

a/an and the

a/an



There are *three* windows here.
a window = window 1 or 2 or 3

- ☐ I have **a car**.
(there are many cars and I have one)
- ☐ Can I ask **a question**?
(there are many questions – can I ask one?)
- ☐ Is there **a hotel** near here? (there are many hotels – is there one near here?)
- ☐ Paris is **an interesting city**. (there are many interesting cities and Paris is one)
- ☐ Sarah is **a student**.
(there are many students and Lisa is one)

the



There is only *one* window here –
the window.

- ☐ I'm going to wash **the car** tomorrow.
(= my car)
- ☐ Can you repeat **the question**, please?
(= the question that you asked)
- ☐ We enjoyed our vacation. **The hotel** was very nice. (= our hotel)
- ☐ Paris is **the capital of France**.
(there is only one capital of France)
- ☐ Sarah is **the youngest student** in her class. (there is only one youngest student in her class)

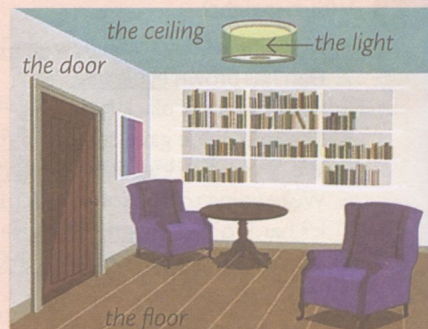
Compare **a** and **the**:

- ☐ I bought **a jacket** and **a shirt**. **The jacket** was cheap, but **the shirt** was expensive.
(= **the** jacket and **the** shirt **that I bought**)

B

We say **the** ... when it is clear which thing or person we mean. For example:**the door / the ceiling / the floor / the carpet / the light**, etc. (of a room)**the roof / the backyard / the kitchen / the bathroom**, etc. (of a house)**the airport / the police station / the bus station / the mayor's office**, etc. (of a city)

- ☐ "Where's Tom?" "In **the kitchen**."
(= the kitchen of this house or apartment)
- ☐ Turn off **the light** and close **the door**.
(= the light and the door of the room)
- ☐ Do you live far from **the airport**?
(= the airport of your town)
- ☐ I'd like to speak to **the manager**, please.
(= the manager of this store, etc.)



67.1 Write a/an or the.

- We enjoyed our trip. The hotel was very nice.
- "Can I ask a question?" "Sure. What do you want to know?"
- You look very tired. You need a vacation.
- "Where's Joe?" "He's in the bathroom."
- Jessica is a interesting person. You should meet her.
- A: Excuse me, can you tell me how to get to a post office?
B: Yes, go straight and then take a next left.
- A: Let's go and see a movie tonight.
B: OK, that's a good idea.
- It's a nice morning. Let's go for a walk.
- Amanda is a student. When she finishes school, she wants to be a journalist.
She lives with two friends in a apartment near a college where she is studying.
A apartment is small, but she likes it.
- Peter and Mary have two children, a boy and a girl. A boy is seven years old, and a girl is three. Peter works in a factory. Mary doesn't have a job outside the home right now.

67.2 Complete the sentences. Use a or the + these words:

airport cup dictionary ~~door~~ floor picture

1 Can you open <u>the door</u>, please?	2 How far is it to <u>the airport</u>?	3 Can I have <u>a cup</u> of coffee, please?
4 That's <u>a nice picture</u> - I like it.	5 Can you pass me <u>a dictionary</u>, please?	6 Why are you sitting <u>on the floor</u>?

67.3 These sentences are not correct. Put in a/an or the where necessary.

- Don't forget to turn off the light when you go out. turn off the light
- Enjoy your trip, and don't forget to send me postcard. _____
- What is name of this town? _____
- Canada is very big country. _____
- What is largest city in Canada? _____
- I like this room, but I don't like color of carpet. _____
- "Are you OK?" "No, I've got headache." _____
- We live in old house near station. _____
- What is name of director of movie we saw last night? _____