

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)
- Lisa 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)
- Lisa 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

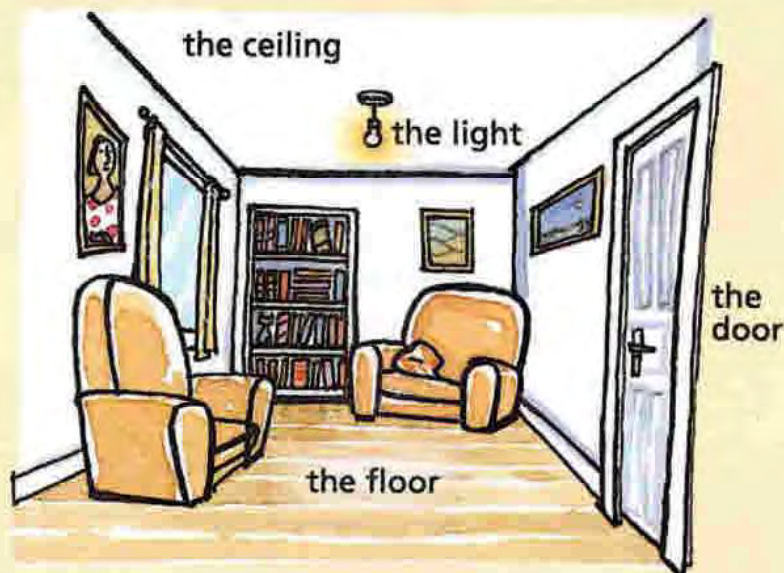
We say **the** ... when it is clear which thing or person we mean. For example:

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.)









70.1 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 _____ vacation.
- "Where's Tom?" "He's in _____ kitchen."
- Eve is _____ interesting person. You should meet her.
- A: Excuse me, can you tell me how to get to _____ post office?
B: Yes, go straight and then take _____ next left.
- A: Let's go and see _____ movie tonight.
B: OK, that's _____ good idea.
- It's _____ nice morning. Let's go for _____ walk.
- Amanda is _____ student. When she finishes school, she wants to be _____ journalist. She lives with two friends in _____ apartment near _____ college where she is studying. _____ apartment is small, but she likes it.
- Peter and Mary have two children, _____ boy and _____ girl. _____ boy is seven years old, and _____ girl is three. Peter works in _____ factory. Mary doesn't have _____ job outside the home right now.

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

airport cup dictionary ~~door~~ floor picture

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

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

- Don't forget to turn off 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? _____