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THE ARTICLE

USE OF 'A'

- Before singular noun which begins with consonant.

Example: - A act, a pen, a hat, a horse, a college, a year etc.

- Before singular noun which begins with E or U.

Example: - A University player, A uniform, A European lady.

- Before singular noun which begin with 'O'.

Example: - A one – rupee note, A one – eyed man, A one way ticket.

USE OF 'AN'

- Before singular noun which begins with vowel (a,e,i,o,u).

Example: - An apple, an egg, an eye, an ear, an orange, an elephant, an idiot.

- Before singular noun which starts with consonant but sounds like vowel.

Example: - An MP, an M.A, an S.H.O, an MLA.

- Before singular noun which starts with 'silent H'.

Example: - An hour, an honest man, an honorable man.

USE OF 'THE'

- Before the name of planets

Example: - The sun, the moon, the earth, the sky, the stars.

- Before the name of directions when the prepositions are also used.

Example: - The sun rises in the east and sets in the west.

- With the name of ships, trains, seas, oceans, canals, lakes, mountains, islands, dams, deserts.

Example: - The Vikram, the frontier mail, the Arabian sea, the Indian ocean, the panama canal, the dal lake, the Himalayas, the bhakhra dam, the Sahara desert.

Exceptions: - This is not used with the name of Single Mountain (Mount Everest, Sri Lanka).

- With the name of some countries or provinces

Example: - The USA, the Punjab.

- With the name of religious books, newspapers, magazines

Example: - The Gita, the Indian Express, the Indian Review.

- With the name of nations and communities

Example: - The English, the French, the Hindu.

- With those proper nouns which are used as common noun

Example: - Kalidas is the Shakespeare of India.

Kashmir is the Switzerland of Asia.

- With the name of workshop, factory, bank.

Example: - The Delhi cloth mills, The Punjab National Bank.

- With any party

Example: - The congress, the Lok Dal.

- With historical and public places

Example: - The Taj Mahal, the Golden Temple, the zoo, the library.

- With the adjectives which are used as noun

Example: - The rich, the poor, the brave.

- Before adjective + proper noun

Example: - The little Shilpa is a shy girl.

- With measurements

Example: - By the meters, by the kilogram, by the dozen.

- With ranks

Example: - The Prime Minister of India, the principal of the school, the president of India.

- Before historical events

Example: - The battle of Panipat.

- With dates

Example: - India became free on the 15th of august.

- With superlative degree

Example: - The wisest boy, the most intelligent girl.

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