

A Message to the Students who have chosen  
English as ~~their~~ a subject for the AECC  
(Ability Enhancement compulsory course) in  
their 2nd semester (UG)

Dear students, I hope all of you are in good health. As classes in a direct or regular mode can not be taken right now, I have thought of providing you people some study materials. Please get the syllabus of AECC, go through the syllabus and you will understand what are the things that you have to study. I will keep providing you study materials and questions related to each topic. Please study those materials and write the answers of the questions in your copies and keep practising. For your convenience, you can take up any good English grammar book which has the topics that are there in the syllabus. You can study and practice from that book as well. Please study and utilise your time effectively. Thank you.

[N.B. → Study and practice only those lines/sentences/questions marked with red pen]



### WHAT IS AN ARTICLE OR DETERMINER?

The words **a**, **an** and **the** are usually called **Articles**. They are called Articles as they have some special significance as the part of speech.

“They are really Demonstrative Adjectives.” —Wren and Martin

But **a**, **an** and generalised **the** to denote a class as a whole are not Demonstrative Adjectives. Now, they are called **Determiners**.

—P. C. Das

*a*, *an* এবং *the* এই শব্দগুলিকে Article বলে। Part of Speech হিসাবে এদের বিশেষ তাৎপর্য থাকায় এদের Article বলে। Wren and Martin-এর মতে এগুলি প্রকৃতপক্ষে Demonstrative Adjective; কিন্তু *a*, *an* এবং জাতি-প্রকাশক *the* Demonstrative Adjective নয়। এগুলিকে এখন **Determiner** বলা হয়।

Students often make mistakes in using articles or omitting them. They should be aware of it. (ছাত্রছাত্রীরা প্রায়ই *article* বসাবার সময় বা কোনো *article* না বসিয়ে প্রায়শ ভুল করে। তাদের এ বিষয়ে অত্যন্ত সতর্ক হওয়া উচিত।)

There are two types of articles (Article—দুই প্রকার) :

#### ARTICLE

1. Definite Article—the
2. Indefinite Article—a, an

If we wish to particularise the noun, we use the Definite Article.

(যদি আমরা Noun-কে নির্দিষ্ট করে বোঝাতে চাই, তাহলে Definite Article ব্যবহার করতে হয়।) নদীতে (= নদীটিতে) স্নান করতে যাওয়া যাক—Let us bathe in *the river*. (i.e. a particular river)

ডাক্তারবাবু এখানে এসেছিলেন—*The doctor* came here. ('The doctor' means a particular doctor.)

If we wish to generalise the Noun, we use the Indefinite Article.

(যদি আমরা কোনো Noun-কে সাধারণভাবে বা অনির্দিষ্টভাবে বোঝাতে চাই, তাহলে Indefinite Article ব্যবহার করতে হয়।)

হয় বনে বাস করে—A tiger lives in a forest (i.e. any tiger or tigers and any forest or forests—in general sense.)

একটি হাঁড় রাস্তায় দৌড়াচ্ছে—An ox is running on the road.

[Here an ox, that is not any particular ox, is running on a particular road. এখানে হাঁড়টি কোনো বিশেষ হাঁড় নয় (সে জন্য an ox)। কিন্তু সে একটি নির্দিষ্ট রাস্তার ওপর দৌড়াচ্ছে (সে জন্য the road)।]



## USE OF ARTICLES

As a general rule, a Common Noun in the Singular Number must have an article before it.

সাধারণ নিয়ম অনুযায়ী Common Noun Singular Number হলে তার পূর্বে অবশ্যই একটি article বসাতে হয়।

We cannot say, "I have seen boy."

We must say, "I have seen a boy, or the boy."

But a Common Noun in the plural number does not require the Definite Article unless we wish to particularise the noun.

[Common Noun যদি Plural Number হয়, তাহলে তার পূর্বে সাধারণত the বসানোর প্রয়োজন হয় না। Plural Number-এ a বা an তো বসতেই পারে না। অবশ্য যদি নির্দিষ্টভাবে বোঝানো হয়, তাহলে the বসে।]

ছেলেরা মিষ্টি ভালবাসে—Boys (= boys generally) are fond of sweets.

ছেলেগুলি ফুটবল খেলছে—The boys (= those boys already referred to, or those boys before us) are playing football.

**Indefinite Article** **A or An** **Only for singular number but for all genders**

The choice between **a** and **an** is determined by sound. **A** is used before a word beginning with a **Consonant sound** and **An** is used before a word beginning with a **Vowel sound**.

A এবং An-এর ব্যবহার sound-এর দ্বারা নির্ধারিত হয়। কোনো word-এর প্রথমে consonant sound (ব্যঞ্জনধ্বনি) থাকলে a বসে এবং কোনো word-এর প্রথমে vowel sound (স্বরধ্বনি) থাকলে তার পূর্বে an বসে।

## VOWEL SOUND পাঁচটি—a-e-i-o-u

A		An			
[ Consonant sound-এর আগে A ]		[ Vowel sound-এর আগে AN ]			
a boy		a lion	an ass		an elephant
a book		a mango	an ant		an inkpot
a bag		a student	an apple		an ice-cream
a cat		a woman	an arm		an idiot
a chair		a table	an egg		an ox
a dog		a tiger	an ear		an orange
a horse		a tree	an eye		an umbrella



## SPECIAL USE : | ব্যতিক্রম |

কোনো Vowel-এর উচ্চারণ 'ইউ' বা 'ওয়া' হলে an না হয়ে a হয়।	আবার Consonant হলেও যদি উচ্চারণ শুরু হয় Vowel-এর মতো, তাহলে a না হয়ে an হয়।
a European (ইউরোপীয়ান)	an hour (আওয়ার—'h' silent)
a union (ইউনিয়ন)	an honest man (অনেস্ট—'h' silent)
a university (ইউনিভার্সিটি)	an M.A. (এম.এ.)
a useful book (ইউজফুল)	an M.P. (এম.পি.)
a unique scene (ইউনিক)	an L.L.B. (এল.এল.বি.)
a one-rupee note (ওয়ান)	an M.L.A. (এম.এল.এ)
a one-eyed deer (ওয়ান)	an S.D.O. (এস.ডি.ও)
a High/Higher Secondary School	an H.S. School (H.S. এইচ.এস.)

**N.B.** কিন্তু h-এর 'হ' উচ্চারণ হলে an না বসে a বসে। যেমন—*a hotel, a humble servant, a historical book* ইত্যাদি। [ humble = আশ্বল নয়, হাশ্বল—A.L.D.—Hornby ]

## USES OF A/AN

(i) **A or An** is used when it is mentioning someone or something (single countable noun) for the first time.

[ কোনো ব্যক্তি বা বস্তু (single countable noun অর্থাৎ যা গানা যায়) প্রথমবার উল্লিখিত হলে A বা An হয়। ]

I saw *a* man on the street. *An* old lady came to our house.

(ii) **A or An** is used to indicate a unit. একক বা ইউনিট বোঝাতে A বা An হয়।

One hundred centimeters make *a* meter. *An* ounce is enough.

(iii) **A or An** is used in the sense of 'one like'. (To make a Proper Noun a Common Noun.)

[ 'ওই রকম একজন' বোঝাতে A বা An ব্যবহৃত হয়। এক্ষেত্রে Proper Noun-ও Common Noun হয়ে যায়। ]

He thinks he is *a* Rabindranath.

*A* Daniel has come to judgement (judgment).

He seems to be *an* Indian.

(iv) **A or An** is used before an unknown name or surname.

[ অপরিচিত ব্যক্তির নাম বা পদবির পূর্বে A বা An ব্যবহৃত হয়। ]

*A* Jatin Babu called on you.

*A* Mr. Sen came to see you.

*An* Ikbal came here to collect the news.

**N.B.** Jatin Babu, Mr. Sen and Ikbal without A or An implies that the speaker knows them. [A বা An বাদ দিয়ে যতীনবাবু, মিস্টার সেন এবং ইকবাল বললে বোঝায় যে, বক্তা তাঁদের চেনেন।]

(v) **A or An** is used in the sense 'of the same'.

[ সমজাতীয় কিছু বোঝাতে A বা An ব্যবহৃত হয়। ]

Birds of *a* feather flock together.

(vi) **A or An** is used to denote profession, trade, class etc.

[ পেশা, ব্যবসা ইত্যাদি বোঝাতে A বা An হয়। ]

He is **a** businessman. He is **an** engineer. He is **a** lawyer.

(vii) **A** is used before 'dozen', 'hundred', 'thousand', 'million' etc.

[ dozen, hundred, thousand, million প্রভৃতির পূর্বে A বসে। ]

Here are **a dozen** of bananas.

**A hundred** boys came out from school.

There are **a thousand** people.

(viii) **A or An** is used in the sense of 'each' or 'per'.

[ each বা per (প্রতি) অর্থে A বা An বসে। ]

He earns one thousand rupees **a** month.

He drives the car at 50 kilometers **an** hour.

(ix) **A or An (also The)** is used to indicate a class as a whole.

[ সামগ্রিকভাবে জাতি বোঝাতে A, An বা The বসে। ]

**A (The)** cow has horns. (i.e. All cows have horns.)



—Thomson & Martinet

**An (The)** elephant never forgets.

(x) **A or An** is used before some words and phrases.

[ কতকগুলি phrase-এর পূর্বে A বা An বসে। ]

I have **a** headache. I am in **a** hurry.

He had **a** bad cold. She had **a** cough. They take **an** interest in this.

(xi) **A or An** is used in Exclamatory sentences beginning with 'What'.

[ Exclamatory sentence 'What' দিয়ে শুরু করলে 'What'-এর পর A বা An বসে। ]

What **a** pity! What **a** pretty girl!

What **a** nice bird it is! What **an** awful remark!

(xii) **A (and not The)** is used before the superlative 'most' when it means 'very'.

[ Superlative 'most'-এর অর্থ যখন 'very' বা খুব বেশি বোঝায় তখন the-এর পরিবর্তে a হয়। ]

He saw **a most** wonderful sight. [ (a most = a very) Oscar Wilde ]

This is **a most** interesting story. (a most = a very)

(xiii) **A or An** is used before 'few', 'little', 'lot of', 'good deal', 'great many', 'good many' etc. and sometimes after 'many'.

[ Few, little, lot of, good deal ইত্যাদির পূর্বে এবং many-র পরে a বা an বসে। ]

Here is **a lot of** books.

**A great many** soldiers entered the town.

I saw **a good many** boys there.

**Many a** flower is born to blush unseen.

**Many an** admirer welcomed him.

There are **a few** books on the table.

There is **a little** honey in the bottle.



**Note** : "It is also possible to say 'few apples', 'little water' but such constructions convey different meaning. They will mean 'not many', 'not much' " —P. K. De Sarkar  
 But really 'a few' and 'a little' mean 'not many' and 'not much'. 'Few' and 'little' without article mean 'almost nil'.  
 —P. C. Das

✓ প্রকৃতপক্ষে a few = অল্প কয়েকটি (not many) এবং a little = অল্প একটু (not much) আর few এবং little = প্রায় না, অর্থাৎ এত কম যে না বললেও চলে।

"There is a great difference between *few* and *a few* (used for countables), and between *little* and *a little* (used for uncountables). *A few* and *a little* mean 'a small number' and 'a small amount'.

*Few* or *little*, on the contrary, denote scarcity or lack."

—A. J. Thomson & A. V. Martinet

### USES OF THE

✓ It is the same for singular and plural numbers and for all genders

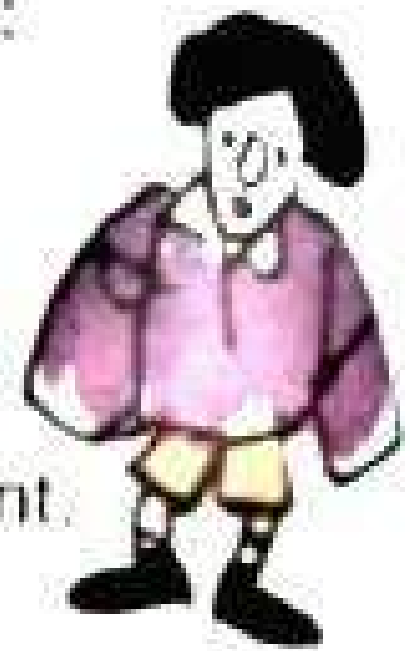
The Definite Article '**the**' is used (Definite Article the ব্যবহার হয়) :

(i) To indicate a particular person(s) or thing(s).

[নির্দিষ্ট (এক বা বহু) ব্যক্তি বা বস্তু বোঝাতে]

Look at **the** boy/boys. He is/They are peculiarly dressed.

I want 'The Golden Book of Treasures'. **The** book is out-of-print.



(ii) Before a noun which has become definite by being

mentioned a second time. [কোনো অনির্দিষ্ট Noun দ্বিতীয়বার উল্লিখিত হয়ে নির্দিষ্ট হয়ে গেলে]—"It is also called *Familiar The*.

There is **a** tree in the garden. **The** tree is an Oak.

(iii) Before a noun made definite by the addition of a

phrase or clause. [কোনো phrase বা clause-এর সাহায্যে noun-টি নির্দিষ্ট হলে]

**The** girl with the white sari is beautiful. **The** boy who came here is my friend.

**The** pen which I bought from the market is not so good.



(iv) Before a singular noun meant to represent a whole class. [সমগ্র জাতি বোঝাতে singular noun-এর পূর্বে]—"It is called *Generalising The*.

**The** cow is a useful animal. **The** dog is a faithful animal.

**The** rose is the sweetest of all flowers.

**The** banyan is a kind of fig tree. [Not "a kind of a fig tree". This is a common error.—Wren & Martin]

**Note** : Two nouns 'man' and 'woman' used to denote the whole class never have any article. [সমগ্র জাতি বোঝাতে 'man' এবং 'woman'-এর পূর্বে কোনো article বসে না।]

Man is mortal. [মানব (জাতি) মরণশীল]

Woman is man's mate. [স্বীলোক (জাতি হিসাবে) পুরুষের সঙ্গী]

(v) Before an Uncountable Noun to particularise it.

[কোনো Uncountable Noun-কে নির্দিষ্ট করতে হলে]

**The** gold of the ring is very bright.

**The** wisdom of Iswarchandra made him familiar as 'Vidyasagar'.



(vi) Before a name of a thing which only one exists in Nature. [ব্যক্তির বা একটি  
মাত্র আছে তার নামের পূর্বে]

Look at *the moon*.

*The sun* shines in *the sky*.

*The earth* moves round *the sun*.



(vii) Before a Noun denoting nation or race. [কোনো nation বা race (জাতি) বোঝাতে]  
*The English* are industrious [ইংরেজ (জাতি হিসাবে) পরিশ্রমী];

*The Bengalees* are intelligent but idle. [বাঙালি বুদ্ধিমান কিন্তু অলস।]

**Note** : Such a Noun without 'the' indicates the language of the people  
(একটি Noun-এর আগে 'the' না বসলে কোনো জাতির ভাষার নাম বোঝায়।)

*English* (= ইংরেজি ভাষা) is *an* international language.

*Bengali* (= বাংলা ভাষা) is *a* rich language.

(viii) Before a name of Road, but not before a name of Street or Avenue.  
[Road-এর নামের পূর্বে *the* বসে, কিন্তু Street বা Avenue-র পূর্বে *the* বসে না।]

The bus is running on *the Circular Road*.

[কিন্তু Road-এর আগে Proper Noun থাকলে *the* বসে না—Mahatma Gandhi Road]

The book is bought from *College Street*.

This bat is available in a shop on *Central Avenue*.

(ix) Before some nouns to indicate profession [পেশা-প্রকাশক Noun-এর পূর্বে]

He joined *the Bar*. (= আইনজীবীর পেশায় যোগ দিলেন।)

He joined *the Church*. (= যাজকের বৃত্তি গ্রহণ করলেন।)

(x) Before the name of a musical instrument when one plays it. Otherwise not.  
[কেউ বাদ্যযন্ত্র বাজালে তার পূর্বে *the* বসে। তা না হলে হয় না।]

He *plays the flute*. (But, he *has a flute*.)

**Note** : 'play on' group verb হলে *the* হয় না। He *plays on flute*  
[or] He *plays on tabla*.



(xi) Before ordinal numbers. [ক্রমবাচক সংখ্যার পূর্বে]

Who is *the first*/*the second* boy? *The 23rd* January is a red letter day.  
(But, January 23).

(xii) As a general rule a Proper Noun should not have any article before it. But  
the following take '*the*' before them as exceptions



[সাধারণ নিয়ম অনুসারে Proper Noun-এর পূর্বে কোনো article বসে না। কিন্তু ব্যতিক্রম হিসাবে  
নিম্নলিখিত Proper Noun-গুলির পূর্বে *the* বসে।]

Before the names of holy books, newspapers, ships, trains, aeroplanes, space craft,  
famous buildings, rivers, seas, oceans, gulfs, mountain ranges, groups of islands,  
deserts and directions.

[ধর্মগ্রন্থ, সংবাদপত্র, জাহাজ, ট্রেন, বিমান, মহাকাশযান, বিখ্যাত অট্টালিকা, নদী, সাগর, মহাসাগর, উপসাগর,  
পর্বতমালা, দ্বীপপুঞ্জ, মরুভূমি এবং দিকের নামের পূর্বে *the* বসে।]

(a) names of holy books : *the Bible*, *the Koran*, *the Ramayana*.

(b) names of newspapers : *The Statesman*, *the Anandabazar*.

- (c) names of ships : *the Titanic, the M. V. Akbar.*
- (d) names of trains : *the Bombay Mail, the Rajdhani Express.*
- (e) names of aeroplanes : *the Dakota, the Boeing 747.*
- (f) names of spacecraft : *the Skylabs, the Aryabhata.*
- (g) names of famous buildings : *the Taj Mahal, the Writers' Buildings, the Victoria Memorial.*
- (h) names of rivers : *the Ganga, the Jamuna, the Danube.*
- (i) names of seas : *the Arabian Sea (আরব সাগর) the Mediterranean Sea (ভূমধ্যসাগর).*
- (j) names of oceans : *the Indian Ocean, the Atlantic Ocean, the Pacific Ocean (প্রশান্ত মহাসাগর)*
- (k) names of gulfs : *the Persian Gulf (পারস্য উপসাগর), the Bay of Bengal (বঙ্গোপসাগর).*
- (l) names of mountain ranges : *the Himalayas, the Alps, the Bindhyas (বিহ্বা পর্বতমালা).* 
- (m) names of groups of islands : *the Andamans, the West Indies, the Hebrides (হেব্রিডিজ দ্বীপপুঞ্জ).* 
- (n) names of desert : *the Sahara, the Thar, the Gobi (গোবি মরুভূমি).* There are some trees on the oasis (মরুদ্যান).
- (o) names of directions : Go to *the north* and then turn to *the south*.

**Note 1.** 'The' is not placed before the names of single mountains, single islands, nor before the names of capes, nor before the names of lakes. —Nesfield

[একটি মাত্র পর্বত বা দ্বীপ, অস্বরীপ বা হ্রদের নামের পূর্বে *the* বসে না।]

Mount Abu, Mount Everest, Vesuvius. (একটিমাত্র পর্বত)

Ceylon, Sicily, Java. (একটিমাত্র দ্বীপ)

Cape Comorin, Cape of Good Hope (উত্তমাশা অস্বরীপ)

Lake Chilka, Lake Sambar. (সম্বর হ্রদ)

**Note 2.** If a book is called after its author, the article is not used. —Nesfield

[লেখকের নামের দ্বারা বই বোঝালে অথবা বইয়ের নামের আগে লেখকের নাম থাকলে *the* বসে না।]

Homer's Iliad, Valmiki's Ramayana.

I have read Shakespeare. (= Shakespeare's books)

(xiii) **Before the names of a province having a descriptive geographical meaning.**  
[কোনো প্রদেশের নামের বর্ণনামূলক ভৌগোলিক অর্থ থাকলে *the* বসে।]

*the Punjab, the Deccan.*

(xiv) **Before the names of countries which are collectively formed.**  
[সমষ্টিবাচক দেশের নামের পূর্বে *the* বসে।]

*the U.S.A. (the United States of America.)*

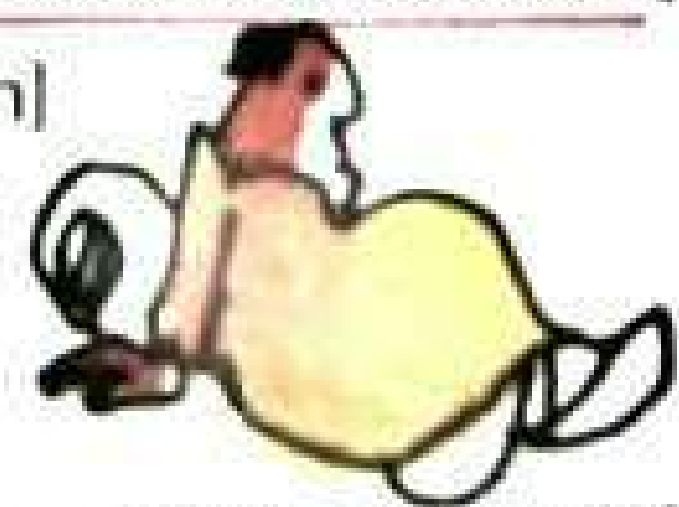
*the U.K. (the United Kingdom).*

But not before India, England, America.

(xv) **Before the plural names of families.** [পরিবারের পরিচয়স্বাক্ষরক নাম বহুবচন হলে *the* হয়।]  
*The Boses are familiar with the Browns.*



- (xvi) **Before Proper Nouns for comparison to denote a type.** [কোনো বিশেষ শ্রেণীর মধ্যে তুলনা বোঝাতে Proper Noun-এর পূর্বে *the* বসে।]  
 Bankim is *the* Scott of Bengal. [Or] Scott is *the* Bankim of England.  
 Rabindranath is *the* Shakespeare of India in poetic qualities.  
 Ahmedabad is *the* Manchester of India as an industrial belt.
- (xvii) **Before a Proper Noun when it is qualified by an Adjective or Adjectival phrases or clauses.** [Proper Noun যদি Adjective, Adjectival Phrase বা Clause দ্বারা বিশেষিত হয়, তবে তার পূর্বে *the* বসে।]  
*The* great Caesar. *The* immortal poet Kalidas.  
 I am *the* Suryakanta Sen who never stood second in the examinations.
- (xviii) **Before some Common Nouns and Adjectives to express an abstract sense.** [Common Noun এবং Adjective যদি Abstract Noun-এর মতো ব্যবহৃত হয়, তাহলে *the* বসে।]  
 All *the* mother (= motherly feelings) rose in her.  
 Check *the* beast (= beastly passion) in you.  
 Do not play *the* fool. (= foolishness)  
 Do not keep him in *the* dark. (= darkness)  
 He allowed *the* father (= his fatherly feelings) to be overruled by *the* judge (= his sense of duty as a judge) and declared his own son to be guilty.
- (xix) **Before Adjectives to denote a particular part of a thing.** [কোনো কিছুর বিশেষ অংশ বোঝাতে Adjective-এর পূর্বে *the* বসে।]  
 I like *the* yellow of an egg. (the yellow = ডিমের হলদে কুসুম)  
 He entered *the* thick (= the thick part) of the forest.
- (xx) **Before a Common Noun as a substitute for the Possessive Adjective.** [কখনো কখনো Common Noun-এর পূর্বে Possessive Adjective হিসাবে *the* বসে।]  
 He caught me by *the* arm. (the = my)  
 He struck you on *the* head. (the = your)  
 He pulled the cat by *the* tail. (the = its)
- (xxi) **Before an Adjective to represent a whole class of persons.** [Adjective যখন কোনো বিশেষ শ্রেণী বোঝায়, তখন তার পূর্বে *the* বসে।]  
*The* rich (= rich men) are not always happy.  
*The* poor (= poor men) are not always dishonest.  
*The* virtuous (= virtuous people) are happy.  
 [এরূপ শ্রেণীবাচক Adjective-র পরে Noun-বসে না; এর Verb-টি Plural number হয়।]
- Note :** *The* rich man is not happy. [a particular man]  
*The* rich are not always happy.  
 = Rich men are not always happy.  
 But not, *The* rich men are not always happy.  
 [‘The rich men’ do not denote a whole class, but a particular group of persons.]



- (xxii) **Before the Adjectives in Superlative degree and the words in the Superlative sense.** [Superlative degree-র Adjective এবং শ্রেষ্ঠত্বসূচক শব্দের পূর্বে *the* বসে।]

He is *the best* boy in the class.

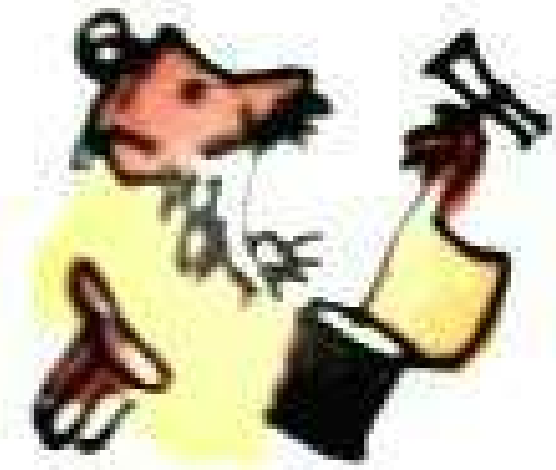
She is *the most* beautiful girl.

Even *the darkest* cloud has a silver lining.

*The Chief Minister/ The Prime Minister* has arrived here.

He is *the singer* of the day. (= দিনের শ্রেষ্ঠ গায়ক)

He is *the man* of the match. (= ম্যাচের শ্রেষ্ঠ খেলোয়াড়)



- (xxiii) **Before Comparatives as Adverbs.**

[Comparative-এর পূর্বে Adverb হিসাবে *the* বসে।]

*The sooner*, the better. (= যত শীঘ্র হয়, ততই ভালো)

*The more*, the merrier. (= যত বেশি, তত আনন্দ)

*The more* we have, the more we want. (= যত পাই, তত চাই)

### OMISSION OF THE ARTICLES

#### [ZERO ARTICLE]

The articles are not generally used before the following. [সাধারণভাবে নিম্নলিখিত ক্ষেত্রে Article বসে না।]

- (i) **Before Proper Nouns.** [Proper Noun-এর পূর্বে সাধারণত *the* বসে না।]

*Kolkata* is the city of joy though there are a lot of sufferings.

*Delhi* is the capital of *India* for hundreds of years.

*Newton* is a great scientist not only of *England*, but also of the world.

*Sulekha* is a beautiful girl, but she is not as tall as *Suata*.

**Note:** When the article is used before a Proper Noun, it becomes a Common Noun. (Proper Noun-এর পূর্বে article বসলে তা Common Noun হয়ে যায়।)

A Newton (= a scientist) cannot be a Milton (= a poet).

- (ii) **Before Material Nouns.** [Material Noun-এর পূর্বে সাধারণত *the* বসে না।]

*Gold* is a precious metal.

*Iron* and *steel* are useful metals.

*Coal* is black but very useful to us.

*Cotton* grows in India, Egypt and America.

**Note:** 'The' is used before a Material Noun when it is particularly referred. [বিশেষভাবে নির্দিষ্ট করলে Material Noun-এর পূর্বেও *the* বসে।]

*The coal* of Jharia burns well.



- (iii) **Before Abstract Nouns.** [Abstract Noun-এর পূর্বে সাধারণত কোনো article বসে না।]

*Wealth* is wealth. (স্বাস্থ্যই সম্পদ।)

*Honesty* is the best policy. (সততাই শ্রেষ্ঠ নীতি।)

*Kindness* is a great virtue. (দয়া/সদাশয়তা মহৎ গুণ।)

**Note:** 'The' is used before an Abstract Noun when it is specified. [নির্দিষ্ট করে বোঝালে Abstract Noun-এর পূর্বেও *the* বসে।]

The kindness of Vidyasagar has become a proverb.

An article is used before an Abstract Noun when it is preceded by an Adjective.  
[Death is preferable to dishonour. (But) He died a *peaceful death*. What is the cause of the accident? (But) He met with a *serious accident*.]

(iv) **Before a Common Noun preceded by the phrases *kind of, sort of, species of* in Interrogative sentences.** [প্রশ্নবোধক বাক্যে *kind of, sort of, species of* থাকলে তার পূর্বে article বসে না।]

What *kind of* flower is it?

What *kind of/sort of* man is he?

What *species of* mosquito is anopheles?

But we say, Malaria is caused by a *species of* mosquito. [Assertive]

The rose/Rajanigandha is a *kind of* flower. [ " ]

Interrogative



(v) **Before *school, college, church, bed, hospital, market, prison*—when these places are visited or used for their primary purpose.**

[*School, college, church, bed, hospital, market* এবং *prison*-এর পূর্বে article বসে না যখন এই সব জায়গায় মুখা উদ্দেশ্যে যাওয়া হয় বা জায়গাটি ব্যবহার করা হয়।]

We go *to school/college* (to learn)

Someone goes *to church* (to pray)

" " *to bed* (to sleep)

" " *to market* (to sell or buy)

" " *to prison* (as a punishment)

" " *to hospital* (for treatment)

**But when these places are visited or used for any other purpose *the* article is used.**

[কিন্তু অন্য উদ্দেশ্যে গেলে বা ব্যবহৃত হলে article বসে।]

I went to *the school* to see the Headmaster. (পাঠের জন্য নয়।)

He went to *the hospital* to see his uncle. (চিকিৎসার উদ্দেশ্যে নয়।)

*The bed* is dirty and is now used as a dumping bed.

(vi) **Before *man or woman* in the sense of mankind and before *father, mother, uncle, aunt, or baby* when it expresses our father, our mother, our uncle, our aunt, our baby etc.**

[মানবজাতি অর্থে *man* বা *woman*-এর পূর্বে এবং নিজের বাবা, মা, কাকা, কাকিমা, শিশু ইত্যাদি অর্থে *father, mother, uncle, aunt, baby* ইত্যাদির পূর্বে article বসে না।]

*Man* is mortal.

*Man and woman* should go side by side in this world.

*Father* is hungry. *Mother* is angry.

*Baby* is crying. *Uncle* is coming. *Aunt* is cooking.



(vii) **Before *home* when it means the home of the speaker, or the person spoken to. —Thomson & Martinet**

[বক্তার নিজের বা যাকে বলা হচ্ছে তার নিজের বাড়ি হলে তার পূর্বে কোনো article বসে না।]

Go *home*. [এখানে *home* এই noun-টি here বা there-এর মতো Adverb]

Stay *at home*. [এখানে *home*-টি Noun]



But, "When *home* is followed by a descriptive phrase or clause, *the* is necessary."  
—Thomson & Martinet

He returned to *the* home where he had been so happy.

She was married in *the* home of her grandparents.

**(vii) Before the names of games and meals.**

[খেলার নামের পূর্বে বা খাবার সংক্রান্ত নামের পূর্বে article বসে না।]

We like to play *football/cricket/hockey/tennis/badminton* etc.

We have *dinner/breakfast* at usual time.

**(ix) Before names of seasons and festivals.**

[ঋতু ও উৎসবের নামের পূর্বে সাধারণত article বসে না।]

*Summer/winter/spring/autumn*

[ But, *the rainy season* ]

*Summer* is the best time for picnic. The first time I went to Darjeeling was *the summer*. [নির্দিষ্ট *summer* বোঝাতে *the* বসেছে।]

Similarly festivals as : *New Year's Day, Christmas* etc.

**(x) Before the names of squares, buildings, parks, streets, avenues etc.**

[square, palace, park, street, avenue ইত্যাদির নামের পূর্বে article বসে না।]

*Buckingham Palace, Curzon Park, Rashbehari Avenue, College Street.*

**(xi) Before the words *king* and *Queen* if they are followed by the name of King or Queen and before title when they are used in apposition to a Noun.**

[King বা Queen-এর সঙ্গে তাঁদের নাম থাকলে কিংবা কোনো title কোনো Noun-এর apposition হয়ে বসলে তার পূর্বে article বসে না।]

*King George V, Queen Victoria.*

*Mr. Sen, Principal* of our college, is a well-known figure.

**(xii) Before Complement of a Transitive Verb.**

[Transitive Verb-এর Complement-এর পূর্বে article বসে না।]

They made him *President*.

He was elected *Chairman* of the Board.

Mr. Sen became *Principal* of the college.

**(xiii) In certain Phrases consisting of a Transitive Verb followed by its Object.**

[Transitive Verb এবং তার Object-কে নিয়ে গঠিত কিছু Phrase-এ article বসে না।]

*to catch fire, to take root, to give ear, to cast anchor, to set sail, to lose heart, to take offence* etc.

**(xiv) In certain Phrases consisting of a Preposition followed by its Object.**

[Preposition এবং তার Object নিয়ে গঠিত কিছু কিছু Phrase-এ

article বসে না।] *at home, at dinner, at ease, at dawn, at daybreak, at sunrise, at sunset, at noon, at night, by day, by night, by name, by land, by water, by river, by air, by boat, by bus, by train, by steamer, by ship, on foot, underground, above-ground, from hand to mouth* etc.



(i) When two or more Nouns or Adjectives refer to different persons or things, the article is used before each Noun or Adjective

[যখন দুই বা ততোধিক Noun বা Adjective ভিন্ন ভিন্ন ব্যক্তি, প্রাণী বা বস্তুকে বোঝায়, তখন প্রতিটি Noun বা Adjective-এর পূর্বে article বসে। এগুলি Subject হলে Verb-টি Plural Number অনুযায়ী হয়।]

The Headmaster and the Secretary are coming (two different persons—দুজন আলাদা ব্যক্তি।)

He had a black and a white cat. (two different cats).

Give me a red and a blue pencil. (two different pencils).

(ii) When two or more Nouns or Adjectives refer to the same person or thing, the article is used before the first Adjective or Noun.

[যখন দুই বা ততোধিক Noun বা Adjective একই ব্যক্তি বা বস্তুকে বোঝায়, তখন কেবল প্রথম Noun বা Adjective-এর পূর্বে Article বসে। এগুলি Subject হলে Verb-টি Singular Number অনুযায়ী হয়।]

The Headmaster and secretary is coming. (one person—একই ব্যক্তি, যিনি হেডমাস্টার তিনিই সেক্রেটারি)

He had a black and white cat. (one cat).

Give me a red-and-blue pencil. (one pencil).



(iii) In a comparison, if two Nouns refer to different persons or things, the article is used with each Noun. Otherwise not.

[তুলনা করার সময় যদি দুটি Noun ভিন্ন ভিন্ন ব্যক্তি বা বস্তুকে বোঝায়, তাহলে প্রতিটি Noun-এর পূর্বে article বসে। তা না হয়ে একই ব্যক্তি বা বস্তুকে বোঝালে article একবার বসে।]

He is a better statesman than a philosopher (different entity).

He is a better statesman than philosopher. (two qualities in the same person)

(iv) Before Comparatives as Adverbs. [দুটি Comparative যদি Adverb হিসাবে ব্যবহৃত হয়, তাহলে উভয় ক্ষেত্রেই the বসে।] The sooner, the better.

## DETERMINERS

In Modern English grammar Articles and some Adjectives except Adjectives of Quality (i.e. Adjective of Quantity, Adjective of Number, Demonstrative Adjective, Distributive Adjective and Possessive Adjective) are called Determiners.

These are two types—**Specific Determiners** and **General Determiners**.

আধুনিক ইংরেজি গ্রামারে Article এবং কিছু Adjective-কে (Adjective of Quantity, Adjective of Number, Demonstrative Adjective, Distributive Adjective এবং Possessive Adjective) Determiner বলা হয়। এগুলি দু'রকমের—(i) **Specific Determiner** (ii) **General Determiner**.

**Specific Determiners / Definite Determiners :**

The determiners used to refer to someone or something in a specific way are called Specific Determiners or Definite Determiners.

কাউকে বা কোনো কিছুকে নির্দিষ্টভাবে বোঝাতে যে Determiner ব্যবহৃত হয়, তাকে **Specific Determiner** বা **Definite Determiner** বলে।

## EXERCISE

1. Fill in the blanks with *A* or *An* as required :

- (a) ..... B.D.O.
- (b) ..... S.D.O.
- (c) ..... D.M.
- (d) ..... B.A.
- (e) ..... M.A.
- (f) ..... F.R.C.S.
- (g) ..... ewe
- (h) ..... union
- (i) ..... European
- (j) ..... H. S. School

- (k) ..... university
- (l) ..... umbrella
- (m) ..... unique event
- (n) ..... uniform speed
- (o) ..... one-eyed man
- (p) ..... one-act play
- (q) ..... opinion
- (r) ..... historical play
- (s) ..... honest man
- (t) ..... High School



**2. Fill in the blanks with suitable articles :**

It is ..... useful article. Animesh reads ..... Gita everyday. Gahar reads ..... Koran. Rambabu is ..... L.L.B. This is ..... one-way road. Sri Lanka is ..... island. He is ..... Newton. He is ..... Newton of India. Bankimchandra is ..... Scott of Bengal. He is ..... B.A., but his brother is ..... M.A. It is ..... unanimous decision. He lives in ..... U.K. but his sister lives in ..... U.S.A. This is ..... High School, but that is ..... H. S. School.

**3. Match the two parts of each sentence. Write 'the' where necessary and put a x where it is not necessary. One has been done for you :**

- |                                    |                              |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| (i) My father goes to              | (b) .....                    |
| (ii) Does your sister go to        | (a) ..... school?            |
| (iii) Tourists in Delhi go to see  | (b) .....x..... market.      |
| (iv) Tourists in Kolkata go to see | (c) ..... Park Street.       |
| (v) Do you play                    | (d) ..... violin?            |
| (vi) The U.B.I. is on              | (e) ..... Delhi.             |
| (vii) The smallest continent is    | (f) ..... Australia.         |
| (viii) His uncle lives in.         | (g) ..... Victoria Memorial. |
|                                    | (h) ..... Taj Mahal.         |

**4. Put suitable articles and determiners in the following blanks. Choose the determiners from the given list. [ any, some, their, another, other, the, a ]**

- (i) Our house is nearest to ..... house.
- (ii) Is there ..... difference between ..... two?
- (iii) At night we stayed at ..... hotel.
- (iv) I am not satisfied with this book. Could you supply me ..... book?
- (v) ..... Aryans are very proud of their high birth. They are afraid of getting mixed up with ..... tribals. It is ..... false pride.



**5. Complete the following passages with suitable articles (a, an, the) :**

- (i) Sarojini Naidu who was ..... Indian was born at Hyderabad in ..... Deccan, on ..... 13th February in 1879. Her father came of ..... Bengali family that was famous for learning, and she herself was ..... great scholar.
- (ii) ..... Narmada is ..... name of ..... river in South India. It is ..... important river and is considered as a holy river in ..... South.
- (iii) ..... gentleman walking with ..... stick in his hand is a very wellknown person here. He is ..... professor in ..... university. He has just returned from ..... U.K. after a period of four years obtaining ..... Ph.D. from Oxford University.

**6. Put articles where it is required and put a cross (x) where it is not required :**

- (i) "Is this ..... book you are telling me about?" "Yes, it is on ..... life of ..... Satyajit Roy, one of ..... greatest sons of ..... India.
- (ii) Her sister is ..... musician. She plays ..... sitar and ..... guitar. But her brother has no interest in ..... music. He is ..... good sportsman. He plays ..... football and ..... hockey.

