

# C

## INITIAL ARTICLES

### C.1 General Instructions

Omit the initial article(s) listed under C.2 and C.3 as instructed in [6.2.1.7 RDA](#), [9.2.2.25 RDA](#), [9.2.22.2 RDA](#), and [11.2.2.8 RDA](#). Consider only those definite and indefinite articles for names in the languages included in the lists under [C.2 RDA](#) and [C.3 RDA](#). The lists do not cover articles in all languages.

Generally consider those articles identified for a language also to apply to a dialect of that language.

For languages not included in the lists in [C.2](#) and [C.3](#), consult reference sources to determine if the language uses definite and/or indefinite articles.

### C.2 Articles Listed by Language

An asterisk (\*) after an indefinite article indicates that the same form is also used for the cardinal numeral one; take care to distinguish the meaning.

Term	Abbreviation
Afrikaans	die, `n
Albanian	një
Ancient Greek	[see separate table below]
Arabic	-ال
	al-, el-
Baluchi	al-
Basque	bat*
Brahui	al-
Breton	al, an, ar, eul*, eun*, eur*, ul*, un*, ur*

Catalan	el, els, en*, l', la, les, un*, una*
Danish	de, den, det, en*, et*
Dutch 't	de, een*, eene*, het, 'n,
English	a, an, d', de, the, ye
Esperanto	la
Fijian	a, e dua na, e na dua, na
French	l', la, le, les, un*, une*
Galician	a, as, o*, unha
German	das, dem, den, der, des, die, ein*, eine*, einem, einen, einer, eines
Hawaiian	he, ka, ke, na, o*
Hebrew	ה ha-, he-
Hungarian	a, az [not if used as “az az” (that) or “ez az” (this)], egy*
Icelandic	hin, hina, hinar, hinir, hinn, hinna, hinnar, hinni, hins, hinu, hinum, hið, 'r
Irish	an, an t-, an t [only in certain situations], na, na h-, na h [only in certain situations]
Italian	gl', gli, i, il, l', la, le, lo, un', un*, una*, uno*
Malagasy	ny
Maltese	il-, l-
Māori	he, ngā, te
Modern Greek	[see separate table below]
Neapolitan	'o
Niuean	a, e, e taha, ha, ko e

Norwegian	de, dei, den, det, e, ei*, ein*, eit*, en*, et*
Occitan	il, l', la, las, le, les, lh, lhi, li, lis, lo, los, lou, lu, un*, una*, uno*, uns, us
Old Provençal	ih', l', la, las, le, les, lh, lhi, li, lis, lo, los, lou, lu, un*, una*, uno*, uns, us
Panjabi (Perso-Arabic script)	-ال al-
Persian	-ال al-
Portuguese	a, as, o*, os, um*, uma*
Rarotongan	ngā, te
Romanian	o*, un*
Samoan	le, 'o le, 'o lo, 'o se, se
Scots	a, an ,ane
Scottish Gaelic	a', am, an, an t-, na, na h-
Shetland dialect	da
Spanish	el, la, las, lo, los, un*, una*
Swedish	de, den, det, en*, ett*
Tagalog	ang, ang mga, ang mḡ a, mga, mg a [“mga” or “mg a may be spelled as “manga” or “maḅ a”]
Tahitian	e, e tahi, hui, ma, maa, mau, na, o, pue, tau, te, te hoe
Tokelau	he, ko na, ko te, nā, ni, o, te
Tonga (Tonga Islands)	e, ha, he, ko e, ko ha, koe
Turkish	al-
Urdu	-ال al-

Walloon	des, ein*, enne, l', les, li
Western Frisian	de, 'e, in, it, 'n, 't
Western Panjabi	-ੳ al-
Welsh	y, yr
Yiddish	א, אן, דעם, דער, די, דאס, אײַן, אײַנע a, an, dem, der, di, die, dos, eyn*, eyne*
Ancient Greek	hai-α □ hē-□ ho-□ hoi-o □ ta-τά tain-τα □v tais-τα □ς tas-τάς tē-τ □ tēn-τήν tēs-τ □ς to-τό tō-τ □, τώ [dative masculine/ neuter singular form and nominative/accusative dual form, respectively] toin-το □v tois-;το □ς ton-τόν tōn-τ □v touto □
Modern Greek	hai — α □ (polytonic only) hē — η (monotonic), □ (polytonic) heis* — ε □ς (polytonic only) hen* — □v (polytonic only)

hena\* — ένα (monotonic), ένα (polytonic)

henan\* — έναν (monotonic),  
έναν (polytonic)

henas\* — ένας (monotonic),  
έναν (polytonic)

henos\* — ενός (monotonic),  
έναν (polytonic)

(polytonic)ho — ο (monotonic),  
έναν (polytonic)

hoi — οι (monotonic),

οί (polytonic)

mia\* — μια (monotonic), μία (polytonic)

mian\* — μιαν (monotonic), μίαν (polytonic)

mias\* — μιας (monotonic),  
μίας (polytonic)

ta — τα (monotonic), τά (polytonic)

tē — τη (monotonic), τή (polytonic)

tēs — της (monotonic), τής (polytonic)

tis — τις (monotonic), τίς (polytonic)

to — το (monotonic), τό (polytonic)

ton — τον (monotonic), τόν (polytonic)

tōn — των (monotonic), τών (polytonic)

tou — του (monotonic), τού (polytonic)

tous — τους (monotonic), τούς (polytonic)

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## C.3 Articles Listed by Word or Words

An asterisk (\*) after an indefinite article indicates that the same form is also used for the cardinal numeral one; take care to distinguish the meaning.

Article	Language(s)
a	English, Fijian, Galician, Hungarian, Niuean, Portuguese, Scots, Yiddish
a'	Scottish Gaelic
al	Breton
al-	Arabic, Baluchi, Brahui, Panjabi (Perso-Arabic script), Persian, Turkish, Urdu
am	Scottish Gaelic
an	Breton, English, Irish, Scots, Scottish Gaelic, Yiddish
an t-	Irish, Scottish Gaelic
an t [only in certain situations]	Irish
ane	Scots
ang	Tagalog
ang mga ["mga" may be spelled as "manga"]	Tagalog
ar	Breton
as	Galician, Portuguese
az — not if used as "az az" (that) or "ez az" (this)	Hungarian
bat*	Basque
d'	English
da	Shetland dialect
das	German
de	Danish, Dutch, English, Western Frisian, Norwegian, Swedish
dei	Norwegian
dem	German, Yiddish

den	Danish, German, Norwegian, Swedish
der	German, Yiddish
des	German, Walloon
det	Danish, Norwegian, Swedish
di	Yiddish
die	Afrikaans, German, Yiddish
dos	Yiddish
e	Niuean, Norwegian, Tahitian, Tonga (Tonga Islands)
'e	Western Frisian
e dua na	Fijian
e na dua	Fijian
e taha	Niuean
e tahi	Tahitian
een*	Dutch
eene*	Dutch
egy*	Hungarian
ei*	Norwegian
ein*	German, Norwegian, Walloon
eine*	German
einem	German
einen	German
einer	German
eines	German
eit*	Norwegian
el	Catalan, Spanish
el-	Arabic

els	Catalan
en*	Catalan, Danish, Norwegian, Swedish
enne	Walloon
et*	Danish, Norwegian
ett*	Swedish
eul*	Breton
eun*	Breton
eur*	Breton
eyn*	Yiddish
eyne*	Yiddish
gl'	Italian
gli	Italian
ha	Niuean, Tonga (Tonga Islands)
ha-	Hebrew
he	Hawaiian, Māori, Tokelau, Tonga (Tonga Islands)
hai	Ancient Greek, Modern Greek
he-	Hebrew
hē	Ancient Greek, Modern Greek
heis*	Modern Greek
hen*	Modern Greek
hena*	Modern Greek
henan*	Modern Greek
henas*	Modern Greek
henos*	Modern Greek
het	Dutch
hin	Icelandic

hina	Icelandic
hinar	Icelandic
hinir	Icelandic
hinn	Icelandic
hinna	Icelandic
hinnar	Icelandic
hinni	Icelandic
hins	Icelandic
hinu	Icelandic
hinum	Icelandic
hið	Icelandic
ho	Ancient Greek, Modern Greek
hoi	Ancient Greek, Modern Greek
hui	Tahitian
i	Italian
ih'	Old Provençal
il	Italian, Occitan, Old Provençal
il-	Maltese
in	Western Frisian
it	Western Frisian
ka	Hawaiian
ke	Hawaiian
ko e	Niuean, Tonga (Tonga Islands)
ko ha	Tonga (Tonga Islands)
ko na	Tokelau
ko te	Tokelau
koe	Tonga (Tonga Islands)

l'	Catalan, French, Italian, Provençal/Occitan, Walloon
l-	Maltese
la	Catalan, Esperanto, French, Italian, Occitan, Old Provençal, Spanish
las	Occitan, Old Provençal, Spanish
le	French, Italian, Occitan, Old Provençal, Samoan
les	Catalan, French, Occitan, Old Provençal, Walloon
lh	Occitan, Old Provençal
lhi	Occitan, Old Provençal
li	Occitan, Old Provençal, Walloon
lis	Occitan, Old Provençal
lo	Italian, Occitan, Old Provençal, Spanish
los	Occitan, Old Provençal, Spanish
lou	Occitan, Old Provençal
lu	Occitan, Old Provençal
ma	Tahitian
maa	Tahitian
mau	Tahitian
mga [may be spelled as “manga”]	Tagalog
mḡ a [may be spelled as “maṅḡ a”]	Tagalog
mia*	Modern Greek
mian*	Modern Greek
mias*	Modern Greek
'n	Afrikaans, Dutch, Western Frisian

na	Fijian, Hawaiian, Irish, Scottish Gaelic, Tahitian
nā	Tokelau
na h-	Irish, Scottish Gaelic
na h [only in certain situations]	Irish
ngā	Māori, Rarotongan
ni	Tokelau
një	Albanian
ny	Malagasy
o	Tahitian, Tokelau
'o	Neapolitan
o*	Galician, Hawaiian, Portuguese, Romanian
'o le	Samoan
'o lo	Samoan
'o se	Samoan
os	Portuguese
pue	Tahitian
'r	Icelandic
se	Samoan
't	Dutch, Western Frisian
ta	Ancient Greek, Modern Greek
tain	Ancient Greek
tais	Ancient Greek
tas	Ancient Greek
tau	Tahitian
te	Māori, Rarotongan, Tahitian, Tokelau

tē	Ancient Greek, Modern Greek
te hoe	Tahitian
tēn	Ancient Greek, Modern Greek
tēs	Ancient Greek, Modern Greek
the	English
tis	Modern Greek
to	Ancient Greek, Modern Greek
tō	Ancient Greek
toin	Ancient Greek
tois	Ancient Greek
ton	Ancient Greek, Modern Greek
tōn	Ancient Greek, Modern Greek
tou	Ancient Greek, Modern Greek
tous	Modern Greek
ul*	Breton
um*	Portuguese
uma*	Portuguese
un'	Italian
un*	Breton, Catalan, French, Italian, Occitan, Old Provençal, Romanian, Spanish
una*	Catalan, Italian, Occitan, Old Provençal, Spanish
une*	French
unha	Galician
uno*	Italian, Occitan, Old Provençal
uns	Occitan, Old Provençal
ur*	Breton

us	Occitan, Old Provençal
y	Welsh
ye	English
yr	Welsh