

Names with and without the (1)

A We do not use 'the' with names of people ('Ann', 'Ann Taylor' etc.). In the same way, we do not normally use 'the' with names of places. For example:

<i>continents</i>	Africa (<i>not</i> 'the Africa'), Europe, South America
<i>countries</i>	France (<i>not</i> 'the France'), Japan, Switzerland
<i>states, regions etc.</i>	Texas, Cornwall, Tuscany, Central Europe
<i>islands</i>	Corsica, Sicily, Bermuda
<i>cities, towns etc.</i>	Cairo, New York, Madrid
<i>mountains</i>	Everest, Etna, Kilimanjaro

~~THE~~

But we use **the** in names with 'Republic', 'Kingdom', 'States' etc.:
the United States of America (the USA) the United Kingdom (the UK)
the Dominican Republic

Compare:
● We visited Canada and the United States.

B When we use **Mr/Mrs/Captain/Doctor** etc. + *a name*, we do *not* use 'the'. So we say:
Mr Johnson / Doctor Johnson / Captain Johnson / President Johnson etc. (*not* 'the...')
Uncle Robert / Aunt Jane / Saint Catherine / Princess Anne etc. (*not* 'the...')

Compare:

● We called the doctor. *but* We called Doctor Johnson. (*not* 'the Doctor Johnson')

We use **mount** (= mountain) and **lake** in the same way (*without* 'the'):
Mount Everest (*not* 'the...') Mount Etna Lake Superior Lake Constance
● They live near the lake. *but* They live near Lake Constance. (*without* 'the')

C We use **the** with the names of oceans, seas, rivers and canals (see also Unit 77B):
the Atlantic (Ocean) the Mediterranean (Sea) the Red Sea
the Indian Ocean the Channel (between France and Britain) the Suez Canal
the (River) Amazon the (River) Thames the Nile the Rhine

We use **the** with *plural* names of people and places:

<i>people</i>	the Taylors (= the Taylor family), the Johnsons
<i>countries</i>	the Netherlands, the Philippines, the United States
<i>groups of islands</i>	the Canaries / the Canary Islands, the Bahamas, the British Isles
<i>mountain ranges</i>	the Rocky Mountains / the Rockies, the Andes, the Alps

● The highest mountain in the Alps is Mont Blanc. (*not* 'the Mont Blanc')

E North/northern etc.

We say: the north (of France) *but* northern France (*without* 'the')
the south-east (of Spain) *but* south-eastern Spain

Compare:

● Sweden is in northern Europe; Spain is in the south.

Also: the Middle East the Far East

You can also use north/south etc. + a place name (*without* 'the'):

North America West Africa South-East Spain

Note that on maps, **the** is not usually included in the name.

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Names with and without the (2)

A *Names without 'the'*

We do not use 'the' with names of most streets/roads/squares/parks etc.:

Union Street (*not* 'the...') Fifth Avenue Piccadilly Circus Hyde Park
Blackrock Road Broadway Times Square Waterloo Bridge

Many names (especially names of important buildings and institutions) are two words:

Kennedy Airport Cambridge University

The first word is usually the name of a person ('Kennedy') or a place ('Cambridge'). We do not usually use 'the' with names like these. Some more examples:

Victoria Station (*not* 'the...') Edinburgh Castle London Zoo
Westminster Abbey Buckingham Palace Canterbury Cathedral

But we say 'the White House', 'the Royal Palace', because 'white' and 'royal' are not names like 'Kennedy' and 'Cambridge'. This is only a general rule and there are exceptions.

B Most other names (of places, buildings etc.) have names with **the**:

adjective or
the + *name etc.* + *noun*

Hilton	Hotel
National	Theatre
Sahara	Desert
Atlantic	Ocean

These places usually have names with **the**:

hotels/restaurants/pubs the Station Hotel, the Bombay Restaurant, the Red Lion (pub)
theatres/cinemas the Palace Theatre, the Odeon Cinema
museums/galleries the British Museum, the Tate Gallery
other buildings the Empire State Building, the Festival Hall, the White House
oceans/seas/canals the Indian Ocean, the Mediterranean Sea, the Suez Canal

also:

newspapers the Washington Post, the Financial Times
organizations (but see also Section D) the European Union, the BBC (= the British Broadcasting Corporation)

Sometimes we leave out the noun: the Hilton (Hotel), the Sahara (Desert)

Sometimes the name is only the + *noun*: the Vatican (*in Rome*), the Sun (*British newspaper*)

Names with ...of... usually have **the**. For example:

the Bank of England the Tower of London the Museum of Modern Art
the Houses of Parliament the Great Wall of China the Tropic of Capricorn
the Gulf of Mexico the University of London (*but* the London University)

C Many shops, restaurants, hotels, banks etc. are named after the people who started them. These names end in -s or -s. We do *not* use 'the' with these names:

Lloyds Bank (*not* the Lloyds Bank) McDonalds Jack's Guest House Harrods (shop)

Churches are often named after saints:

St John's Church (*not* the St John's Church) St Paul's Cathedral

D

Names of companies, airlines etc. are usually *without* 'the':
Fiat (*not* the Fiat) Sony Kodak British Airways IBM

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A Place names and no article

- In general, no article is used for continents, countries, states, islands, mountains, lakes, cities, parks, roads, streets, squares, palaces, castles, cathedrals, stations and airports.
Europe/Asia France/China California/Lazio Crete/Madeira
Mont Blanc/Mount Everest Lake Lucerne/Lake Michigan Tokyo/Budapest
Central Park/Hyde Park Fifth Avenue/Church Street Trafalgar Square/Times Square
Buckingham Palace Windsor Castle Milan Cathedral Grand Central Station Ory Airport

B Place names and the

- Note that all the following use the:
 Plurals: *the Alps, the Bahamas, the Netherlands*
 Adjective + place: *the Red Sea, the Middle East, the West End*
 (But NOT if the place is the name of a country or continent: *France, South-East Asia*)
 Phrases with 'of': *the Houses of Parliament, the South of France*
 Political institutions: *the Irish Republic, the United Kingdom (the UK), the US*
 Rivers and canals: *the Amazon, the Loire, the Suez Canal*
 Oceans and seas: *the Pacific, the Atlantic, the Mediterranean*
 Roads with numbers: *the M6 (motorway), the A1*
 Theatres and galleries: *the Globe (Theatre), the Uffizi (Gallery)*
 Hotels: *the Marriott (Hotel)*
 Famous buildings: *the Eiffel Tower, the Taj Mahal, the White House*

C Special uses of the

- We use the with:
 International institutions: **The United Nations, The World Bank, The IMF**
 Adjectives to refer to a group: **The unemployed do not receive enough help.**
 the ... of a/the ... : **the end of an era, the start of the project**
 Some time phrases: **in the past, at the moment, in the future** (but at present, **the 1960s** (decades), **the 21st century** (centuries))
 Points of the compass: **in the north/east/south/west, in the south-west**
 Playing instruments: **I play the piano/guitar.**
 Job titles and official titles: **The Marketing Director, the Prime Minister** said ...
 (But NOT title + name: *Prime Minister Tony Blair said ...*)
City Slogans: a monthly guide for the business traveler (asa-inc magazine website)
Hypo-Alpe-Adria-Bank has been highly successful in Croatia over the past four years. According to Dr Wolfgang Kullner, the Chairman of the Board, this success is due to concentrating business activities on the Alpine-Adriatic market and choosing good business partners. (ebd website)

D Special uses of 'no article'

- We use no article with:
 Company names: *I work for Accenture*
 Years, months, days: *In 2001, in July, on Thursday*
 Special times of the year: *at Christmas/Easter*
 Some parts of the day: *at night/midnight/sunset* (BUT the morning, the afternoon)
 Means of transport (in general): *by car/taxi/train/bus, on foot* (BUT on the train to Rome)
 Meals (in general): *Dinner is at 7.30* (BUT There was a dinner at the conference)
 Note the use of 'preposition + no article' with certain buildings, when the purpose of the building is more important than the place itself. Compare:
I spent two days in hospital. (the speaker is not interested in which one)
My company supplies equipment for the hospital. (one specific hospital)
 Other words of this type which use 'preposition and no article' are:
in/to hospital/prison/bed/class/court
at/to work/school/university/sea/home
 Note how we use 'home':
be at home, go home (NOT ~~go to home~~)

Exercise 1 A B C D

Underline the correct words.

- We went to Paris/the Pisa and saw Leaning Tower/the Leaning Tower.
- Crete/The Crete is very beautiful at this time of year.
- My son is in hospital/the hospital and can't go to school/the school.
- You can go from Heathrow/the Heathrow by underground/the underground.
- Helmut Kohl/The Helmut Kohl was Chancellor/the Chancellor who helped to reunite Germany/the Germany.
- We flew over Alps/the Alps and saw Mont Blanc/the Mont Blanc.
- In near future/the near future videoconferences will replace many meetings.
- I'm tired! Thank goodness it's time to go home/to home.
- New York/The New York is in United States/the United States.
- I usually have lunch/the lunch at about one.
- I used to work for Deutsche Bank/the Deutsche Bank in City of London/the City of London at start/the start of my career.
- My son wants to go to university/the university after his exams.
- Do you know Lake Windermere/the Lake Windermere? It's in Lake District/the Lake District in north-west/the north-west of England/the England.
- I bought this suit from Bond Street/the Bond Street.
- The Government should do more to help the poor/the poor people.
- On our trip to UK/the UK we toured around south-east/the south-east and visited Canterbury Cathedral/the Canterbury Cathedral.
- They wouldn't pay, so we took them to court/the court.
- John/The John is at work/the work at moment/the moment.
- We travelled to Italy/the Italy by car/the car.
- Danube/The Danube is the main river in Central Europe/the Central Europe.

Exercise 2 E

In each pair of sentences, fill in one space with the and the other space with a dash (-) to show no article.

- profits are increasing across every division of the company.
 - The** profits we made last year were up in comparison to the year before.
- information in your report will be very useful to us.
 - information about the Kazakh market is hard to find.
- visitors should sign their name in the book at reception.
 - visitors from Germany will be arriving at ten.
- This magazine article gives advice about which stocks to buy.
 - Thank you for advice you gave me last week.
- bonds I have are all long-term investments.
 - bonds are a safe investment when interest rates are falling.
- French exports to the rest of Europe are up 4% this year.
 - French are world leaders in the luxury goods market.
- management is an art, not a science.
 - management are blaming the unions for the breakdown in negotiations.

HOW CLEAN IS THEIR MONEY?

'Money laundering' is (6)..... year, equivalent to about 4% of gross world product. (7)..... problem has grown hand-in-hand with (8)..... globalisation, and particularly with (9)..... lifting of capital controls and (10)..... development of (11)..... international payment systems. These allow money to be moved in (12)..... seconds between banks in different parts of the world who know very little about each other. (13)..... international payment system is crucial to (14)..... stability of the world's financial markets, but it also provides (15)..... opportunity for criminals to hide their money. Private banking is (16)..... best-known laundering channel. Clients of these banks are wealthy people who want their affairs handled with discretion, especially because they want to minimise (17)..... amount of (18)..... tax they pay. In these banks there is (19)..... culture of 'don't ask, don't tell'. And (20)..... biggest problem within (21)..... private banking is offshore banks. There are around 5,000 offshore banks controlling about \$5 trillion in assets, and some have no physical presence in any location.

Choose the correct form, with or without the.

- 1 Have you ever been to British Museum / the British Museum. (the... is correct)
- 2 Hyde Park / The Hyde Park is a very large park in central London.
- 3 Another park in central London is St James's Park / the St James's Park.
- 4 Grand Hotel / The Grand Hotel is in Baker Street / the Baker Street.
- 5 We flew to New York from Gatwick Airport / the Gatwick Airport near London.
- 6 Frank is a student at Liverpool University / the Liverpool University.
- 7 If you're looking for a good clothes shop, I would recommend Harrison's / the Harrison's.
- 8 If you're looking for a good pub, I would recommend Ship Inn / the Ship Inn.
- 9 Statue of Liberty / The Statue of Liberty is at the entrance to New York harbour / the New York harbour.
- 10 You should go to Science Museum / the Science Museum. It's very interesting.
- 11 John works for IBM / the IBM now. He used to work for British Telecom / the British Telecom.
- 12 'Which cinema are you going to this evening?' 'Classic / The Classic.'
- 13 I'd like to go to China and see Great Wall / the Great Wall.
- 14 Which newspaper shall I buy - Independent / the Independent or Herald / the Herald?
- 15 This book is published by Cambridge University Press / the Cambridge University Press.

Some of these sentences are correct, but some need the (perhaps more than once). Correct the sentences where necessary. Put 'RIGHT' if the sentence is already correct.

- 1 Everest was first climbed in 1953. **RIGHT**.
- 2 Milan is in north of Italy. the north of Italy.
- 3 Africa is much larger than Europe.
- 4 Last year I visited Mexico and United States.
- 5 South of England is warmer than north.
- 6 Portugal is in western Europe.
- 7 France and Britain are separated by Channel.
- 8 Jim has travelled a lot in Middle East.
- 9 Chicago is on Lake Michigan.
- 10 The highest mountain in Africa is Kilimanjaro (5,895 metres).
- 11 Next year we are going skiing in Swiss Alps.
- 12 United Kingdom consists of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
- 13 Seychelles are a group of islands in Indian Ocean.
- 14 River Volga flows into Caspian Sea.

Exercise 1 A B D

Underline the correct words.

- 1 Where's a/the fax they sent this morning? I can't find it.
- 2 I have an/the appointment at a/the bank.
- 3 I had a/the very good holiday. A/The weather was marvellous.
- 4 I've been working so hard that I need a/the break.
- 5 They are a/the largest manufacturer of light bulbs in a/the world.
- 6 A/The presentation was a/the great success.
- 7 Can I give you a/the lift to the station?
- 8 I think I need a/the new pair of glasses.
- 9 We need to reach a/the decision as soon as possible.
- 10 There must be an/the answer to a/the problem.
- 11 Mike is an/the accountant. He works on another/the other side of town.
- 12 His office is a/the biggest one in a/the building.
- 13 Where is a/the document that we were looking at just now?
- 14 The Portuguese/The Portuguese people are very good negotiators.

Exercise 2 A B C E

Put either *a/an* or a dash (-) to show no article.

- 1 money makes the world go round.
- 2 Sheila drives French car.
- 3 Rita works in insurance agency in Lisbon.
- 4 health is the most important thing in life.
- 5 This is good time for sales of new cars.
- 6 This is the number to call for information.
- 7 I've got colleague who is systems analyst.
- 8 product knowledge is very important for sales representative.
- 9 He is engineer. He studied engineering at university.
- 10 We produce full sales report four times year.

Exercise 3 A B C D E

Put either *a/an, the* or a dash (-) to show no article.

- 1 The Italians have given us A lot of business.
- 2 most people thought that it was very good product.
- 3 I like to drink glass of wine in evening.
- 4 I wish I could speak English like English.
- 5 As soon as Helen gets off plane, ask her to give me call.
- 6 smoking is not permitted in this area.
- 7 There's visitor at reception desk.
- 8 When I arrived at airport, I had drink and waited for flight.
- 9 I want action, not words.
- 10 person with MBA usually gets good job.
- 11 I'll get you coffee from machine.
- 12 Marie comes from France.