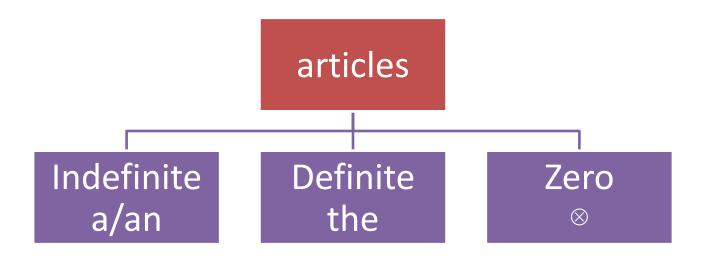
THE ARTICLE

Part 1



a/an	the	⊗ zero
only with CN Singular	with MN, CN Singular and Plural	With MN and CN Plural
1. The idea of ONENESS (a/an=one)	1.The idea of DEFINITENESS: the=this/that/these/those	1. With MN – to refer to a notion IN GENERAL or to an INDEFINITE AMOUNT of the substance
e.g. I have a cat/ONE cat, not three (in plural –some/several/cardinal number)	e.g.The cat I bought last year is still with me The cats she keeps make her husband's life a living hell The music they are playing is my favorite	 Silver is a precious metal This is ⊗ lead, not ⊗ silver
2. The idea of referring to a CLASS of things as a whole (a/an= any, every)	2. With <u>CN Singular</u> - to refer to a class as a whole and to distinguish one class from another	2.With CN Plural -to refer to a class as a whole (⊗ = any)

Five Golden Rules (1)

- We NEVER use the zero article before a CN Singular
- We use the zero article before a MN in the generic meaning
- We use the indefinite article if a CN Singular is a predicative

I have a car
The car I have is green

I love ⊗ music

I am a teacher Leonardo is a genius

Five Golden Rules (2)

- We use the definite article if a noun is modified by a LIMITING/ PARTICULARIZING attribute
- We use the indefinite/zero article if a noun is modified by a DESCRIPTIVE attribute

The story *I told you*yesterday did not have a single word of truth

Yesterday he told me an absolutely unbelievable story

- ⊗Unbelievable stories may be true sometimes
- ⊗Good food is expensive

The Indefinite Article

A

An

is used before a word beginning with a consonant sound

consonant sound

a man

a red apple

a university

a helmet

a historical event

is used before a word

beginning with a vowel

sound

an apple

an old man

an uncle

an heir

The Indefinite Article is used to introduce a new • A pretty girl of about

subject of communication or some new information (thus becoming the focus of communication or the "rheme" of the sentence)

It names and classifies the object, denoting, what kind of object (thing/ person) the speaker has to deal with

 A pretty girl of about eight entered the room

 John has brought me a book that he believes I should start reading right now

They saw a house with a smooth lawn in front of it

 His wife, a woman of uncertain age, was also present at the ceremony

The Definite Article

denotes that the following noun refers to a particular object (thing/ person/ amount)

It may be unique or the situation may make it specific, but it is hardly the focus of communication (the"theme" of the statement)

- Let's close the window,
 I am afraid of catching a cold.
- The sun rises at 8 a.m.
- The water in the bathtub is tepid, you will be frozen
- Has anyone fed the dogs?

Types of attributes Limiting (the)

is used to describe an object or group of objects, to give some additional information about them

She wore a large straw hat of native make

There was a wonderful concert at the Victoria Hall we could have gone to

is used to point out a particular object (person/thing/amount) or a number of objects as distinct from all other objects of the same class/kind

- -Which hat are you going to wear?
- -The large straw one, it matches my dress best.

We are always limiting(1)

- Superlatives
- Adjectives limiting by the meaning

BUT:

Are you an only child? (descriptive)

- the most irritating person/ the best friend/the biggest hit
- the same/ only/ very/main/principal/ left/right/wrong/ central/ following/ present/ former/ latter/ last/ next etc.

Ordinal numbers:

 The first celebrity/ the forth room down the corridor

We are always limiting(2)

some of-phrases:

 The+Common Noun+of+Proper Name The lake of Ontario

The isle of Man

The city of London

The+PART+of+the WHOLE

The cover of a/the book
The roof of a/the house
The figure of a/the man

 The+ACTION+of+a/the DOER The singing of birds
The shot of a gun
The sound of her voice

Articles with nouns in the generic

the	Zero/⊗	
1. With Class Nouns Singular	1. With Mass Nouns	
e.g. <i>The olive</i> grows only in warm climate <i>The airplane</i> has revolutionized travel	e.g. & <i>Honesty</i> is the best policy & <i>Honey</i> is wholesome	
	⊗Man is a social animal	
BUT:⊗ MAN/WOMAN	⊗Man is a hunter, ⊗woman is his game	
2. With substantivized adjectives	2. In set-phrases	
e.g. <i>The English love</i> to be with their families at Christmas (the NATION) We are collected money for <i>the disabled The poor ARE</i> always with us (the CLASS of people who are disabled (poor)	To be at *school/ absent from *school To go to *church To be taken to *hospital To work*day and night	