

Abstract

This work intends to offer a general view of the cases in which the contemporary Italian grammar omits the article.

The various types of articles and noun phrases will be presented in the first section just briefly, only to give the reader an overall background in which put the cases with the zero article. A special attention will be given to the cases that permit oppositions between the use of an article and the use of the zero article.

Therefore what will be examined primarily will be: the plural of undetermined noun phrases, numerals, mass nouns, proper nouns, family nouns, possessives, verb+noun constructions, ellipsis and left dislocations.

This work is addressed in a special way to students of Italian, who will be able to find, in the different chapters, many explanations to the most occurring questions concerning the appropriate use of the zero article.