

## Unit 52: THE

We can use **the** at the beginning of a noun phrase. The form of **the** never changes: it is the same for singular, plural and mass nouns. This unit tells you when to use it.

### 1 When we can understand which thing / person

**a** From the situation:

It was a busy day. **The** restaurant was very crowded.

(The restaurant that I worked in today.)

We had a profitable shift. **The** restaurant brought in a lot of money and so did **the** bar.

(The restaurant and the bar this shift.)

When I left the restaurant, I shut off **the** lights and **the** cash register.

(The lights and the cash register in the restaurant.)

**b** Because it is well known:

**The** manager is increasing the prices again.

### 2 When we say which thing / person

**The** utensils **in** **IKEA** are rather inexpensive.

I cooked dinner on **the** Friday **before last**.

It was **the second** time he had been there.

**The** history **of** **your restaurant** is very interesting.

### 3 Also

**a** With musical instruments: She plays **the** piano beautifully.

**b** With some proper nouns (Unit 48).

NOTICE: **The**, or **a** / **an** / **some** / **any**, or nothing at all? (Unit 54.)