



UNIVERSIDAD AUTÓNOMA DEL ESTADO DE HIDALGO
ESCUELA PREPARATORIA NÚMERO CUATRO



DEFINITE AND INDEFINITE ARTICLES

Presenta:

KARLA ARLETT RENDÓN ACOSTA



A/AN -THE

USE

- We use the indefinite article **a/an** to talk about something in general or for the first time.
- We use the definite article **the** to talk about something specific i.e. something which we mention for a second time or which is already known. There's **a** cat in the living room. **The** cat is on the sofa.
- We also use the before:
 - names of families: **the** Greens, **the** Swansons
 - nationalities: **the** Americans, **the** English
 - names of oceans and seas: **the** Pacific, the Indian Ocean , **the** Red Sea.
 - names of rivers: **the** Danube, **the** Nile
 - names of mountain ranges: **the** Alps
 - titles: **the** Queen, **the** doctor
 - nouns which are unique : **the** Moon, **the** Accropolis
 - countries (When they include words such as state, kingdom): **the** United States of America
 - names of musical instruments: **the** piano, **the** drums
- We don't use the before:
 - proper names: London, Anne, Paul
 - names of countries: Ireland, Australia
 - names of meals: lunch, supper
 - names of sports/ games: football, chess
 - titles + a person's name: Queen Victoria

By Virginia Evans-Neil O'Sullivan

Click On 1 Workbook and Grammar Book, Virginia Evans-Neil O'Sullivan (2004)