

Definite Article (The)

'The' is known as definite article because it is used to point out specific person or thing.
e.g. The Moon and the Sun etc.

Uses of 'The'

There are following common rules of using definite article 'the'

1. 'The' is used before a particular or specific person, place or thing,
e.g.

Let us go to the club.

This is the boy who won last match.

2. 'The' is used before common nouns which are names of things unique of their kind,
e.g.

The Earth is our planet.

The world is a pleasant place.

The Sun gives us life.

3. 'The' is used before name of directions and dates of months.
e.g.

The Sun sets in the West.

I got my dream job on the 10th of May.

4. 'The' is used before name of rivers, seas, canals, oceans, valleys, deserts and forests,
e.g.

The Atlantic Ocean

The Ganges

5. 'The' is used before names of mountain ranges,
e.g.

The Himalayas

The Alps

Note: Never use 'the' before names of single mountains or hills,
e.g.

Montblanc (Not the Mont blanc)

Everest (Not the Everest)

6. 'The' is used before superlative degrees of an adjective.
e.g.

You are the best boy in my class.

Kashmir is the most beautiful state of India.

7. 'The' is used before a whole class,
e.g.

The cow is a pet animal.

The horse runs very fast.

8. 'The' is used before names of races or nations,
e.g.

The English ruled over the Indians.

The Muslims believe in the Kuran/ Quran.

9. 'The' is used before names of newspapers, holy books, famous buildings, ships, historical events,
e.g.

I read the Hindustan newspaper.

The Ramayana is a famous book.

10. 'The' is used before proper nouns, common nouns, abstract nouns and material nouns to make them common nouns.
e.g.

Kalidas is the Shakespeare of India.

The milk of our dairy is pure.

11. 'The' is used before name of musical instruments,
e.g.

Rani plays the guitar.

Ranjan plays the harmonium.

12. 'The' is used before name of inventions,
e.g.

The water is useful for us.

Who invented the television?

13. 'The' is used before parts of body.
e.g.

He was hit by the rod in the back.

He got an injury in the head.

14. 'The' is used before political parties,
e.g.

The Congress Party.

The Bhartiya Janata Party.