

ARTICLES

ARTICLES INDÉFINIS

→ Indéfini, non spécifié, non identifié



	singulier	pluriel
masculin	UN [ɛ̃]	DES [dɛ]
féminin	UNE [yn]	

When you wish to refer to a noun which is not previously specified or known, you will use the indefinite article : « a » or « an » in english for singular. The indefinite article is the same for both masculine and feminine forms, in english. But in french, you will have to accord with the gender of the noun, for masculin « un » and for feminine « une ».

Example : un livre^M [ɛ̃ livʁ] (a book)
une table^F [yn tabl] (a table)

If the noun starts with a vowel sound, you will have a « liaison » between the « n » and the noun, you have to pronounce the « n » with the vowel after.

Example : un ami^M [ɛ̃ nami] (a friend)
un ordinateur^M [ɛ̃ nɔʁdinatœʁ] (a computer)

When stating your profession, religion or nationality, the indefinite article is used in english but not in french.

Example : Je suis étudiant. [ʒə sɥi zetydjɑ̃] (I am a student)

The article « des » is omitted in english while in french it is compulsory, with no distinction of gender. For plural form you have to add an « s » at the end of a noun which is not sounded in french. If the noun starts with a vowel sound, you will have a « liaison » between the « s » and the noun, you have to pronounce « z » with the vowel after (for both feminine and masculin).

Example : un livre^M [ɛ̃ livʁ] → des livres^M [dɛ livʁ]
une table^F [yn tabl] → des tables^F [dɛ tabl]
un ami^M [ɛ̃ nami] → des amis^M [dɛ zami]
une amie^F [yn nami] → des amies^F [dɛ zami]

ARTICLES DÉFINIS

→ Défini, spécifié, identifié



	singulier	pluriel
masculin	LE [lə]	LES [lɛ]
	L' (+ voyelle) [l]	
féminin	LA [la]	
	L' (+ voyelle) [l]	

Contrary to english, all nouns in french need to be preceded by an article (or other type of determiners such as numbers, demonstrative or possessive adjectives...) As in english, the definite article « the » indicates a specific noun, but in french you will also use it to indicate generalities. The indefinite article change with the gender of the noun, for masculine « la » and for feminine « la » and if the noun starts with a vowel sound « l' ».

Example : Je regarde la table^F [ʒə ʁəɡaʁd la tabl] (I watch the table)
Je regarde le match^M [ʒə ʁəɡaʁd lə matʃ] (I watch the match)
J'aime le chocolat^M [ʒɛm lə ʃokola] (I like chocolate)
J'adore l'espagnol^M [ʒadɔʁ lɛspɑ̃ɔl] (I love spanish (language))

The article « les » is omitted in english while in french it is compulsory, with no distinction of gender. For plural form you have to add an « s » at the end of a noun which is not sounded in french. If the noun starts with a vowel sound, you will have a « liaison » between the « s » and the noun, you have to pronounce « z » with the vowel after (for both feminine and masculine).

Example : le livre^M [lə livʁ] → les livres^M [lɛ livʁ]
la table^F [la tabl] → les tables^F [lɛ tabl]
l'ami^M [lami] → les amis^M [lɛ zami]
l'amie^F [lami] → les amies^F [lɛ zami]