

Unit 52: THE

We can use **the** at the beginning of a noun phrase. The form of **the** never changes: it is the same for singular, plural and mass nouns. This unit tells you when to use it.

1 *When we can understand which thing / person*

a From the situation:

It was a terrible journey. **The** plane was very crowded.

(The plane that I travelled on.)

We had a lovely holiday. **The** weather was wonderful and so was **the** food.

(The weather and the food on holiday.)

When I got home, I went into **the** living room and turned on **the** TV.

(The room and the TV in my house.)

b Because it is well known:

The government is increasing taxes again.

2 *When we say which thing / person*

The stores **in Manulife Place** are rather expensive.

I saw her on **the** Friday **before last**.

It was **the second** time he had been there.

The history **of your country** is very interesting.

3 *Also*

a With musical instruments: She plays **the** piano beautifully.

b With some proper nouns (Unit 48).

NOTICE: **The**, or **a / an / some / any**, or nothing at all? (Unit 54.)