

Zero Article

Places with names

continents	He's from Africa	regions	It's in Moscow Region	mountains	He climbed Everest
countries	She's from Japan	district	He's from Hollywood	lakes	I swam in Lake Baikal
cities	I went to London	valleys	He works in Silicon Valley	islands	He's from Long Island
Adjective + noun	the United States , the United Kingdom , the United Arab Emirates , the Czech Republic , the Russian Federation , the Soviet Union , the People's Republic of China				
Island chains	the Maldives , the Seychelles , the Philippines , the Bahamas	Random	the Netherlands		
Rivers	the Amazon	Seas	the Black Sea	Oceans	the Pacific Ocean
Mountain ranges	the Himalayas the Caucasus	Gulfs	the Gulf of Finland	Deserts	the Sahara
Island chains	the Faroe Islands	Forests	the Amazon rainforest	Compass	the North , the South the East , the West
general nature	the Moon , the Sun , the Solar System , the Universe , the beach , the forest , the sea , the sky the mountains , the countryside , the atmosphere , the air , the clouds , the coast				
hospitals	I work in St Mary's hospital .	unique places	the Louvre , the Eiffel Tower , the White House the Taj Mahal , the Kremlin , the Pyramids , the Statue of Liberty , the Parthenon		
schools	I teach at English First .				
universities	He works at Yale university .	palaces	The Queen lives in Buckingham Palace and the French royals lived at Versailles . Russian royals divided their time between Catherine's Palace , Peterhof and the Winter Palace .		
cathedrals	I visited St Paul's cathedral .				
streets	It's on Fifth Avenue .				
stations	I'm at Kings Cross station				

When we add an adjective to zero article places, we also add 'the'. So it is correct to say "Walk across **the impressive** London Bridge", "it's opposite **the imposing** Kazan Cathedral", "enjoy **the renovated** St Pancras Station", "have lunch in **the trendy** Du Nord Cafe", "he went to **the highly-rated** Oxford University"

Places without names

When a location is used for the purpose **it is designed for**, we don't use an article. Schoolchildren go to school, prisoners are in prison, patients are in hospital, we sleep in bed, students go to university etc. But when other people visit these places in different contexts, we use an article.

I was in hospital for 3 days with pneumonia.	hospital	I went to the hospital to visit my Grandma.
I read a lot of books when I was at school .	school	The inspectors visited the school to check it was safe.
He's in prison because he stole £5000.	prison	Journalists visited the prison to talk to the prisoners.
Shhh. The baby is in bed .	bed	My kids like jumping on the bed .
I go to church every Sunday.	church	I took lots of photos when I visited the church .

Others

diseases**	He has diabetes	meals*	I had breakfast in a cafe	subjects	I like Geography
festivals*	I love Christmas	summer*	I can't wait for summer.	sports	I play volleyball.

*When we add an adjective before, we also add an article. So we say "I had **a tasty** breakfast" "Did you have **a nice** Christmas?", "it was **the best** summer of my life"

** We always say "I've got **a cold**" but "He's got **the flu**"

Zero Article

Places with names

continents	He's from Africa	regions	It's in Moscow Region	mountains	He climbed Everest
countries	She's from Japan	district	He's from Hollywood	lakes	I swam in Lake Baikal
cities	I went to London	valleys	He works in Silicon Valley	islands	He's from Long Island
Adjective + noun	the United States , the United Kingdom , the United Arab Emirates , the Czech Republic , the Russian Federation , the Soviet Union , the People's Republic of China				
Island chains	the Maldives , the Seychelles , the Philippines , the Bahamas	Random	the Netherlands		
Rivers	the Amazon	Seas	the Black Sea	Oceans	the Pacific Ocean
Mountain ranges	the Himalayas the Caucasus	Gulfs	the Gulf of Finland	Deserts	the Sahara
Island chains	the Faroe Islands	Forests	the Amazon rainforest	Compass	the North , the South the East , the West
general nature	the Moon , the Sun , the Solar System , the Universe , the beach , the forest , the sea , the sky the mountains , the countryside , the atmosphere , the air , the clouds , the coast				
hospitals	I work in St Mary's hospital .	unique places	the Louvre , the Eiffel Tower , the White House the Taj Mahal , the Kremlin , the Pyramids , the Statue of Liberty , the Parthenon		
schools	I teach at English First .				
universities	He works at Yale university .	palaces	The Queen lives in Buckingham Palace and the French royals lived at Versailles . Russian royals divided their time between Catherine's Palace , Peterhof and the Winter Palace .		
cathedrals	I visited St Paul's cathedral .				
streets	It's on Fifth Avenue .				
stations	I'm at Kings Cross station				

When we add an adjective to zero article places, we also add 'the'. So it is correct to say "Walk across **the impressive** London Bridge", "it's opposite **the imposing** Kazan Cathedral", "enjoy **the renovated** St Pancras Station", "have lunch in **the trendy** Du Nord Cafe", "he went to **the highly-rated** Oxford University"

Places without names

When a location is used for the purpose **it is designed for**, we don't use an article. Schoolchildren go to school, prisoners are in prison, patients are in hospital, we sleep in bed, students go to university etc. But when other people visit these places in different contexts, we use an article.

I was in hospital for 3 days with pneumonia.	hospital	I went to the hospital to visit my Grandma.
I read a lot of books when I was at school .	school	The inspectors visited the school to check it was safe.
He's in prison because he stole £5000.	prison	Journalists visited the prison to talk to the prisoners.
Shhh. The baby is in bed .	bed	My kids like jumping on the bed .
I go to church every Sunday.	church	I took lots of photos when I visited the church .

Others

diseases**	He has diabetes	meals*	I had breakfast in a cafe	subjects	I like Geography
festivals*	I love Christmas	summer*	I can't wait for summer.	sports	I play volleyball.

*When we add an adjective before, we also add an article. So we say "I had **a tasty** breakfast" "Did you have **a nice** Christmas?", "it was **the best** summer of my life"

** We always say "I've got **a cold**" but "He's got **the flu**"