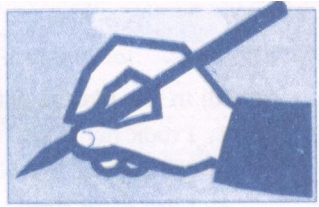


CHAPTER-XI

The Article



As already mentioned 'a', 'an', 'the' are three articles. They are also called Demonstrative Adjectives.

- (a) "A" and "an" are "indefinite articles" because they do not indicate any particular person or place.
- (b) 'The' is called the definite article because it indicates some particular person, place or thing.

Articles 'a' and 'an' are used before a common noun in the singular number, as :

- (a) A cow is a docile animal.
- (b) He is eating an apple.

Article 'a' is used before a word beginning with a consonant sound and 'an' is used before words beginning with a vowel sound, as :

a pen, a book, a story
an inkpot, an arm, an egg.

The definite article 'the' is used as :

- (i) With a person or a thing already mentioned, as :
 - (a) The man who stole your book has been punished.
- (ii) With the following words (unique things), as :

The sun, the moon, the earth, the sky, the world.
- (iii) Before certain adjectives used in the sense of a noun, plural in number, as :
 - (a) The rich must help the poor.
 - (b) We must take care of the dumb and deaf.
- (iv) With the names of some rivers, books, maintains, days, ships, trains, oceans, newspapers. The Ganges, the Ramayana, the Himalayas, the Bay of Bengal, the Kalka Mail, the Indian Ocean, the Tribune, the Vikrant.
- (v) Before a singular noun which stands for a class, as :

The cow, the dog, the camel.
- (vi) Before adjective of the superlative degree, as :

The biggest meeting the greatest man, the longest journey.
- (vii) Before the names of nations and communities, as :

The Socialists, the English, the Hindus.

Please not the following :

- (i) 'The' is never used with proper nouns or before the names of subjects of Studies.
- (ii) 'The' is never used with structure, as :

By hand, at home, at school, at sunset, at sunrise, at sweet will.

Incorrect

1. The English is the language of English.
2. He is suffering from headache.
3. A man is mortal.
4. I pray to the God in the morning.
5. Dog is a faithful animal.
6. Hindus regard Geeta as their sacred book.
7. Earth moves round sun.
8. Sun rises in east and sets in west.
9. The children are playful by nature.
10. Kalidas is Shakespeare of India.

Correct

- English is the language of the English.
- He is suffering from a headache.
Man is mortal.
- I pray to God in the morning.
A dog is a faithful animal.
- The Hindus regard the Geeta as their sacred book.
The earth moves round the sun.
- The sun rises in the east and sets in the west.
Children are playful by nature.
- Kalidas is the Shakespeare of India.

EXERCISE-XIV

(a) Fill in the blanks in the following sentences with suitable articles :

1. Banaras is holy city.
2. Ganges is sacred river of Hindus.
3. honest man will always speak truth.
4. accused is telling lie.
5. Mathematics is not easy subject.
6. Everybody admiresbeauty of Taj.
7. Man has reached moon.
8. Himalayas are to north of India.
9. He has black and white cow.
10. I have never seen so tall man.

(b) Put suitable articles where necessary :

1. Higher we go cooler it is.
2. Kangra is Switzerland of India.
3. He is wisest boy in class.
4. What lovely sight this is.
5. This is too easy question.
6. He is English man.
7. I have never seen such fool as you are.
8. It took me hour to reach home.
9. More he eareded more he spent.

(c) Use the following structures :

'a', 'an', 'the' in as many different contexts as you can.