

Names With and Without *the* (1)

A

We do not use **the** with names of people (Ann, Ann Taylor, etc.). In the same way, we do not normally use **the** with names of places. For example:

<i>continents</i>	Africa (<i>not the Africa</i>), Asia, South America
<i>countries and states</i>	France (<i>not the France</i>), Japan, Brazil, Texas
<i>islands</i>	Bermuda, Sicily, Vancouver Island
<i>cities, towns, etc.</i>	Cairo, New York, Bangkok
<i>mountains</i>	Everest, Kilimanjaro, Fuji



But we use **the** in names with **Republic, Kingdom, States, etc.:**

the Dominican Republic	the United Kingdom (the UK)
the Czech Republic	the United States of America (the USA)

Compare:

- We visited Canada and the United States.

B

When we use **Mr./Mrs./Captain/Doctor, etc.** + a name, we do not use **the**. We say:

Mr. Johnson / Doctor Johnson / Captain Johnson / President Johnson, etc. (*not the . . .*)
 Uncle Robert / Aunt Jane / Saint Catherine / Princess Anne, etc. (*not the . . .*)

Compare:

- We called the doctor *but* We called Doctor Johnson. (*not the Doctor Johnson*)

We use **mount** (= mountain) and **lake** in the same way (*without the*):

Mount Everest (*not the . . .*) Mount McKinley Lake Superior Lake Titicaca

- They live near the lake. *but* They live near Lake Superior. (*without the*)

C

We use **the** with the names of oceans, seas, rivers, and canals (see also Unit 75B):

the Atlantic (Ocean)	the Amazon (River)	the Nile
the Indian Ocean	the Red Sea	the English Channel (between France and Britain)
the Caribbean (Sea)	the Suez Canal	

D

We use **the** with *plural* names of people and places:

<i>people</i>	the Mitchells (= the Mitchell family), the Johnsons
<i>countries</i>	the Netherlands, the Philippines, the United States
<i>groups of islands</i>	the Canaries / the Canary Islands, the Bahamas, the Hawaiian Islands
<i>mountain ranges</i>	the Rocky Mountains / the Rockies, the Andes, the Alps

E

North/northern, etc.

We say: the north (of Mexico) *but* northern Mexico (*without the*)
 the southeast (of Canada) *but* southeastern Canada

Compare:

- Sweden is in northern Europe; Spain is in the south.

Also: the Middle East the Far East

You can also use **north/south, etc.** + a place name (*without the*):

North America West Africa southeast Texas

Exercises

74.1 Put in *the* where necessary. Leave a space (-) if the sentence is already complete.

- Who is — Doctor Johnson?
- I was sick, so I went to see doctor.
- president is the most powerful person in United States.
- President Kennedy was assassinated in 1963.
- Do you know Wilsons? They're a very nice couple.
- Do you know Professor Brown's phone number?

74.2 Some of these sentences are correct, but some need *the* (perhaps more than once). Correct the sentences where necessary.

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| 1. Everest was first climbed in 1953. | <u>RIGHT</u> |
| 2. Jacksonville is in north of Florida. | <u>the north of Florida</u> |
| 3. Africa is much larger than Europe. | _____ |
| 4. Last year I visited Mexico and United States. | _____ |
| 5. South of India is warmer than north. | _____ |
| 6. Portugal is in western Europe. | _____ |
| 7. Jim has traveled a lot in Middle East. | _____ |
| 8. Chicago is on Lake Michigan. | _____ |
| 9. Next year we are going skiing in Swiss Alps. | _____ |
| 10. The highest mountain in Africa is Kilimanjaro. | _____ |
| 11. United Kingdom consists of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. | _____ |
| 12. Seychelles are a group of islands in Indian Ocean. | _____ |
| 13. Hudson River flows into Atlantic Ocean. | _____ |

74.3 Here are some geography questions. Choose the right answer from one of the boxes and write *the* if necessary. You do not need all the names in the boxes. Use an atlas if necessary.

continents	countries	oceans and seas	mountains	rivers and canals
Africa	Canada	Atlantic Ocean	Alps	Amazon Rhine
Asia	Denmark	Indian Ocean	Andes	Nile Volga
Australia	Indonesia	Pacific Ocean	Himalayas	Thames
Europe	Sweden	Black Sea	Rockies	Mississippi
North America	Thailand	Mediterranean Sea	Urals	Suez Canal
South America	United States	Red Sea		Panama Canal

- What do you have to cross to travel from Europe to America? the Atlantic Ocean
- Where is Argentina? _____
- What is the longest river in Africa? _____
- Of which country is Stockholm the capital? _____
- Of which country is Washington, D.C., the capital? _____
- What is the name of the mountain range in the west of North America? _____
- What is the name of the sea between Africa and Europe? _____
- What is the smallest continent in the world? _____
- What is the name of the ocean between North America and Asia? _____
- What is the name of the ocean between Africa and Australia? _____
- What river flows through London? _____
- What river flows through Memphis and New Orleans? _____
- Of which country is Bangkok the capital? _____
- What joins the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans? _____
- What is the longest river in South America? _____