

Lesson Plan:

The definite article "the"

LEVEL Beginner (A1)	TIME 45-60 minutes
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Objectives

By the end of the lesson, students will be able to:

- Understand what **"the"** means
- Use "the" before nouns when the listener knows which thing is being referred to
- Correctly use "the" with singular and plural nouns

Materials

- Whiteboard / slides
- Pictures of common objects (a book, the sun, a dog, etc.)
- Simple worksheet (fill in the blanks)
- Real objects in the classroom (desk, door, board)

1. Warm-up (5-10 minutes)

Teacher action:

Point to objects in the room and say:

"This is **a** desk."

"This is **the** desk."

Ask students:

"How many desks are in this room?"

"Which desk am I talking about?"

Explain simply:

"The" means we know which one.

2. Presentation: What does "the" mean? (10 minutes)

Simple Rule (write on the board):

We use "the" when both the speaker and listener know the thing.

Examples:

- **the sun** (there is only one)
- **the teacher** (in the classroom)
- I see a dog. The dog is big. (Second time = we know the dog)

Key Points for Beginners:

"The" is used with:

- **Singular nouns:** the book
- **Plural nouns:** the books

"The" does **not change** (always "the")

3. Common Uses of "The" (10 minutes)

1. When there is only one

- the sun
- the moon
- the sky

2. When we talk about something again

- I have a pen.
- **The pen** is blue.

3. When it is clear which one

- Please close **the door**.
- Sit on the chair. (Use classroom objects to demonstrate.)

4. Guided Practice (10 minutes)

Activity 1: Choose "a" or "the"

Say or show sentences:

1. ___ apple is red. (the apple you are holding)
2. I see ___ cat. (first time a)→
3. ___ cat is small. (second time → the)

Students answer together.

5. Pair or Individual Practice (10-15 minutes)

Activity 2: Fill in the blanks

Students complete sentences:

1. ___ sun is hot.
2. I have ___ book. ___ book is new.
3. Please open ___ window.

Activity 3 (optional speaking):

Students look around and say:

"The ___ is ___." (The board is white. The door is open.)

6. Review & Assessment (5 minutes)

Quick Check:

Ask students:

- When do we use "the"?
- When we know which one
- When there is only one
- When we talk about it again

Exit Question:

"Do we say *the sun* or *a sun*?"

"Why?"

Common beginner mistakes to address

The my book

My book

The dogs are friendly. (when talking about dogs in general)

Dogs are friendly. (Keep explanations short and simple.)

Homework (optional)

Write **5 sentences** using "the" about your house or classroom.