

Articles: The + Plural Noun for Generic Meaning

USE: “**THE**” can be used with plural nouns to indicate groups of animals or plants that are the focus of attention.

The World Wildlife Fund wants to protect the wolves.

The maple trees in Canada are famous for producing delicious maple syrup.

“**THE**” can also be used with social, political, religious or national groups, but is not necessary in this case.

(The) Communists do not believe in capitalism.

(The) Liberals and (the) Conservatives are two of the biggest political parties in Canada.

(The) Buddhists often use meditation as part of their faith.

(The) Canadians have a very multicultural society.

“**THE**” is necessary with national groups that don’t take plural endings.

the Scottish, the Chinese, the French, the Chinese

For each plural noun below, write a generic sentence. Use THE with the nouns where possible.

1. Americans

2. teachers

3. musicians

4. Catholics

5. environmentalists

6. Spanish
