

# Names with and without the 1

**A** We do *not* use **the** with names of people ('Helen', 'Helen Taylor' etc.). In the same way, we do *not* normally use **the** with names of places. For example:

<i>continents</i>	Africa ( <i>not</i> the Africa), Europe, South America
<i>countries, states etc.</i>	France ( <i>not</i> the France), Japan, Switzerland, Texas
<i>islands</i>	Sicily, Bermuda, Tasmania
<i>cities, towns etc.</i>	Cairo, New York, Bangkok
<i>mountains</i>	Everest, Etna, Kilimanjaro



But we use **the** in names with **Republic, Kingdom, States** etc. :

**the** Czech Republic      **the** United Kingdom (**the** UK)  
**the** Dominican Republic      **the** United States of America (**the** USA)

Compare:

☐ Have you been to **Canada** or **the United States**?

**B** When we use Mr/Mrs/Captain/Doctor etc. + a name, we do not use **the**. So we say:

**Mr** Johnson / **Doctor** Johnson / **Captain** Johnson / **President** Johnson etc. (*not* the ...)  
**Uncle** Robert / **Saint** Catherine / **Princess** Maria etc. (*not* the ...)

Compare:

☐ We called **the** doctor.  
We called **Doctor** Johnson. (*not* the Doctor Johnson)

We use **mount** (= mountain) and **lake** in the same way (without **the**):

**Mount** Everest (*not* the ...) **Mount** Etna **Lake** Superior **Lake** Constance

☐ They live near **the** lake.

They live near **Lake** Constance. (*not* the Lake Constance)

**C** We use **the** with the names of oceans, seas, rivers and canals:

**the** Atlantic (Ocean)      **the** Red Sea      **the** Amazon  
**the** Indian Ocean      **the** Channel (between France and Britain)      **the** Nile  
**the** Mediterranean (Sea)      **the** Suez Canal

We use **the** with the names of deserts:

**the** Sahara (Desert)      **the** Gobi Desert

**D** We use **the** with *plural* names of people and places:

<i>people</i>	the Taylors (= the Taylor family), the Johnsons
<i>countries</i>	the Netherlands, the Philippines, the United States
<i>groups of islands</i>	the Canaries / the Canary Islands, the Bahamas
<i>mountain ranges</i>	the Rocky Mountains / the Rockies, the Andes, the Alps

☐ The highest mountain in **the Alps** is Mont Blanc.

**E** We say:

**the north** (of Brazil)      *but*      **northern** Brazil (*without* the)  
**the south-east** (of Spain)      *but*      **south-eastern** Spain

Compare:

☐ Sweden is in **northern** Europe; Spain is in **the south**.

Also **the** Middle East, **the** Far East

We also use **north/south** etc. (without **the**) in the names of some regions and countries:

**North** America      **South** Africa

Note that on maps, **the** is not usually included in the name.

77.1 Put in the where necessary. Leave the space empty if the sentence is already complete.

- Who is ..... Doctor Johnson? (*the sentence is complete without the*)
- I was ill, so I went to see ..... doctor.
- The most powerful person in ..... United States is ..... president.
- ..... President Kennedy was assassinated in 1963.
- Do you know ..... Wilsons? They're a very nice couple.
- Do you know ..... Professor Brown's phone number?

77.2 Some of these sentences are correct, but some need **the** (sometimes more than once). Correct the sentences where necessary.

- Everest was first climbed in 1953. OK
- Milan is in north of Italy. in the north of Italy
- Africa is much larger than Europe. .....
- Last year I visited Mexico and United States. .....
- South of England is warmer than north. .....
- Portugal is in western Europe. .....
- France and Britain are separated by Channel. .....
- Jim has travelled a lot in Middle East. .....
- Chicago is on Lake Michigan. .....
- Next year we're going skiing in Swiss Alps. .....
- UK consists of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. .....
- Seychelles are a group of islands in Indian Ocean. .....
- Africa's highest mountain is Kilimanjaro (5895 metres). .....
- River Volga flows into Caspian Sea. .....

77.3 Here are some geography questions. Choose the right answer from one of the boxes and write **the** if necessary. You do not need all the names in the boxes. Use an atlas if necessary.

<i>continents</i>	<i>countries</i>	<i>oceans and seas</i>	<i>mountains</i>	<i>rivers and canals</i>
Africa	Canada	<del>Atlantic</del>	Alps	Amazon      Rhine
Asia	Denmark	Indian Ocean	Andes	Danube      Thames
Australia	Indonesia	Pacific	Himalayas	Nile      Volga
Europe	Sweden	Black Sea	Rockies	Suez Canal
North America	Thailand	Mediterranean	Urals	Panama Canal
South America	United States	Red Sea		

- What do you have to cross to travel from Europe to America? the Atlantic
- Where is Argentina? .....
- Which is the longest river in Africa? .....
- Of which country is Stockholm the capital? .....
- Of which country is Washington the capital? .....
- What is the name of the mountain range in the west of North America? .....
- What is the name of the sea between Africa and Europe? .....
- Which is the smallest continent in the world? .....
- What is the name of the ocean between North America and Asia? .....
- What is the name of the ocean between Africa and Australia? .....
- Which river flows through London? .....
- Which river flows through Vienna, Budapest and Belgrade? .....
- Of which country is Bangkok the capital? .....
- What joins the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans? .....
- Which is the longest river in South America? .....