)

③ before abstract nouns as qualities, feelings and states used in general sense.

e.g., ~~The~~ Honesty is the best policy. [Do not use 'the']

④ before noun complement. — appoint, make, elect, select, etc.

e.g., (i) They elected him ~~the~~ President. [Do not use 'the']

⑤ before 'school, college, home, church, temple, work, hospital, market, court, prison', etc., when the purpose is primary (not any special purpose).

Note - 'The' is used before — 'station, circus, theatre, cinema, office, bus stop, etc.'

e.g., (i) We go to ~~the~~ temple every evening. (for prayers)

(ii) Children should go to ~~the~~ school. (for study)

N.B. - 'The' Article is used if there is no primary purpose.

e.g., (i) He went to the hospital to meet his friend. (to know about the wellness of his friend)

(ii) I went to the sea alone. (travel)

⑥ in certain phrases.

e.g., At last to give eye
At sunrise to catch fire.

⑦ before names of buildings/monuments/sacred books if the name comprises two or more words where one is the name of a person/place.

eg., Indira Gandhi Airport, Victoria Palace
Valmiki's Ramayana, etc.

8) if two or more connected nouns refer to two different persons/objects, 'the' article is used before each noun, otherwise 'the' article is used only before the first noun.

eg. (i) The PM and the President are newly elected. (two different persons)
(ii) The PM and President of the party is visiting today. (one person holding two posts)

9) Only one article is placed before the first adjective when two or more adjectives qualify the same noun.

eg., She is wearing a black and ~~a~~ white saree. [omit 'a' before second adj.]

1) Use singular noun if there are two articles before ordinal.
eg., The first and the second chapter are very difficult.

2) Use plural noun, if only one article is used before one ordinal.
eg., The first and second chapters are very difficult.

1) 'The' is not used in parallel structures and double expressions with prepositions.

eg., day by day row upon row
hand in hand inch by inch
from hand to mouth from top to bottom

2) The Article is not used ^{before} ~~the~~ ~~den~~ family relations.
eg. ~~The~~ Father / Mother / Uncle will come soon,
Hello ~~the~~ father!
Good Morning ~~the~~ Uncle!
[Do not use 'the']