

DEFINITE AND INDEFINITE ARTICLES

USING A, AN, THE IN ENGLISH

An article is a word placed before a noun to define whether the noun is **specific** or **general**.

A

Used before singular countable nouns that start with a consonant sound.

I saw **a** cat yesterday.

A teacher inspired me to pursue my dreams.

He was bitten by **a** dog.

Do you want to see **a** movie tonight?

UNSPECIFIC

AN

Used before singular countable nouns beginning with a vowel sound.

I'm looking for **an** apartment in the city.

He gave me **an** umbrella because it was raining.

I need **an** answer to my question.

An FBI agent killed a terrorist last week.

UNSPECIFIC

THE

Used before countable or uncountable nouns, singular or plural nouns.

I want to rent **the** apartment we visited yesterday.

The umbrella he gave me yesterday was broken.

I finally got **the** answer I was waiting for.

The FBI agent who shot the terrorist last week got a promotion.

SPECIFIC