



Специальность переподготовки
«Иностранный язык (английский)»

ZERO ARTICLE

Практическая
грамматика

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Articles

Singular Definite	Singular Indefinite	Plural Definite	Plural Zero
the boy	a boy	the boys	boys
the house	a house	the houses	houses
the idea	an idea	the ideas	ideas

Articles vary according to the type of noun (countable or uncountable), to the context (definite or indefinite), and to quantity (singular or plural).

Zero article is used generalizing about *uncountable nouns* and *plural countable nouns*.

Examples:

Curiosity is a great trait. *UNCOUNTABLE*

Water is an important resource. *UNCOUNTABLE*

Vegetables are good for you. *PLURAL COUNTABLE*





There is no article:



1) before the nouns modified by the pronouns:
possessive: *my, his, her, its, our, your, their,*
demonstrative: *this, that, those, these;* interrogative:
what, which, whose and indefinite: *some, any, each,*
every, many, much and *no*, and also by cardinal
numerals.

What question have you discussed?

Take any book you like.



There is no article:



2) before the names of a person, streets, squares;
before the names of sciences and subjects;
before airports, stations, parks, mountain peaks, bridges, single
islands.

*Oxford Street is one of the biggest and most popular shopping
centers in London.*



There is no article:



3) before plural countable nouns in general sense.

Children learn a lot from playing. I like pets.

4) after the verbs: *elect, appoint, turn, commence.*

He was elected President of the country.





There is no article:



5) before the nouns of material and abstract nouns in general sense.

*Life is impossible without water and air.
What fine weather!*



There is no article:

Note: many abstract nouns and nouns of material used with the indefinite article become countable. Usually there is a difference in meaning.

Paper was invented in China. I bought a paper on the way home.



There is no article:

6) with the nouns denoting titles and ranks followed by the names of persons.

Mr. Brown, Mrs Simmons, Dr. Fox, Pr. Kemp.



There is no article:

7) with the nouns expressing relationships:

- a) followed by names of persons,
- b) nouns expressing relationship not followed by a proper noun when used by the members of the family.

Uncle James lives in London.



There is no article:

8) with the names of months, days, seasons.

But: when these names are modified by a particularizing attribute, the definite article is used.

The May of 1945 will always stay in the memory of people.

The winter of 1941 was very cold.



There is no article:

9) the nouns: *school, college, bed, jail, prison, church* are used without an article when they express the purpose for which the objects denoted by these nouns serve.

to go to school = to be a schoolboy,

to be in prison -to be a prisoner,

to go to university = to be a student.

But: Where is the University?



There is no article:

10) with names of languages when they are not followed by the noun *language* are used without article.

Do you speak English ?

But: The English language is spoken all over the world.



There is no article:

11) *most* + noun (without article) - the noun is used in general sense.

Most + *of* + *the* - definite objects are meant.

Most children like ice-cream.



There is no article:

12) the expressions "few" and "little" (without an article) mean "not much" and express the idea that you have less than expected.

Unfortunately, I had **little** time to enjoy New York because I had to work so much.

There is no article



If a direction (north, west, southeast, left, right) directly follows a verb, do not use an article with the direction.

We need to walk south.

However



If a direction follows a preposition, you must use *THE*.

We need to walk to the south.

Use *THE* with compass directions when referring to them as special geographic or cultural regions.

We love the South.

Zero article

When generalizing about nationalities or ethnic groups that end in "-ans", such as "Americans", "Mexicans", and "Hawaiians", *THE* is not usually used.

Americans watch a lot of TV.
Germans drink a lot of beer.

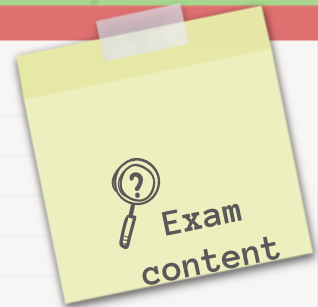


Zero article

Do not use *THE* with the names of most countries unless the name contains a word such as "States", "Kingdom", "Republic", "Emirates", "Union", "Coast", etc.

I love Italy.

John lives in the United States.



Continents



He works in Southern Africa.



Cities, towns, villages

Minsk is the capital of Belarus.

Zero article

Many shop restaurants and banks are named after the people who started them. These names end in -s or 's.

We do not use *the* with these names.

shops: Self ridge's, Harrods;
hotels: Claridge's.

Places

The first name is usually the name of the person or a place. We do not usually say *the* with these names. But we say: "The White House", "The Royal Palace", because "white" and "royal" are not names.

Universities: Oxford University, Cambridge University, London University

London Zoo, Buckingham Palace, Westminster Abbey.



Exam
content



Exception

BUT:
The planet of Venus

Saturn is composed of
hydrogen and helium

Zero article



Do not use article before
names of planets

Mars



Despite being red,
Mars is a cold place

Venus



Venus is the second
planet from the Sun

THERE IS NO ARTICLE

arm in arm	all day	last night
at dawn	all night	last Friday
at dinner	all month	on average
At dusk	every month	on board the ship
at night	every year	on foot
at midnight	for ages	out of doors
at present	from beginning to end	on sale
at noon	for example	on leave
at midnight	for instance	on fire
at sunrise	from memory	on second thoughts
at sunset	in /on time	to tell lies
at work	in space	to take first place
by chance	in detail	to pay attention
by sea	in charge	to give away
by heart	in cash	to shake hands
by mistake	in fact	to be on time
by cheque	in future	step by step
by bus	in person	yesterday
by name	In sight	tomorrow

Read the following dialogue and analyze the articles used in it.

A Perfect Alibi

"At the time the murder was committed I was travelling on the 8 o'clock train to London", said the man.

"Do you always catch such an early train?" asked the inspector.

"Of course I do", answered the man. "I must be at work at 10 o'clock. My employer will confirm that I was there on time".

"Would a later train get you to work on time?" asked the inspector.

"I suppose it would, but I never catch a later train".

"At what time did you arrive at the station?"

"At ten to eight. I bought a paper and waited for the train".

"And you didn't notice anything unusual?"

"Of course not".

"I suggest that you are not telling the truth. I think that you didn't catch the 8 o'clock train, but that you caught the 8.25, which would still get you to work on time. You see, on the morning of the murder, the 8 o'clock train did not run at all. It broke down at Ferngreen station and was taken off the line".

PUT A/AN/THE/-.

In Search of ... Good Job

There is ... lot of unemployment in our days so it is getting more and more difficult to get ... kind of ... job you really want. Then you have to decide what is more important to you -how much you earn or ... job satisfaction. Do you want to work with your hands (called ... manual work) or do you prefer to work in ... office (called ... clerical work)? When you are thinking about ... career, or applying for... job, first of all you should go out and look for ... work instead of sitting around all day doing nothing.

Susan is ... teacher of ... English in ... state secondary school. She's ... graduate of ... Sussex University with degree in ... English Literature . When she graduated, she first worked in ... office but was bad at typing and soon got bored with ... job. She decided to teach, so she went to ... teacher training college. Susan teaches ... six different classes of ... children between ... age of 12 and 18. ... pupils enjoy her lessons, but she finds it ... hard work. She gives ... children ... lot of homework to do, and every evening she has to mark it and prepare for ... next day. One problem is that ... children in ... Susan's school don't behave very well. They are often impolite. Susan and ... other teachers have to be very strict with them.



Literature

- 1. Практическая грамматика современного
английского языка**
// Хведченя Л.В., Хорень Р.В., Крюковская И.В.
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