

## Mr. Hundhausen's NEW MAGIC ☺ article system

In English, you **must** put every singular thing into one of three categories:

### Category I: Uncountable

NO ARTICLE

emotions (love, hate, anger)

foods and powders (garlic, sugar, flour, sand, dust, soil)

liquids (wine, water, Kofola)

gases (oxygen, air)

activities based on a verb (swimming, running, thinking)

academic subjects (geography, history, Physical Education)

### Category II: Unique

THE

The world, the sun, the moon, the queen, the President of the CR, the internet, the boss

1) Ordinal numbers: the 1<sup>st</sup>, the 5<sup>th</sup>, the 20<sup>th</sup>

2) Superlatives: the funniest, the fastest, the most intelligent

3) The last, the next, the only, the right, the wrong

4) Defined immediately: the price OF petrol, the dog THAT bit my cat  
(using OF or a relative pronoun)

### Category III: One of many

A/AN

1) expressions of quantity or containers: a pack of cigarettes, a tube of toothpaste, a majority of Slovaks (are cute), a series of problems, a lot of time, a bit of sugar, a flock of sheep, a herd of cows

!!!!!! Careful! When you mention it the 2<sup>nd</sup> time, it moves to Category II.

### Plurals:

The first time you talk about a plural, use NO ARTICLE.

The second time, use THE.

If you define which things, use THE: The students of DAMU think that they are very important.