



DEFINITE

VERSUS

INDEFINITE

ARTICLES



WHEN SHOULD YOU USE THEM?

THE

The definite article the is used to refer to something specific, unique or previously mentioned.



The can be used before singular or plural nouns.
Ex: The car I want is for sale.
Ex: The apples she bought were delicious.



The is used with count and non count nouns.
Ex: Pass me the salt, please
Ex: I bought the gifts.



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<http://generales.uprrp.edu/competencias-linguisticas/>

A/AN

Indefinite articles a/an are used to refer to a noun that is not specific or to a particular member of a group or class.

A/an are used only for singular nouns.
Ex: I saw a car for sale.
Ex: She bought an apple.

A/an are used only with count nouns.
Ex: I have a sister and a brother.
Ex: She wrote an inspirational speech.

A is used when the following word begins with a consonant or u/eu.
An is used when the word starts with a vowel sound.