



Using 'a', 'an' and 'the' (cont.)

A/an

- Used with the sense of 'every' in expressions of time and quantity:

Examples

Forty times **an** hour

Two dollars **a** kilo

The

- Used with forms of entertainment, travel and leisure activities:

Examples

I went to **the cinema**.

I went to **the shops**.

I arrived at **the airport**.

I arrived at **the bus stop**.

I play **the piano**.

I play **the violin**.

- Used in the names of items in the following categories:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ rivers: the Ganges ○ mountain ranges: the Andes ○ oceans and seas: the Atlantic ○ deserts : the Sahara ○ groups of island: the Maldives ○ hotels: the Hilton | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ cinemas: the Odeon ○ political bodies : the Labour Party ○ countries whose names include political terms/plural nouns: the Philippines, the United Kingdom, the Czech Republic |
|---|---|

No article

- 'Belonging' to institutions
 - No article is used before the name of certain kinds of institutions when we want to show that someone is part of that institution.

Examples

hospital church prison college university sea (the navy)

Is she still in **[]** hospital?

He went to sea when he was only fourteen.



- Meals
 - No article is used in expressions which involve using the names of meals to describe an occasion.

Example

She came to **[]** lunch.

- Time expressions
 - No article is used in most time expressions.

Examples

next **[]** week last **[]** year on **[]** Sunday

- Work, home and bed
 - **The** is left out after verbs of motion in expressions with work, home and bed when we use these words to describe the concept rather than a particular place or piece of furniture.

Examples

She left **[]** work. I got **[]** home. She went to **[]** bed.