

Nom: \_\_\_\_\_

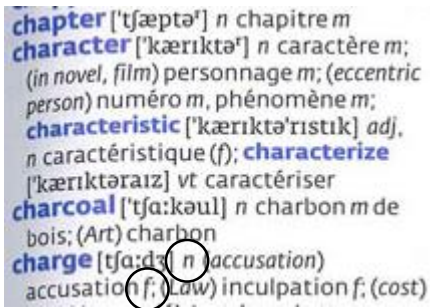
### French Articles Notes

\*\*\*You will need a French-English dictionary for this lesson\*\*\*

All nouns in French have a *gender*. A **noun** is a person, place or thing. Nouns in French are either **masculine** or **feminine**. There are ways to know whether or not a noun is a masculine or feminine, other than knowing from memory, you can also:

- A. Check a French-English dictionary
- B. Check the article in front of the word

#### **PART A: Using a French-English Dictionary**



Notice that the words “chapter, character, charcoal, and charge” are followed by the letter *n*, which identifies the word as a noun. It is then followed by the word in French and another letter, either *m* or *f*. These letters indicate the gender of the noun, *m* for *masculine* and *f* for *feminine*.

Example: charge – *n accusation f* → we know the word *accusation* is a noun and it is *feminine*.

You can also find the same letters on the French side of the dictionary.

#### **PART B: French Articles**

*What is an article?* An article is a kind of adjective that is always used with, and gives some information about, a noun. The two main articles are **A/AN** and **THE**.

- **A/AN** is an *indefinite* article because it is general. When someone says that they want to sit in a chair, you would probably give them any chair that is available.
- **THE** is a *definite* article because it is specific, the noun is clearly defined. When someone asks to sit in **the** chair, you would probably say “that chair?” or ask “which one?” The person is asking to sit in a specific chair.

In French, they are used in the same way, check out the chart below.

	Meaning	Masculine	Feminine	Plural	Used when the noun starts with a vowel
<b>Definite Articles</b>	the	<i>le</i>	<i>la</i>	<i>les</i>	<i>l'</i>
<b>Indefinite Articles</b>	a	<i>un</i>	<i>une</i>	*Note: <i>les</i> and <i>l'</i> cannot tell us the gender of the noun, you will have to look it up in the dictionary.	
	some				

**Practice:** CIRCLE the article, identify the TYPE OF ARTICLE (definite or indefinite) and the GENDER of the following nouns.

	Type of Article	Gender
<i>La température</i>		
<i>Le temps</i>		
<i>La météo</i>		
<i>Le printemps</i>		
<i>Le monde</i>		
<i>Un étudiant(e)</i>		
<i>Un professeur</i>		
<i>Un garçon</i>		
<i>Une fille</i>		
<i>Un ami</i>		
<i>Des bonbons*</i>		
<i>Les petits gâteaux*</i>		
<i>Le basketball</i>		
<i>Le soccer</i>		
<i>La musique</i>		
<i>Une chanson</i>		
<i>Les maths*</i>		
<i>L'art*</i>		
<i>Les sciences*</i>		
<i>L'éducation physique*</i>		
<i>L'anglais*</i>		
<i>Le français</i>		
*You will need to use a French-English dictionary to find the gender of these words. Begin by looking in the French section of the book.		