

ACADEMIC WRITING

A HISTORY OF NOW: RISE OF THE CHAV

1) Watch this videoclip

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ybh3znOMft4>

APPENDIX 6: ARTICLES (cf. Greenbaum & Quirk 1998: 70-92)

1) **FORM:** the zero article, the definite article 'the', the indefinite articles 'a' and 'an'. 'Some' is a quantifier.

2) PRONUNCIATION

'a' is pronounced as a schwa, /ə/. You put it before a consonant sound, e.g. a bank, a thing, a European.

'an' is pronounced /ən/ and is used before a vowel sound, e.g. an economist, an employee, an item, an hour.

'the' is pronounced /ðə/ before a consonant sound, e.g. the date, the time, the euro.

'the' is pronounced /ði/ before a vowel sound, e.g. the average, the end, the image, the honest employee.

3) RATIONALE

Articles are used to indicate Generic Reference or Specific Reference, with Definite or Indefinite meaning:

	COUNTABLE NOUNS (singular)	COUNTABLE NOUNS (plural)	UNCOUNTABLE NOUNS
Generic Reference: i.e. in general	<i>an / the Aussie</i>	<i>Aussies</i>	<i>(zero article) beer</i>
Specific Reference: (indefinite meaning) i.e. unidentified	<i>an Aussie</i>	<i>(some) Aussies</i>	<i>(some) beer</i>
Specific Reference: (definite meaning) i.e. identified	<i>the Aussie</i>	<i>the Aussies</i>	<i>the beer</i>

4) PRESENTATION

An Aussie, is a bloke who comes from Australia. Aussies like drinking and they love cold beer. This is the story of an Aussie who was working on a remote sheep farm with some other Aussies. One of the Aussies was bitten by a snake, so the Aussie radioed the flying doctor to ask what he should do. "Get some beer inside him now or it'll be really painful," said the flying doctor. So the Aussie went into the kitchen, opened the fridge, took the only can of beer left, and ran into his mate's room. His mate sat up in bed and said, "What's the story, Bruce ?". The Aussie opened the can, drank the beer and said, "I'm sorry, mate, it's going to be really painful."

5) ANALYSIS

An Aussie, is a bloke who comes from Australia

(generic reference / singular)

Aussies like drinking

(generic reference / plural)

They love cold beer

(generic reference / uncountable noun)

This is the story of an Aussie who was working...

(specific reference / indefinite meaning / singular)

with some other Aussies.

(specific reference / indefinite meaning / plural)

One of the Aussies was bitten by a snake,

(specific reference / definite meaning / plural)

so the Aussie radioed the flying doctor.

(specific reference / definite meaning / singular)

"Get some beer inside him now"

(specific reference / indefinite meaning / uncountable)

The Aussie opened the can, drank the beer

(specific reference / definite meaning / uncountable)

6) PRACTICE: Study the pictures, then fill in the gaps with a, an, the, some, or — (zero article).



Straight hair that's bleached on top and dyed dark below.

Bottle of vodka

Top of thong visible

Wide belt

Skirt that's barely wider than belt.

Average age 17 but can range up to 55.



Loud mouth

Mobile Phone

Bra straps showing

Cleavage
Tiny top

Bare tummy, whatever the weather

Belly ring

Handbag

Naked legs

Calf high boots (also available in beige.)

(1)..... word 'chav' is (2)..... derogatory term applied to (3)..... young boisterous working class people in the UK. (4)..... stereotypical 'chav' is (5)..... aggressive teenager or young adult who engages in (6)..... rowdy, anti-social behaviour, such as street drinking, drug abuse, theft, robbery and violence. They are often assumed to be unemployed or in (7)..... low-paid job. 'Chav' first appeared in (8)..... English dictionaries in 2005 along with 'chavette', (9)..... term generally used for female chavs. Journalists soon noticed that (10)..... clothing was particularly popular with chavs, such as hoodies, tracksuits and trainers by Nike and/or Adidas, (11)..... Burberry chequered/tartan baseball cap and 'bling' (large shiny jewellery). Burberry immediately tried to distance itself from (12)..... chavs, arguing that (13)..... caps must be stolen or counterfeit and that (14)..... brand wanted nothing to do with (15)..... loud, brash, vulgar bad taste associated with the social stereotype.

Etymology: 'Chav' may derive from (16)..... Romani word for 'boy', 'chavo', or 'chaveys', meaning (17)..... 'children' in (18)..... Kent dialect. Here are some chav jokes:

Q: What do you call (19)..... chav in (20)..... tastefully decorated house ?

A: (21)..... burglar.

Q: What do you call (22)..... chavette in (23)..... white tracksuit?

A: (24)..... bride.

Q: You're in your car and you see (25)..... chav on (26)..... bike, why should you try not to hit him ?

A: It might be your bike.

7) USE

1. SITUATIONAL REERENCE:

1a.) We use 'the' to refer to something within the **immediate situation**, such as 'the stairs', 'the kitchen' or 'the teacher', where the identity of the noun is obvious because there is usually only one in the situation we are describing (e.g. 'Please shut the door', 'She's in the garden', 'He parked the car', 'They've gone to the beach').

1b.) We also use 'the' to refer to something within the **larger situation**, such as 'the Pope', 'the sun' or 'the Prime Minister', where the identity of the noun is obvious because there is only one of its kind (e.g. 'The moon was rising over the sea', 'It seemed like the end of the world', 'The President left office', 'The Queen is dead').

2. JOBS & OCCUPATIONS

We put 'a' / 'an' before the names of professions and occupations, e.g. 'She's a doctor', 'He's an accountant', 'John's a mechanic', 'Jane is an architect', 'Tracy's a baby-sitter'.

3. RELIGIOUS FAITHS

We use 'a' / 'an' with the names of those who follow certain religions, e.g. 'He's a Catholic, she's a Protestant', 'Jane is a Buddhist', 'Mr Arifin is a Muslim', 'Mrs Patel is a Hindu'. (NB. If you use an adjective, e.g. 'He's Jewish', 'Farida is Muslim', 'Hilda is Christian', the article is unnecessary).

4. NATIONALITIES

We put 'a' / 'an' before a noun indicating someone's nationality, 'George is an Englishman and Amy is an Englishwoman', 'He's an American', 'My boss is a Frenchwoman', 'He's a Spaniard', 'She's a German', 'Hamlet was a Dane'. (NB. If we use an adjective, e.g. 'Sonya is Danish', 'He's French', 'She's Spanish', 'Jim is Australian', 'Paola is Italian', the article is not used).

5. RATES, PRICES, SPEEDS etc.

We use 'a' / 'an' to mean 'per', 'each' or 'every' when talking about rates, prices, speeds etc., e.g. 'The speed limit is thirty miles an hour', 'It costs fifty-two dollars a year', 'Grapes are four euros a kilo', 'A single room is fifty pounds a night', 'He smokes twenty cigarettes a day', 'She drinks five pints a night'.

6. BUILDINGS, INSTITUTIONS & PLACES

6a.) We put 'the' before words like 'school', 'college', 'university', 'hospital', 'church', 'court', 'prison', 'market' etc. when we are referring to the building or the premises, e.g. 'To get to the new hospital, turn right after the church and the village school', 'The prison cost a lot of money to build', 'The county court is opposite the market'.

6b.) We do not put 'the' before words like 'school', 'college', 'university', 'hospital', 'church', 'court', 'market', 'prison', 'home', 'work' etc. when we refer to them as institutions or emphasize their use, e.g. 'First she went to school, then to college and now she attends university', 'My father is in hospital and my brother is in prison', 'I'll see you in court', 'I go to work at eight o'clock in the morning and I come back home at six o'clock in the evening' (NB. We can also say, 'I go to the office / shop / factory at eight o'clock in the morning').

6c.) If we say, 'He went to sea at the age of sixteen', it means that he worked there as a sailor. If we say, 'He went by the sea', it means that he went to the beach, probably to have fun and enjoy himself.

6d.) If we say, 'They went to bed', it means that they went to lie down, rest and/or sleep. 'They went to bed together', on the other hand, indicates that they had a sexual relationship. The definite article, e.g. 'The cat sat on the bed', refers to the bed as a piece of furniture, not its use, implying that the situation was temporary and that it was not the cat's bed.

7.) EXPRESSIONS OF TIME

7a.) We do not usually put an article before years, e.g. 'in 2012', 'in 1973'.

7b.) We usually put an article before the names of seasons, e.g. 'in the spring', 'in the summer', 'in the autumn', 'in the winter' but it is also possible to omit the article, e.g. 'in winter', 'last summer', 'next autumn', 'this spring'.

7c.) We do not usually put an article before the names of months, e.g. 'In January', 'Last February', 'Next March', 'This December'.

7d.) We do not usually put an article before the names of festivals and Holy Days, e.g. 'In Lent', 'Last Christmas', 'Next Easter', 'On New Year's Eve', 'During Ramadan'.

7e.) We do not usually put an article before the names of days, e.g. 'This Tuesday', 'Next Wednesday', 'Last Thursday'.

7f.) We do not usually put an article before the names of meals, e.g. 'At breakfast', 'After lunch', 'Before dinner', 'During supper'.

7g.) We do not usually put an article before the names of certain parts of the day, e.g. 'At midday', 'At noon', 'Before midnight', 'At night'.

7h.) However, you must use an article in the following expressions, 'In the morning', 'In the afternoon', 'In the evening', 'During the night', and to indicate a particular year / season / month / festival / day / meal, e.g. 'The Maya believed that the world would end in the year 2012', 'The summer of 2003 was particularly long and hot', 'The August of 2009 was unusually dry', 'The best Christmas I can remember was when I was nine years old', 'He left his job on the Tuesday before last', 'I didn't like the dinner we were served during the flight'.

8) PEOPLE

8a.) We do not usually put an article before the names of people, e.g. 'Mr Smith has arrived', 'Ms Jones has just checked out', 'Judy called after Andrew had left'.

8b.) We put the article 'the' before the names of families or groups of people, e.g. 'The Simpsons', 'The Archers', 'The Arabs', 'The Highlanders', 'The Dayaks', 'The Eskimos'.

9) CONTINENTS

We do not put an article before the names of continents, e.g. 'I was born in Europe and I've been to Africa and Asia but I haven't visited Australia, America or Antarctica yet.'

10) COUNTRIES, STATES & NATIONS

10a.) We do not usually put an article before the name of a country or a state, e.g. 'I've lived in Germany and France but I would really like to work in Switzerland', 'Texas is bigger than Delaware', 'Holland and Zealand are part of the same country' (NB. 'The Vatican' and 'The Ukraine' are exceptions to this rule).

10b.) We put the article 'the' before the names of countries or groups of countries which contain a number of separate states, e.g. 'The United States of America' (50 states), 'The Netherlands' (7 states), 'The United Arab Emirates', 'The West Indies', 'The European Union', 'The CIS (Confederation of Independent States)'.

11) MOUNTAINS & LAKES

11a.) We do not usually put the article 'the' before the names of individual mountains or lakes, e.g. 'Mount Everest', 'K2', 'Lake Superior', 'Lake Geneva', 'Loch Ness'.

11b.) We put the article 'the' before the names of mountain chains or groups of lakes, e.g. 'The Andes', 'The Alps', 'The Apennines', 'The Dolomites', 'The Himalayas', 'The Great Lakes'.

12) RIVERS & CANALS

We put the article 'the' before the names of rivers and canals, e.g. 'The River Thames', 'The Nile', 'The Amazon', 'The Panama Canal', 'The Suez Canal', 'The Grand Canal'.

13) SEAS & OCEANS

We put the article 'the' before the names of seas and oceans, e.g. 'The Atlantic Ocean', 'The Pacific Ocean', 'The Indian Ocean', 'The Red Sea', 'The Mediterranean'.

14) VILLAGES, TOWNS & CITIES

We do not usually put the article 'the' before the names of villages, towns or cities, e.g. 'Stratford-upon-Avon is a beautiful little town', 'New York is a fascinating city', 'Singapore was originally a fishing village' (NB. The capital city of the Netherlands, 'The Hague', is an exception to this rule).

15) HOTELS, CINEMAS, THEATRES, MUSEUMS & GALLERIES

We usually put the article 'the' before the names of hotels, cinemas, theatres, museums and galleries, e.g. 'The Hilton Hotel', 'The Hotel Cosmopolitan', 'The Odeon Cinema', 'The Globe Theatre', 'The Imperial War Museum', 'The Tate Gallery'.

16) AIRPORTS & STATIONS

We do not usually put the article 'the' before the names of airports or stations, e.g. 'Heathrow Airport', 'Grand Central Station', 'Victoria Coach Station'.

17) SPORTS & GAMES

We do not usually put the article 'the' before the names of sports and games, e.g. 'He plays rugby', 'She hates football', 'Shall we play Scrabble?'

18) MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

We usually put the article 'the' before the names of musical instruments, e.g. 'She plays the piano', 'He plays the violin', 'They can both play the guitar'.

19) EXPRESSIONS WITH 'OF'

We usually put the article 'the' in expressions with 'of', e.g. 'The University of London', 'The House of Representatives', 'The Prince of Wales', 'The Duchess of Cambridge', 'The cost of living', 'The rate of inflation', 'The level of unemployment', 'The north of England', 'The centre of town'.

20) ABSTRACT NOUNS

We do not usually put an article before the names of abstract qualities, such as 'hope', 'knowledge', 'courage', 'equality', 'solidarity', 'discrimination', 'brotherhood', 'fairness' etc.

Fill the gaps below with a, an, the, some or – (zero article)

1) CAPTAIN CALAMITY !

Crossing Atlantic Ocean single-handed is challenge that should be attempted by only greatest yachtsmen and women. In August 2010, Mr Sebury left Newport in South Wales in five-metre boat specially equipped with apple pie cans of beer, and road map showing Welsh coast. His yacht got as far as Scilly Islands before engine failed. By now, he was totally lost and spent night in middle of naval torpedo range. He was eventually rescued by officers from Royal Navy who found him vomiting into water, shouting, "Take me home and sink boat ! I'll never go to sea again !"

2) Many years ago, American pacifist, concerned by crime and violence, decided to sell his home in Detroit in United States and move to quiet part of world where peace was guaranteed. After months of deliberation, he chose remotest and safest spot in South America. He moved to Falkland Islands just five days before Argentine army invaded.

3) Oxfam is charity which has existed since early 1940's. It was originally founded to help starving children in Greece but, since then, it has expanded and now funds projects on several continents, especially in Africa. Oxfam does not believe that either poverty or famine are inevitable and tries to get to their root causes. They also make effort to help women, since women and children are invariably poorest of all world's poor people.

4) Clare went into the pub and looked around her. There was woman playing piano. She was singing old Irish song about a boy from Dublin who had gone to United States to find work. At table at back of the room was Tom O'Connor, man she had come to meet. "Have you got papers ?" he asked. "No, I haven't," she replied. "I've given them to police. I hope they arrest you and send you to prison."

Go to this website:

<https://www.oxbridgeessays.com>

Articles: complete the text below with a, an, the, some or —

ESSAY MILLS: Multi-Million-Pound Online Industry

Despite fact that tuition fees have tripled in last five years, more and more young people are choosing to attend British universities. However, once they get to institution of their choice, students find themselves ill-prepared for higher education or unsuited to their chosen course of study, while others fall behind due to ill-health or adverse personal circumstances. Unable to keep up with volume of course-work required of them, an increasing number of undergraduates contact 'essay mills' (i.e. private companies which provide papers, essays, theses or dissertations on any subject, written by experts in return for money) and simply buy whatever they need to fulfill requirements of their course. So, is this practice illegal in UK and, if not, should it be banned ?

..... first part of the question is easy to answer. 'Academic malpractice', which can take number of forms, including plagiarism, submitting work written by someone else, collusion and cheating in examinations, is not actually crime. Each institution of higher education has its own rules governing what constitutes 'academic malpractice' and a range of sanctions and punishments depending on the severity of the offence. universities take it extremely seriously, others are reluctant to accuse students, who may retaliate by legal means and force them to settle the matter in court, which is time-consuming and expensive. In many cases, accusations of misconduct are based on tutor's suspicions and, unless student is actually caught in act, such cases are extremely difficult to prove now that each essay is submitted anonymously and person marking it has no idea who wrote it, let alone whether his/her style has changed to a suspicious degree since beginning of the academic year.

As for 'essay mills', most of them describe themselves as 'academic research companies' and clearly state on their websites that essay they provide within 12-48 hours for £400, is only guide, model answer which student can use to improve his/her own academic work. Online companies, such as OxbridgeEssays, UKessays, EssaysUK, UKbestEssays, Okessays and DissertationHomework, claim that their activities are perfectly legal and that, should British government criminalize them at some point in the future, they will simply move abroad to foreign country and continue their activities, as before. Not only would problem continue unabated but UK economy would lose a considerable amount of income tax from what is, by now, multi-million-pound industry.

On other hand, supporters of practice would claim that, firstly, there is no significant difference between asking friend to write an essay for you and simply buying one from company. It might be unethical but it should not be treated as criminal matter. Secondly, Times Academic Misconduct Survey found that foreign students from Asia and USA are most likely to contact essay mill for help, and that this is understandable given their unfamiliarity with British system. In these cases, it may be that 'academic research company' in question really is providing anxious student with model answer which will improve his/her academic work in future. Thirdly, undergraduates have more to lose than ever before and simply cannot afford to fail a course for want of an essay, with prospect of a £50,000 student loan to pay off at end of three years, and no qualification to show for it. Lastly, many employers simply will not interview third-class graduates and restrict recruitment to those with upper-second class or first-class degree. In this case, logic of market prevails and universities have no-one to blame but themselves if students now view B.A. as commodity which is not only extremely expensive but useless in career terms if it is not up to the required standard. Given that most graduates end up doing a job that is in no way related to their degree course, it is understandable that they are unconcerned about how they obtain required result, as long as they obtain it.

In conclusion, I would say that, although use of essay mills is, for the moment, legal, it devalues reputation of British academic qualifications in general and is ultimately self-destructive. As for banning them in name of fairness, I fear that Internet has effectively removed them from British jurisdiction, so any law attempting to curb their activities, no matter how just, will be ineffective in long term.

WRITING ACTIVITY

Compare and contrast the kinds of academic malpractice typical of a university in your country with those found in British Higher Education. Explain how serious these problems are and what can be done to resolve them.

Chat GPT3

How to Use ChatGPT to Write an Essay or Article in 60 Seconds!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iFHojcVaV9c>

Jordan Peterson's Disturbing Warning About AI and ChatGPT...

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mUkTz_1uzSs

'Most of our friends use AI in schoolwork'

<https://www.bbc.com/news/education-67236732>