



National Research  
Tomsk State  
University

**Realization of the project  
"Development of foreign language  
competence of TSU students" 2016-2018**

You should put an article before most nouns. If you don't use an article there should be a reason why.

You NEVER put an article before a noun if there is

1) possessive or demonstrative pronoun before the noun

Eg. **My** friend / **That** friend

2) another noun in the possessive case

Eg. My friend'**s** house

3) numeral

I have **two** brothers

I have **many** friends

4) no

**No** boys are allowed

# ARTICLES

- Indefinite article
- Definite article



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# INDEFINITE ARTICLES

## A & AN

A is used before nouns which begin with

**Consonants**

■ **A book, a girl, a sweet**

Also A is used before U and EU

■ **A university, a European city**

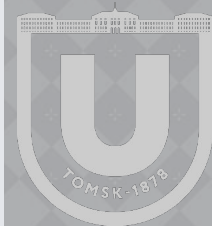
AN is used before nouns which begin with

**vowels**

■ **An apple, an interesting film**

AN is used before H when the sound is silent

■ **An hour**



# A & THE

Mary: I bought a CD player and a TV yesterday.

Fred: Was the CD player expensive?

**A & AN** are used when we mention smth **for the first time**

**THE** is used when we mention a person or a thing **again**



## **Упражнение 2**

*Вставъте артикль, где необходимо.*

1. He hasn't got ... car. But he's got ... computer. ... computer is new. 2. My ... friends have got ... cat and ... dog. ... dog never bites ... cat. 3. This is ... tree. ... tree is green. 4. I can see three ... boys. ... boys are playing. 5. I have ... bicycle. ... bicycle is black. My ... friend has no ... bicycle. 6. Our ... room is large. 7. We wrote ... dictation yesterday. ... dictation was long. 8. She has two ... daughters and one ... son. Her ... son is ... pupil. 9. Last year I gave my ... mother ... bracelet for her ... birthday. She liked ... bracelet. 10. My ... brother's ... friend has no ... dog. 11. This ... pencil is broken. Give me that ... pencil, please. 12. She has ... ball. ... ball is ... big. 13. I got ... letter from my ... friend yesterday. ... letter was interesting. 14. When they were in Geneva, they stayed at ... hotel. Sometimes they had dinner at ... hotel and sometimes in ... restaurant. 15. I've got ... idea. 16. What ... shame.

INDEFINITE ARTICLE  
IS USED WITH

Countable nouns, sg.

***E.g. This is a book.***

# DEFINITE ARTICLE IS USED WITH

Countable nouns & uncountable  
nouns

Sg. & pl.

*This is meat. **The meat** is fresh.*

(uncount.)

*These are books. **The books** are good.*

(count., pl.)



### Упражнение 3

*Вставьте артикль, где необходимо.*

1. This is ... pen. ... pen is red. 2. These are pencils. ..the. pencils are black. 3. This is ... soup. ...the soup is tasty. 4. In the morning I eat ... sandwich and drink ... tea. 5. She gave me ... coffee and ... cake. ... coffee was hot. ... cake was tasty. 6. Do you like ... ice cream? 7. I see ... book in your ... hand. Is the... book interesting? 8. Do you need .a.. camera? 9. He never eats ... meat, he always eats ... vegetables, ... cereals, ... seeds, ... fruit, and ... nuts. He is ... ve getarian. 10. This is ... pineapple. ... pineapple is delicious. 11. Elaine, ... apples are good for you!

My ... cousin is upset. He's got ... sore throat.

This is .-.. cottage cheese. ... cottage cheese is fresh. 14. She bought ... meat, ... butter and ... potatoes yesterday. She also bought ... cake. ... cake was very ... tasty. We ate ... cake with ... tea.

15. This is my ... table. On ... table I have ... book, two ... pencils, ... pen and ... paper. 16. This is ... bag. ... bag is brown. It is my sister's ... bag. And this is my ... bag. It is ... yellow.

Запомните следующие словосочетания, в которых артикль не употребляется:

at • school at s home at • work

If there is an attribute before the noun, the attribute goes between the article and the noun

- E.g. This is a *book*. This is a *good book*.  
These are *books*. *These are interesting books*.

## Упражнение 5

*Вставьте артикль, где необходимо.*

1. We have ... large ... family.
2. My granny often tells us ... long ... interesting ... stories.
3. My ... father is ... engineer. He works at ... factory. ... factory is large.
4. My ... mother is ... doctor. She works at ... large ... hospital. She is at ... work now.
5. My ... aunt is ... teacher. She works at ... school. ... school is good. My ... aunt is not at ... school now. She is at ... home. She is drinking ... tea and eating ... jam. ... jam is sweet. I am at ... home, too. I am drinking ... tea and eating ... sandwich. ... sandwich is tasty.
6. My sister is at ... school. She is ... pupil.
7. My cousin has ... big ... black ... cat. My cousin's ... cat has two ... kittens. ... cat likes ... milk. ... kittens like ... milk, too.
8. I am ... engineer.
9. My ... son is ... pupil.
10. He is ... good ... pupil.
11. This is ... house.
12. This is my ... pencil.
13. You have some ... pencils, but I have no ... pencil. Give me ... pencil, please.

# SPECIAL USES OF THE

When there is **only one** of something,  
thing unique

- **The sun, the Earth, the world, the Internet etc**

When something is defined by the situation  
(если этот предмет является  
определенным по  
ситуации):

**Put the book on the table.**



## Упражнение 6

*Вставьте артикль, где необходимо.*

1. What's ... weather like today? — ... weather is fine. 2. ... sun is yellow. 3. ... sky is grey today. 4. ... Earth is ... planet. 5. We had ... English lesson yesterday. ... teacher asked me many ... questions. ... questions were difficult. 6. Where is your ... brother? — He is at ... home. He is in his ... room. He is sitting at ... table. He is doing his ... home work. ... homework is difficult. 7. Our ... cat is sitting on ... sofa. 8. It is very dark in ... room. Turn on ... light, please. 9. Nick went into ... bathroom, turned on ... water and washed his ... hands.

When a singular noun (name) refers to a group

- **The police, the government, the Browns**

With superlatives

- **The best, the most interesting**

# SPECIAL USES OF A & AN

We use A, AN with prices, frequency and speeds

- It costs \$2 a litre
- You should drink about 2 litres of water a day
- You're driving at 90 miles an hour

We use A, AN with professions

- I'm a hairdresser; she's a doctor



# SPECIAL USES OF THE

With **the first, the second** etc

- **A second means “another, one more”**

With adjectives that refer to groups

- **The rich, the poor**

With nationalities

- **The Chinese**

With musical instruments

- **I play the violin**



# ZERO ARTICLE

When we talk in general with uncount.nouns or with plural nouns

- **Life was more difficult for our grandparents**
- **People are often afraid of taking risks.**

Common expressions:

- **At home, in/to hospital, in/to prison, at/school, at/to university, at/to work**

With seasons

- **I like summer a lot.**





# ZERO ARTICLE

With names of meals

- **When did you have lunch?**

With names of languages without the word “language”

- **She knows English, BUT she knows the English language**

With names of months and days

- **My Birthday is in April.**
- **I work on Monday.**



# GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

Geographical names are used without articles

- **England, France, Tomsk, Moskow**

Words *republic, union, kingdom & states* are used with the definite article

- **the United Kingdom, the Czech Republic**

Names of *oceans, seas & rivers* are used with the definite article

- **the Pacific Ocean, the Black Sea**



# GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

Names of lakes without the word “lake” go with no article

■ **Lake Ontario OR the Ontario**

Names of mountain chains go with the definite article

■ **The Urals, the Alps**

Names of mountain peaks go with no article

■ **Elbrus, Everest**



# GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

Names of groups of islands are used with the definite article

- **The Bermudas**

Names of singular islands are used with no article

- **Madagascar**

Names of streets and squares are used without articles

- **Oxford Street, Trafalgar Square**



# GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

The names of the following towns, countries & cities are used with the definite article:

- **The Hague, the Netherlands, the West Indies, the Ruhr, the Riviera, the Crimea, the Ukraine, the Caucasus, the Congo, the Lebanon**

Cardinal points are used with definite article

- **the North, the South, the West, the East**
- **BUT form East to West & from North to South**





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# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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