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# BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

## English In A Minute

### Three facts about 'the'



*This is not a word-for-word transcript*

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#### **Phil**

Hi I'm Phil from BBC Learning English. I'm going to tell you three facts about **the**. We use **the** when referring to a specific thing and both you and the person you're talking to know which one you mean. "Please pass me **the** milk." We can see the bottle so we know it's that one.

Don't use **the** when talking about something in general. For example "I love chocolate". We don't use **the** when it doesn't matter which thing we're talking about. We usually use **a** or **an**, here. "Give me a cup of tea, I don't care which cup, any cup will do."