GUIDE TO ITALIAN ARTICLES

Articles must agree in number and gender with the noun they are paired with. They also may change depending on the first letter of the noun. All the rules can seem a bit tricky at first, but you will get the hang of them with practice!

FEMININE DEFINITE (THE) ARTICLES

SINGULAR

la : for all singular masculine nouns that start with all consonants

l' : for all singular feminine nouns that start with vowels

PLURAL

le : for all plural feminine nouns, no matter what they start with

FEMININE INDEFINITE (A/AN) ARTICLES

SINGULAR

una : for all singular feminine nouns that start with consonants

un' : for all singular feminine nouns that start with vowels

PLURAL

No plurals for indefinite (like there is no plural article for English "a/an")

MASCULINE DEFINITE (THE) ARTICLES

SINGULAR

il : for all singular masculine nouns that start with "normal" consonants

lo : for all singular masculine nouns that start with 'weird' consonants: z, ps, gn, s+consonant

l' : for all singular masculine nouns that start with vowels

PLURAL

i : for all plural masculine nouns that start with "normal" consonants

gli : for all plural masculine nouns that start with 'weird' consonants (z, ps, gn, s+consonant) & all plural masculine nouns that start with vowels [think of gli as the plural for lo and l']

MASCULINE INDEFINITE (A/AN) ARTICLES

SINGULAR

un : for all singular masculine nouns that start with "normal" consonants and vowels

uno : for all singular masculine nouns that start with 'weird' consonants: z, ps, gn, s+consonant

PLURAL

No plurals for indefinite (like there is no plural article for English "a/an")

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