

*Article* is a noun.

The English word *article* has its roots in the Latin *articulus* ("small connecting part"), the diminutive of *artus* ("joint"). It is a product of a past development, of a movement across different languages, contexts, and times. The result, however, is preliminary: as connections change, the use of the word will continue to shift, and its current meaning might then become a source.

An article is a particular item or separate thing, especially one of several things of a similar type or in the same place. The proposed worth of an object – the price of a product is evaluated in relation to its provenance, brand, functionality, material substance and condition, authenticity and rarity, and other more or less quantifiable parameters. Within official systems and prevailing economies, the mechanisms that construct and ascribe value are often concealed by the "objective" character of comparison, by the illusion of weighing two articles on a single scale.

An article is a separate item in an agreement or a contract. Formal arrangements between individuals or groups establish ownership, responsibility, liability. Signs and signatures. Contracts of different sorts govern people's private and professional lives. Written – unwritten laws shape how they may interact with each other. With the authority of the written word, rules and norms define what is deemed right or wrong, accepted or tabooed, valuable or worthless. Understanding these structures means recognizing their composition, including the small connecting parts, such as the articles, that constitute them.

An article is a piece of writing about a particular subject in a newspaper or magazine, on a website, etc. Writing about a subject, as a subject – as an object. Writing is content, but also form, medium, movement. It's cerebral and visceral, thinking and feeling, understanding and expressing. The boundary between writing and drawing is clearly defined and yet fluid. Drawn on paper, letters and lines transition into matter. Every word – sign – implicates new perspectives, possibilities, structures, or values. Here, language is currency, and writing, as much as drawing, is physical communication, always already a translation; a transfer onto a medium through which it is carried and shared.

Indefinite and definite articles are used to show whether or not the noun that follows refers to a specific person or thing. They are small connecting parts, dependent on the nouns that they are linked with. As determiners – *Nomenbegleiter* – they accompany and introduce. Their distinct function is to clarify, to connect, as it were, the source with the receiver. Other determiners, such as "this," "some," or "their" indicate specificity, quantity, or possession. Such declarations of property tend to separate or dissociate. This, not that. Mine, not yours. A few, but not all.

An indefinite article is the word "a" or "an" in English. It identifies a single, but not specific, person or thing. It represents.

A definite article is the word "the" in English. It is used to refer to identified or specified people or things, both singular and plural. One or many. It points to a particular instance, whether it's unique (like "the right word"), previously mentioned (like "the small connecting part"), or understood from context (like "the works" in the exhibition). Context is essential and influential. It informs, impacts, affects; and it has the ability to establish, change, or inverse a thing's – a word's – a work's signification and significance.

The plural of *article* is *articles*.

The works present a plurality of approaches that investigate, reflect, or comment on the tensions and translations between economical and emotional value, material and symbolic meaning, between translation and interpretation, commonality and specificity.