

When NOT To Use THE

- Do not use the with names of countries (except the countries that have plural names).

Examples:

Germany is an important economic power.

He's just returned from Zimbabwe.

- Do not use the with the names of languages.

Examples:

French is spoken in Tahiti.

English uses many words of Latin origin.

Indonesian is a relatively new language.

- Do not use the with the names of meals.

Examples:

Lunch is my favorite meal.

I like to eat breakfast early.

- Do not use the with people's names.

Examples:

John is coming over later.

Mary Carpenter is my boss.

- Do not use the with titles when combined with names.

Examples:

Prince Charles is Queen Elizabeth's son.

President Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas.

- Do not use the after the 's possessive case

Examples:

His brother's car was stolen.

Peter's house is over there.

- Do not use the with professions

Examples:

Engineering is a well-paid career.

He'll probably study medicine.

- Do not use the with names of shops

Examples:

I'll get the card at Smith's.

Can you go to Boots for me?

- Do not use the with years

Examples:

1948 was a wonderful year.

He was born in 1995.

- Do not use the when using uncountable nouns generally

Examples:

Rice is an important food in Asia.

Milk is often added to tea in England.

- Do not use the with the names of individual mountains, lakes and islands

Examples:

Mount McKinley is the highest mountain in Alaska.

She lives near Lake Windermere.

Have you visited Long Island?

- Do not use the with most names of towns, streets, stations and airports

Examples:

Victoria Station is in the center of London.

Can you direct me to Bond Street?

She lives in Florence.

They're flying into Heathrow.



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