

Adjectives and Articles

An **adjective** describes a noun or pronoun. It tells what kind, how many, or which one.

What Kind	a gigantic white iceberg
How Many	numerous icebergs; several chances
Which One	this lifeboat

The **articles** *a*, *an*, and *the* appear before nouns or other adjectives.

- Use **a** before words that begin with a consonant sound:

a disaster

a rapid speed

- Use **an** before words that begin with a vowel sound or a silent *h*:

an ending

an eerie noise

- Use **the** before words beginning with any letter:

the site

the passengers

An adjective formed from a proper noun is a **proper adjective**. Proper adjectives are capitalized:

American newspapers.