

ENGLISH ARTICLES

Članovi

IN THE CONTEXT OF SPORTS

USING ARTICLES IN ENGLISH

NOUN:

CONTEXT:

ARTICLE:

singular
countable

- general
- specific

a, an
the

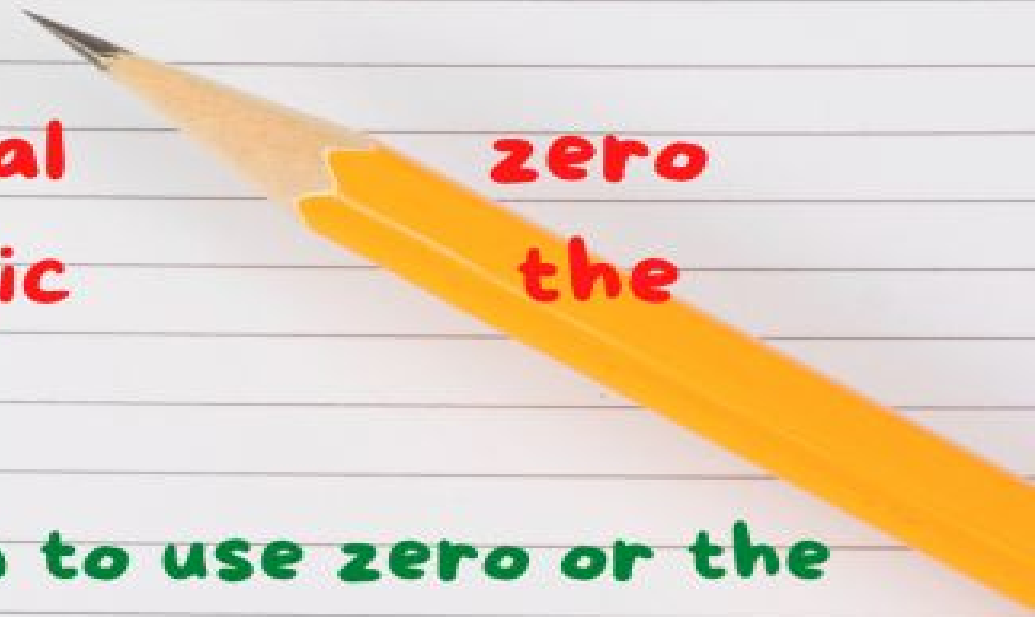
plural /
uncountable

- general
- specific

zero
the

proper

learn when to use zero or the



'a' / 'an' - The Indefinite Article (neodređeni član)

Use “a” or “an” before singular nouns when talking about something in general:

- A football match can last up to 90 minutes plus stoppage time.
- An athlete needs to train regularly to maintain performance levels.
- She won a medal at the swimming competition.
- An umpire has the authority to make decisions in a tennis match.

'a' / 'an' - The Indefinite Article (neodređeni član)

Use “a” or “an” before singular nouns when you mention something for the first time [after that, use “the”]:

- A player was injured during the match. Fortunately, the player was able to recover.
- We went to a handball match last evening. We watched the match from the front row.

'a' / 'an' - The Indefinite Article (neodređeni član)

Use “a” or “an” before singular nouns when you mention players/practitioners of a sport:

- My sister is **an** archer.
- I am training to be **a** professional wrestler.
- They need **a** goalie (goalkeeper) for their hockey team.

'the' - The Definite Article (određeni član)

Use **"the"** when talking about something specific:

- **The** match between Serbia and Brazil was intense.
- **The** player who scored **the** last goal was from Argentina.
- **The** basketball game last night was incredible.
- Have you ever played on **the** court near **the** river?

'the' - The Definite Article (određeni član)

Use **"the"** when there is only one of something, such as sporting events:

- **The** World Cup is held every four years.
- **The** Olympic Games bring together athletes from around **the** world.
- He won **the** Australian Open multiple times.

'the' - The Definite Article (određeni član)

Use **"the"** with superlatives and with ordinal numbers (*redni brojevi*):

- He is **the** best player on **the** team.
- That was **the** most exciting match of **the** season.
- This is **the** first time they have won **the** championship.
- He finished **the** race in **the** third place.

∅ - The Zero Article (nulti člen, tj. bez člana)

Use “∅” with plural countable and uncountable nouns when talking about things in general:

- _ Sports are a great way to stay fit.
- _ Mixed martial artists often suffer from _ head injuries.
- _ Ping-pong players need _ agility and _ quick reflexes.
- _ Football players practiced _ penalty kicks for **the** entire practice.

Ø - The Zero Article (nulti član, tj. bez člana)

Use “Ø” with names of sports in general – they are uncountable nouns:

- _ Beach volleyball is a fun summer activity.
- He plays _ basketball every weekend.
- She is interested in taking up _ gymnastics.

Use “Ø” with sporting events named after the place where the event happens:

- I qualified for _ Wimbledon this year.

_ football = *fudbal*

a football = *fudbalska lopta*

Countries / national teams with **the**:

the United States, **the** United Kingdom, **the** United Arab Emirates,
the Netherlands, **the** Czech Republic, **the** Philippines, **the** Ivory Coast

*“Serbia played **the** Ivory Coast in **the** World Cup.”*

_ Real Madrid will play _ Chelsea in **the** semi-final. 

The (Denver) Nuggets will play **the** (Miami) Heat in **the** finals.  



Zero article “∅” with news headlines (titles):

“_ Serbian National Team Triumphs in _ World Cup Qualifiers”

“_ Marathon Runner Sets _ New Course Record”

“Davis makes NBA history as _ Lakers beat _ Timberwolves”

Example sentences

- She bought **a** tennis racket yesterday.
- She's using **the** tennis racket she bought last week.
- She plays _ tennis every weekend.

Example sentences

- He bought **an** American football to practice with his friends.
- He's playing with **the** American football he got for his birthday.
- _ American football is a popular sport in **the** United States.

Example sentences

- He's considering joining **a** judo club in **the** city.
- He's joining **the** judo club at **the** university.
- _ Judo requires _ balance and _ technique.

Example sentences

- She usually wins **a** medal when she competes.
- She usually wins **the** gold/silver/bronze medal when she competes.
- In **the** end, all competitors received _ medals for participating.

Example sentences

- They are going to **a** basketball game next week.
- They are going to **the** basketball game next week.
- _ Basketball games are exciting to watch.

Example sentences

- **The** right wing's accurate pass led to **a** goal in **the** football match on Sunday.
- **The** right wing's accurate pass led to **the** goal in **the** football match on Sunday.

- Bring me **a** pair of ski boots from **the** closet.
- Bring me **the** pair of ski boots from **the** closet.