

Are you looking for material
to prepare for your
Cambridge English Exam?



Zero article vs definite article for some locations with change in meaning.

If someone is at the place because they are a student / are sick / a prisoner, etc, we don't use **THE**.

If they are there for another reason, or we are talking about the building, we use **THE**.

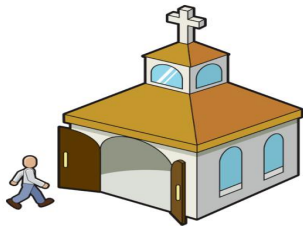
ZERO ARTICLE

RELATIONSHIP TO THAT PLACE



We are going to school.

(=we are students)



I'm going to church.

(=I'm a churchgoer)



I'm in hospital.

(=I'm a patient—I'm sick and being taken care of in a hospital)



She is in prison.

(=She is a prisoner— she committed a crime and is kept in prison as a punishment)

DEFINITIVE ARTICLE : THE

LOCATION



We are going to the school.

(=we are heading to the school building)



I'm going to the church.

(=I'm heading to the church building)



We are in the hospital.

(=We're visiting someone who is in hospital, or we're there for another reason)



She is in the prison.

(=She is visiting someone who is in prison, or she's there for another reason)