

Reference 3.1: Around the Classroom

Determiners- Determiners are adjectives that go in front of the noun. They are called as such because they will determine: whether something is general or specific, ownership, what is being shown, etc. In Unit 3, we will work with determiners that function as articles.

Articles

Articles are determiners describe whether something is general or specific.

Definite Articles

In English, there is one definite article, which is the word “the”. However, because in Spanish a noun can be: masculine, feminine, singular or plural; this means that there are **four** ways to say the word “the”. There are four ways, because determiners are adjectives, and we know that adjectives must agree in gender and number.

“The”	When to Use It	Example	English
1. el	when the noun is masculine and singular	el escritorio	the desk
2. la	when the noun is feminine and singular	la pluma	the pen
3. los	when the noun is masculine and plural	los escritorios	the desks
4. las	when the noun is feminine and plural	las plumas	the pens

- Definite articles are used when the noun is specified. (We know which noun is referenced.)
- Definite articles are used when a noun stands alone.

Indefinite Articles

In English there are two indefinite articles, which are the words “a/an” or “some”. We use “a/an” in English when the noun is singular. We use “some” when the noun is plural.

“a/an”	When to Use It	Example	English
1. un	when the noun is masculine and singular	un escritorio	a desk
2. una	when the noun is feminine and singular	una pluma	a pen

“some”	When to Use It	Example	English
3. unos	when the noun is masculine and plural	unos escritorios	some desks
4. unas	when the noun is feminine and plural	unas plumas	some pens

- Indefinite articles are used when the noun is generalized. (When it could be any noun).
- Indefinite articles when singular can reference “one of something”.

What is the difference?

- “Yo necesito el lápiz.” I need the pencil.
 - This assumes that the person listening knows which pencil is being referenced.
- “Yo necesito un lápiz.” I need a pencil.
 - This assumes that any pencil will suffice.

Reference 3.1: Around the Classroom

los colores

- | | |
|---------------|-----------|
| 1. rojo | 1. red |
| 2. anaranjado | 2. orange |
| 3. amarillo | 3. yellow |
| 4. verde | 4. green |
| 5. azul | 5. blue |
| 6. morado | 6. purple |
| 7. rosado | 7. pink |
| 8. marrón | 8. brown |
| 9. negro | 9. black |
| 10. blanco | 10. white |
| 11. gris | 11. grey |

las descripciones

- | | |
|--------------|----------------------|
| 1. brillante | 1. bright |
| 2. claro | 2. light (color) |
| 3. grande | 3. large, big |
| 4. ligero | 4. light (not heavy) |
| 5. oscuro | 5. dark |
| 6. pequeño | 6. small |
| 7. pesado | 7. heavy |

los materiales

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| 1. el archivo | 1. file-cabinet |
| 2. el borrador, la goma | 2. eraser (whiteboard), eraser (pencil) |
| 3. el cajón | 3. bin |
| 4. el cartel | 4. poster |
| 5. el escritorio | 5. (teacher) desk |
| 6. el estante | 6. shelf |
| 7. el lápiz | 7. pencil |
| 8. el marcador | 8. marker |
| 9. el pegamento | 9. glue |
| 10. el proyector | 10. projector |
| 11. el pupitre | 11. (student) desk |
| 12. el resaltador | 12. highlighter |
| 13. el sacapuntas | 13. pencil-sharpener |
| 14. el suelo, piso | 14. floor |
| 15. el techo | 15. ceiling |
| 16. la bandera | 16. flag |
| 17. la basura | 17. the garbage, trash |
| 18. la calculadora | 18. calculator |
| 19. la carpeta | 19. folder |
| 20. la cinta | 20. tape |
| 21. la cortina | 21. curtain |
| 22. la grapadora | 21. stapler |
| 23. la mesa | 23. table |
| 24. la mochila | 24. backpack |
| 25. la pantalla | 25. screen |
| 26. la pared | 26. wall |
| 27. la pizarra | 27. whiteboard, chalkboard |
| 28. la pluma, el bolígrafo | 28. pen |
| 29. la puerta | 29. door |
| 30. la silla | 30. chair |
| 31. la tarjeta | 31. card |
| 32. la ventana | 32. window |
| 33. las tijeras | 33. scissors |