

## SOME USES OF 'A'

### Note

Use 'an' instead of 'a' before a vowel or a silent 'h'; e.g. an axe, an egg, an inkpot, an owl, an uncle, an honest man. But when 'u' & 'eu' sound like 'y', use 'a' and not 'an'; e.g. a union, a university, a European war.

### General Use

He is brave	The film was good	It was hot
He is <u>a</u> brave man	The film was <u>a</u> good one	It was <u>a</u> hot day

### Use 'a' in the following cases:

Make a noise	quite a good game	a large number of
Have a rest	a bit better	a great deal of
Have a bath	at a speed of	a large amount of
Go for a picnic	it was a good thing	a (one) hundred
Go for a walk	as a result of	a little later
Play a trick on	to a certain extent	a few days later
Make a fool of	a waste of time etc.	after a few days
Have a good time	in a majority	a kind (sort) of

### Don't use 'a' in the following cases:

Enjoy good health	Have bad luck
Get employment (get a job)	Get hurt
It was great fun	It caused me great pain
Take exercise	What fun it was!

### Note

Never use 'a' or 'an' before a word which has no plural. i.e. Never say: a work, a scenery, an advice, a news, a poetry.

## SOME USES OF 'THE'

1. If a Noun is followed by 'of', it nearly always has 'the' before it, e.g. The death of Babar: The courage of the men: The door of the room.

2. 'The' is generally used before a Noun followed by who, which, whom & whose. E.g. The boy who failed: The book which I lost: The man whom I saw.

3. 'The' is used with Superlatives; e.g. The cleverest boy: The most beautiful. Also with Comparatives when 'than' is not used; e.g. The better of the two.

4. 'The' is used with titles except when the name comes before the title. E.g. The President of Pakistan (But: F.M. Ayub, President of Pakistan), The Queen of England (But: Elizabeth, Queen of England)

5. 'The' is used with English newspapers (except 'Dawn'): The Daily Mirror.

6. 'The' is used with the names of ships: The Bahadur, the Queen Mary.

7. 'The' is used with the following:

Rivers (the Ravi); Mountain Ranges (the Himalayas); Oceans (the Atlantic); Groups of Islands (the West Indies); Seas (the Mediterranean); Bays (the Bay of Bengal); Deserts (the Arabian Desert); Straits (the Straits of Gibraltar)

8. 'The' is used with the following words & expressions:

The sun	The former	The Government
On the point of	The moon	The latter
The U.S.A	in the habit of	The stars
The first	The U.K.	The world
With the result that	The last	The Punjab
the battle of	The earth	The whole
The Deccan	In the time of	The army
The only	The Carnatic	In the history of
The bazaar	The other	The public

In the near future	The cinema	The same
The press	The monsoon	The station
The North	The U.S.S.R.	The truth
The radio	The atom bomb	The police
In the best of health		

9. 'The' is used in general essays as under:

The aeroplane is used to carry freight (Aeroplanes are used -----)

The horse is used for many purposes (Horses are used -----)

10. Omit 'the' with the following words and expressions:

Abstract Nouns	(Honesty)
Languages	(Urdu)
Games	(Hockey)
Subjects	(History)
Substances	(Iron)
Proper Nouns	(Pakistan)
Diseases	(Malaria)

in olden times, in ancient times, in time of war, in time of trouble, in northern India, in Indian history, Lahore Station, Peshawar Station, World War-I, World War-II, Nature is kind to man (mankind).

**Note:**

Any word may have 'the' before it, if it is followed by 'of' e.g. The iron of Pakistan: The Urdu of Lucknow.