

## 23. USING ARTICLES

	GENERAL STATEMENTS	PARTICULAR STATEMENTS	
		Not specific	Specific
<b>SINGULAR COUNT NOUNS</b>	<p><b>a/an</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <i>A <u>bill</u> doesn't become law until the president approves it.</i></li> <li>■ <i>An <u>appeal</u> is a request made to a higher court to review the decision of a lower court.</i></li> </ul> <p><b>the</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <i>Who invented <u>the telephone</u>?</i></li> </ul>	<p><b>a/an</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <i>The representatives drafted <u>a bill</u>.</i></li> <li>■ <i>The guests visited <u>a memorial</u>.</i></li> <li>■ <i>The trouble maker was escorted out of the hall by <u>an officer</u>.</i></li> </ul>	<p><b>the</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <i>The <u>bill</u> to raise federal income taxes was signed into law.</i></li> <li>■ <i>The <u>memorial</u> visited by the guests was built in 1945.</i></li> <li>■ <i>The <u>officer</u> who escorted the troublemaker had to use force.</i></li> </ul>
<b>PLURAL COUNT NOUNS</b>	<p><b>0 (no article)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <i><u>Bills</u> don't become law until the president approves them.</i></li> <li>■ <i><u>Appeals</u> are heard by higher courts.</i></li> </ul>	<p><b>0/some</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <i>Congress proposes <u>some bills</u> whenever it is in session.</i></li> <li>■ <i>Congress proposes <u>bills</u> whenever it is in session.</i></li> <li>■ <i><u>Some bills</u> become law, but others are rejected.</i></li> </ul>	<p><b>the</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <i>The Senate approved <u>the bills</u> to ban school prayers and to raise the federal income tax.</i></li> <li>■ <i><u>The memorials</u> that the guests visited were built to honor war heroes.</i></li> </ul>
<b>NONCOUNT NOUNS</b>	<p><b>0 (no article)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <i><u>Water</u> is made up of two atoms of hydrogen and one atom of oxygen.</i></li> <li>■ <i><u>Pollution</u> is a major contributing factor to climate change.</i></li> </ul>	<p><b>0/some</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <i>Scientists believe that there is <u>some water</u> trapped beneath the arid surface of Mars.</i></li> <li>■ <i>Explorers have found <u>oil</u> in Alaska.</i></li> </ul>	<p><b>the</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <i>Most of <u>the pollution</u> in big cities is caused by automobiles.</i></li> <li>■ <i><u>The water</u> in the Dead Sea has extremely high salt content.</i></li> </ul>

Adapted from Azar, *Fundamentals of English Grammar*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Prentice-Hall, 1992).