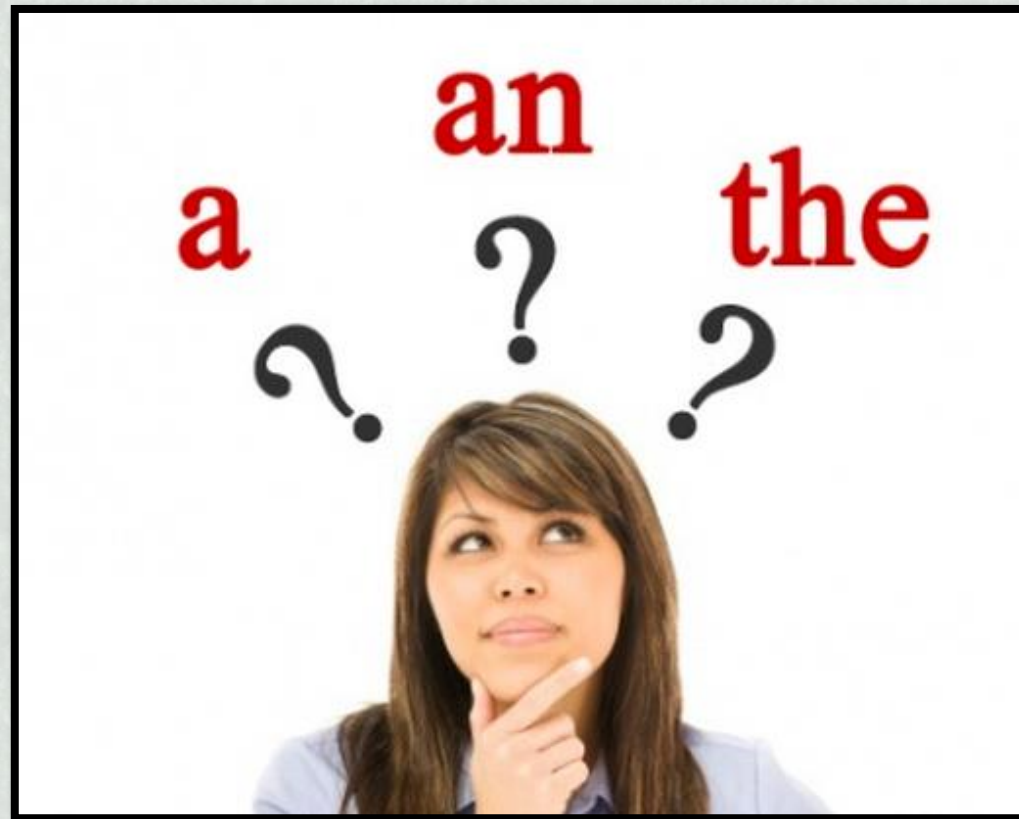


# ENGLISH ARTICLES



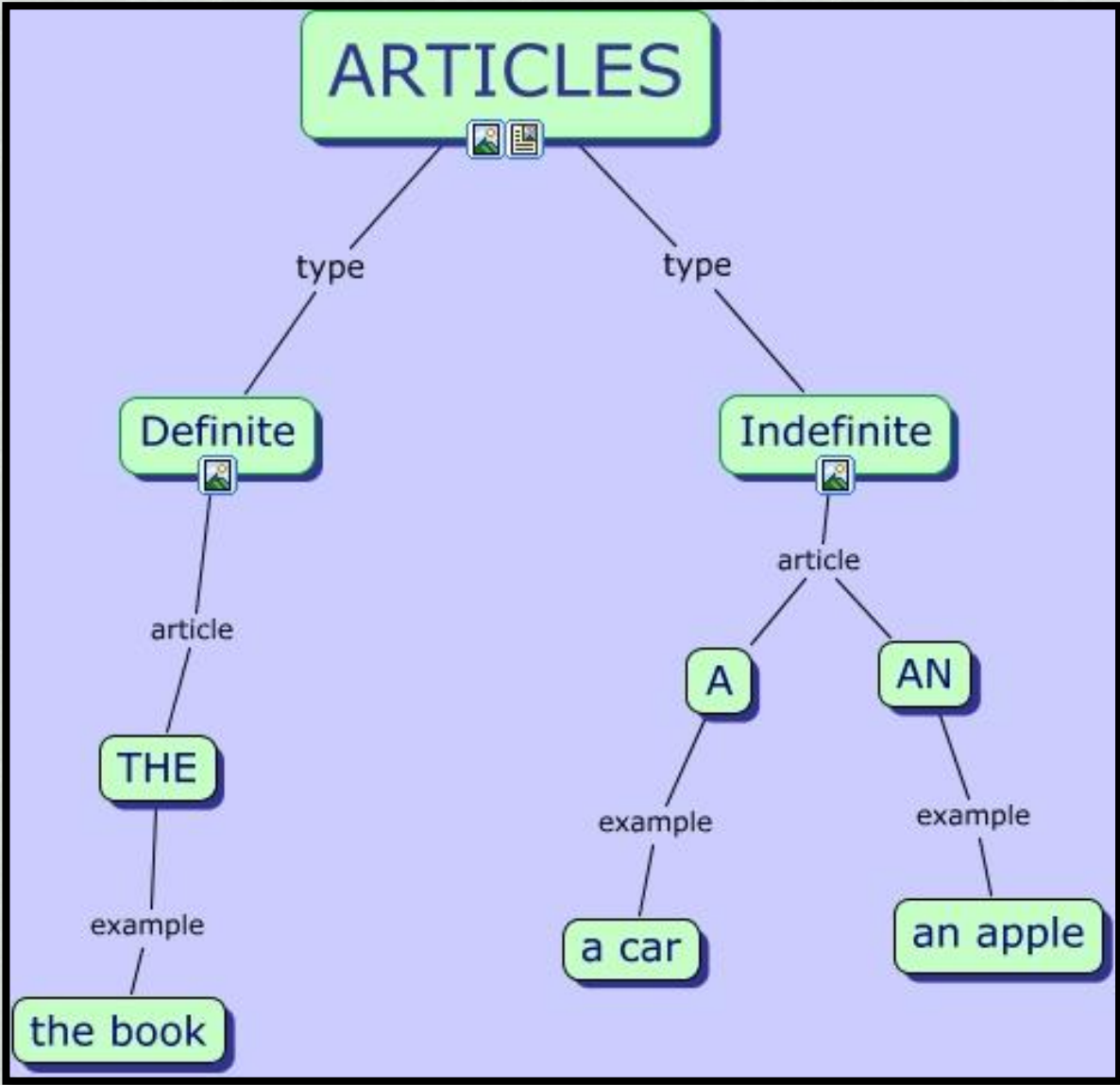
**Raffaella Antinucci**



# CONTENTS



- 1 Guidelines for article usage
- 2 Using *the* or  $\emptyset$  with names
- 3 Capitalization



# 1 GUIDELINES FOR ARTICLE USAGE

Please tell me **a** story.  
You tell **the** best stories.



# 1 GUIDELINES FOR ARTICLE USAGE

## USING A OR Ø (NO ARTICLE)

### SINGULAR COUNT NOUNS

***A computer*** can be helpful for homework.



## USING A OR Ø (NO ARTICLE)

### SINGULAR COUNT NOUNS

*A computer* can be helpful for homework.

*An orange* is orange.



**A** butterfly is **an** insect.

**A** } same meaning  
**An** }

a and an are indefinite articles



a **ch**air

a **w**oman

a **s**chool

a **l**ion

a **b**ed

a **m**an





a chair

a woman

a school

a lion

a bed

a man

**A before  
consonants**

an **e**levator

an **e**gg

an **a**vocado

an **e**lephant

an **o**ven

an **e**ar



an elevator

an egg

an avocado

an elephant

an oven

an ear

***An*** before  
**vowels**

An apple is a fruit.



A bear is an animal.



A rose is a flower.



# 1 Let's Practice

1. \_\_\_ hospital is \_\_\_ building.

a an

2. \_\_\_ horse is \_\_\_ animal.

3. \_\_\_ ant is \_\_\_ insect.

4. Soccer is \_\_\_ sport.



# 1 Let's Practice

1. A hospital is a building.

a an

2. \_\_\_ horse is \_\_\_ animal.

3. \_\_\_ ant is \_\_\_ insect.

4. Soccer is \_\_\_ sport.



# 1 Let's Practice

1. A hospital is a building.

a an

2. A horse is an animal.

3.     ant is     insect.

4. Soccer is     sport.



# 1 Let' s Practice

1. A hospital is a building.

a an

2. A horse is an animal.

3. An ant is an insect.

4. Soccer is     sport.





# 1 Let's Practice

1. A hospital is a building.

a an

2. A horse is an animal.

3. An ant is an insect.

4. Soccer is a sport.



!

**AN**

**A**

**Oxford is \_\_\_\_\_ university.**



!

**AN**

**A**

**Oxford is **A** university.**

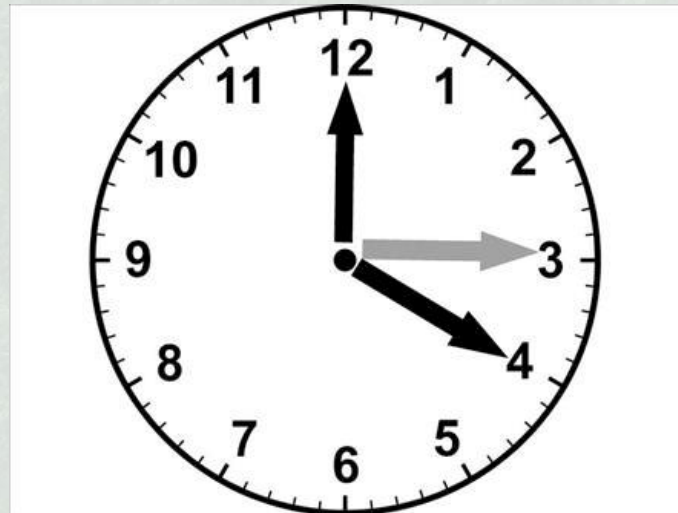


!

**A**

**AN**

**I'll be there in \_\_\_\_\_ hour.**



!

A

AN

I'll be there in **AN** hour.



## USING A OR Ø (NO ARTICLE)

### SINGULAR COUNT NOUNS

*A computer* can be helpful for homework.

*An orange* is orange.

*A tornado* can be dangerous.



## USING A OR Ø (NO ARTICLE)

### SINGULAR COUNT NOUNS

*A computer* is helpful for doing homework.

*An orange* is orange.

*A tornado* can be dangerous.

***a* + singular count noun → generalization**  
**any, all, in general**

## USING A OR Ø (NO ARTICLE)

**PLURAL** COUNT NOUNS

*Computers* can be helpful for homework.





## USING A OR Ø (NO ARTICLE)

### PLURAL COUNT NOUNS

*Computers* can help for homework.

*Oranges* are orange.

*Tornadoes* can be dangerous.

*no article* (Ø) with plural count noun  
→ generalization

## USING A OR Ø (NO ARTICLE)

### UNCOUNTABLE NOUNS

Ø *Exercise* increases energy.

Ø *Fruit* contains vitamins.

Children need Ø *attention*.

*no article* (Ø) with noncount noun  
→ generalization

## USING **A** OR **SOME**

### SINGULAR COUNT NOUNS

I bought **a computer** to help with homework.

I brought **an orange** for desert.

There was **a tornado** in Kansas last week.

**a + singular count noun** → **one thing**  
(*not specific*)

## USING A OR *SOME*

### PLURAL COUNT NOUNS

There are ***some computers*** in the lab.

I'd love to have ***some oranges***.

There are ***some tornadoes*** every year.

***some* + plural count noun → things**  
***(not specific)***

## USING A OR SOME

### NONCOUNT NOUNS

I need **some exercise**.

The children would like **some fruit**.

I think the cat needs **some attention**.

**some (∅) with noncount noun**

**→ something not specific**

# USING *THE*

## SINGULAR COUNT NOUNS

Do you like *the computer* you bought?

I enjoyed *the orange* you gave me.

*The tornado* that hit yesterday was awful.

*The moon* is full.

*The window* is open.

Are you in *the garage*?

*the* + noun → specific person(s) or thing(s)

## USING *THE*

### PLURAL COUNT NOUNS

*The computers* were expensive.

I enjoyed *the oranges* you gave me.

*The tornadoes* that hit Mexico were awful.

*The moons* of Saturn are beautiful.

***the* + noun → specific person(s) or thing(s)**

## USING *THE*

### NONCOUNT NOUNS

*The mail* came early today.

*The fruit* wasn't ripe yet.

*The love* of a mother is very strong.

*The smog* is bad this year.





## USING *THE*

### NONCOUNT NOUNS

*The mail* came early today.

*The fruit* wasn't ripe yet.

*The love* of a mother is very strong.

*The smog* is bad this year.

*the* with **noncount** noun

➔ **something specific**

# 1 LET' S PRACTICE

a  
an  
the



Do you have  
\_\_\_\_\_ recipe for  
Mom' s lasagna?

# 1 LET' S PRACTICE

a  
an  
the



Do you have  
the recipe for  
Mom' s lasagna?

# 1 LET' S PRACTICE

a  
an  
the

No, but I  
have \_\_\_\_  
recipe  
from a  
magazine.



# 1 LET' S PRACTICE

a  
an  
the

No, but I  
have a  
recipe  
from a  
magazine.



# 1 LET' S PRACTICE

a  
an  
the



Too bad.  
Mom  
makes \_\_\_\_\_  
best  
lasagna.

# 1 LET' S PRACTICE

a  
an  
the



Too bad.  
Mom  
makes the  
best  
lasagna.

# 1 LET' S PRACTICE

a  
an  
the



I have \_\_\_\_  
extra special  
spaghetti  
recipe that  
you might  
like.



# 1 LET' S PRACTICE

a  
an  
the



I have an  
extra special  
spaghetti  
recipe that  
you might  
like.

## 2 USING *THE* OR Ø WITH NAMES

The Himalayas are in Asia.



Ø *Ms. Albert* is on the phone.  
She is waiting to speak to Ø *Dr. Simmons*.



∅ *Ms. Albert* is on the phone.

She is waiting to speak to ∅ *Dr. Simmons*.

∅ *Prime Minister Thompson* was re-elected.

*The*  titled names.

I taught English in  $\emptyset$  *Asia*.



I taught English in **Ø Asia**.  
**Ø Australia** is a large island.



I taught English in **Ø Asia**.

**Ø Australia** is a large island.

Over 20% of the earth's land is in **Ø Africa**.



I taught ~~Ø~~ English in *Asia*.

~~Ø~~ *Australia* is a large island.

Over 20% of the earth's land is in ~~Ø~~ *Africa*.

*The*  names of continents.



Madrid is the capital of ~~Ø~~ *Spain*.

~~Ø~~ *Chile* has some beautiful mountains.

~~Ø~~ *Madagascar* is a small country.

*The* ~~→~~ names of most countries.

*The Dominican Republic* is a small country.

There are windmills in *the Netherlands*.

*The United States* has 50 states.

*The* → a few countries.

I love ~~Ø~~ *Paris* in the spring time.

~~Ø~~ *New York* has wonderful museums.

We visited ~~Ø~~ *Johannesburg* last winter.

*The*  names of cities.

*The Mississippi River* is very wide.

The most important river that feeds *the Black Sea* is *the Danube*.

*The* → rivers, oceans & seas.

∅ *Lake Vostok* is the largest lake in the world.

A large lake in Canada is ∅ *Lake Huron*.

*The* ∅ → names of lakes.

We saw **the** *Virunga Mountains* in Africa.  
**The** *Andes Mountains* are in South America.

**The** → names of mountain ranges.

∅ *Elbrus Mountain* is in Russia.  
A beautiful mountain in Alaska is  
*Mount Denali*.

**The** → individual mountains.

## 2 LET' S PRACTICE

\_\_\_\_ Mediterranean Sea is located  
to the north of \_\_\_\_ Africa.

Ø  
the



The Mediterranean Sea is located  
to the north of \_\_\_\_ Africa.

Ø  
the



The Mediterranean Sea is located  
to the north of Ø Africa.

Ø  
the



\_\_\_\_ Professor Keely teaches in \_\_\_\_ Czech Republic. She loves working in \_\_\_\_ Prague.



Ø  
the



Ø Professor Keely teaches in \_\_\_\_ Czech Republic. She loves working in \_\_\_\_ Prague.



Ø  
the

Ø Professor Keely teaches in the Czech Republic. She loves working in \_\_\_\_\_ Prague.



Ø  
the

Ø Professor Keely teaches in the Czech Republic. She loves working in Ø Prague.



Ø  
the

It is illegal to climb \_\_\_\_\_ Himalayas  
in \_\_\_\_\_ Bhutan.

Ø  
the



It is illegal to climb the Himalayas  
in \_\_\_\_ Bhutan.

Ø  
the



It is illegal to climb the Himalayas  
in Ø Bhutan.

Ø  
the



## 3 CAPITALIZATION

Barbara Barns studied business at Brac University in Bangladesh.



# CAPITALIZE

1. The first word of a sentence.

**T**here are no clouds in the sky.

**I**t is a beautiful day.





# CAPITALIZE

1. The first word of a sentence.

**T**here are no clouds in the sky.

**I**t is a beautiful day.

***Capitalize*** = a **BIG** letter,  
not a small one

# CAPITALIZE

2. The names of people.

**J**imi **H**endrix was a rock musician  
in the 60' s.



## CAPITALIZE

3. Titles used with the names of people.

**D**r. **G**ilroy lives near me.

Were you in **P**rofessor **G**ilroy' s class?

## COMPARE

I saw a *p*rofessor.

I saw **P**rofessor **G**ilroy.

# CAPITALIZE

## 4. Months, days, holidays

Zoe's birthday is in **D**ecember.

She was born on a **S**aturday.

It was on **N**ew **Y**ear's **E**ve.

*spring*

*summer*

*fall/autumn*

*winter*

**not**

**capitalized**

## CAPITALIZE

5. The names of places: city, state/province, country, continent

**O**ttawa is the capital city of **C**anada, which is in **N**orth **A**merica. It is in the province of **O**ntario.



## CAPITALIZE

6. The names of school courses

Professor Mackey teaches **W**omen's  
**H**istory course.



## CAPITALIZE

7. The titles of books, articles, movies

My favourite movie is *Shirley Valentine*.

My favourite book is *The Sweetest Dream*.



## CAPITALIZE

8. The names of languages and nationalities

I speak **S**panish.

I love **M**exican food.





# CAPITALIZE

## 9. The names of religions

**B**uddism, **C**hristianity, **H**induism, **I**slam, and **J**udaism are some of the major religions of the world.

One of my friends is a **M**uslim, and the other is a **B**uddhist.

# CAPITALIZE

10. The pronoun “I”

I wish I had learned to type.



### 3 LET' S PRACTICE

*Should the underlined word be capitalized?*

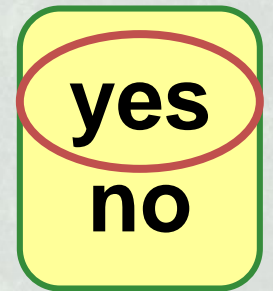
Boxing day is a holiday in canada.

**yes**  
**no**



*Should the underlined word be capitalized?*

Boxing Day is a holiday in canada.



*Why should the underlined word be capitalized?*

Boxing Day is a holiday in canada.

**first in sentence**

**person**

**holiday**

**place**

**course**

**book**

**language**

*Why should the underlined word be capitalized?*

Boxing Day is a holiday in canada.

**first in sentence**

**person**

**holiday**

**place**

**course**

**book**

**language**

*Should the underlined word be capitalized?*

Boxing Day is a holiday in canada.

**yes**  
**no**



*Should the underlined word be capitalized?*

Boxing Day is a holiday in Canada.

**yes**  
**no**





*Why should the underlined word be capitalized?*

Boxing Day is a holiday in Canada.

**first in sentence**

**person**

**holiday**

**place**

**course**

**book**

**language**

*Why should the underlined word be capitalized?*

Boxing Day is a holiday in Canada.

**first in sentence**

**person**

**holiday**

**place**

**course**

**book**

**language**

*Should the underlined word be capitalized?*

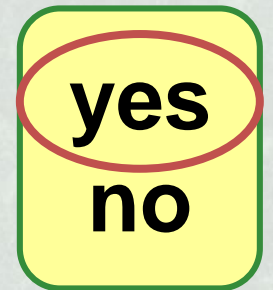
I taught information Systems 202.



**yes**  
**no**

*Should the underlined word be capitalized?*

I taught Information Systems 202.



*Why should the underlined word be capitalized?*

I taught Information Systems 202.

**first in sentence**

**person**

**holiday**

**place**

**course**

**book**

**language**

*Why should the underlined word be capitalized?*

I taught Information Systems 202.

**first in sentence**

**person**

**holiday**

**place**

**course**

**book**

**language**

**That's All For Now**