



Complete List of Nouns that Always Take the Definite Article “The”

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1. Unique Things (One of a Kind in Context)

- The sun
- The moon
- The earth
- The sky
- The atmosphere
- The universe
- The equator

2. Geographical Features

- The ocean
- The sea
- The Sahara Desert
- The Himalayas
- The Amazon River
- The Alps
- The Red Sea
- The Atlantic Ocean
- The Pacific Ocean
- The Indian Ocean

3. Countries with Plural or Descriptive Names

- The United States
- The Netherlands
- The Philippines
- The United Kingdom
- The Maldives
- The Czech Republic
- The Dominican Republic
- The United Arab Emirates
- The Ivory Coast

4. Names of Organizations and Institutions

- The United Nations (UN)
- The European Union (EU)
- The Red Cross
- The World Bank
- The World Trade Center
- The Red Cross
- The Pentagon

- The FBI
- The CIA
- The KGB
- Etc.

5. Names of Newspapers

- The New York Times
- The Washington Post
- The Guardian
- The Economist

6. Musical Instruments

- The piano
- The guitar
- The violin
- The saxophone
- The trombone
- The flute
- The drums
- Etc.

(Example: *She plays the piano beautifully.*)

7. Unique Places and Buildings

- The White House
- The Eiffel Tower
- The Great Wall of China
- The Statue of Liberty
- The Taj Mahal
- The Kremlin
- The Pentagon
- The Brooklyn Bridge
- The Louvre
- The Smithsonian Institution
- The Vatican
- Etc.

8. Families (Plural Last Names)

- The Smiths
- The Johnsons

- The Kleins
Etc.

(Example: *The Smiths are coming over for dinner.*)

9. Certain Time Periods

- The 1990s
- The Middle Ages
- The Renaissance
- The Industrial Revolution
- The Enlightenment
- The Ice Age
- The Great Depression
- The Cold War
Etc.

10. Superlatives & Ordinal Numbers

- The best
- The worst
- The first
- The last
- The most ...

11. Certain Institutions (When Used Generally)

- The police
- The army
- The government
- The press
Etc.

(Example: *The police are investigating the crime.*)



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