

2. Articles

2.1 Definite article

The definite article is *te* (before vowels: *t'*), and does not inflect for gender, case or number.

<i>fayel</i>	bird
<i>te fayel</i>	the bird
<i>fayeles</i>	birds
<i>te fayeles</i>	the birds

<i>amar</i>	bin
<i>t'amar</i>	the bin

See also 7.2 CONTRACTIONS for details of preposition-and-article contractions such as *ete* (*ew te*) and *inte* (*int te*).

You may sometimes come across the old neuter form *et* or the old case forms *ten*, *tem*, *ter* in dialectal speech, set phrases, or in certain surnames.

Here is the complete paradigm of the definite article, as used in former times. As noted above, *te* is now generally used in all cases and genders, but some forms have been preserved under non-standard circumstances.

	m	f	nt	pl
nom	<i>te</i>	<i>te</i>	<i>et</i>	<i>te</i>
acc	<i>te</i>	<i>ten</i>	<i>et</i>	<i>te</i>
dat	<i>tem</i>	<i>ter</i>	<i>et</i>	<i>tem</i>
gen	<i>ete</i>	<i>ete</i>	<i>ew et</i>	<i>ete</i>

2.2 Indefinite article

The indefinite article is always *an*, and the partitive article (English "some") is always *ans*.

<i>fayel</i>	bird
<i>an fayel</i>	a bird
<i>ans fayeles</i>	some birds

2.3 Inclusion of the definite article

In Jameld the definite article is used before certain abstract nouns indicating major concepts, especially:

<i>te liub</i>	love	(<i>Te liub nazë leck.</i> Love never fails.)
<i>te hafst</i>	hate	
<i>t'eléf</i>	life	(<i>T'eléf jist an skat.</i> Life is a treasure.)
<i>te doth</i>	death	
<i>te monnsort</i>	mankind	
<i>te natür</i>	nature	
<i>te heman</i>	heaven	
<i>te paradis</i>	paradise	

The list above is not exhaustive.

The definite article is also used before the names of the seasons. For example:

<i>Ven al leri inte t̄spinne.</i>	We're going there in spring.
(But: <i>Ven al leri ëdar t̄spinne.</i>	We go there every spring.)
<i>Te heft̄s kümne.</i>	Autumn is starting.

Inalienable possessions (typically parts of the body and family members) are also often preceded by the definite article rather than a possessive adjective where the context makes the possessor clear. For example:

<i>M'ave an pön inte hant.</i>	I have a pain in my hand. (lit. in the hand)
<i>Es papt̄sta met te mãthi.</i>	She spoke to her mother. (lit. to the mother)

2.4 Omission of the definite article

The definite article is often omitted in Jameld in names of works or publications. For example:

<i>Seya Jorthel'ü</i>	The Saga of Jorthel
<i>Zuraalantkronik</i>	The Zuraaland Chronicle (a newspaper)

2.5 Omission of the indefinite article

The indefinite article is often omitted in Jameld in certain contexts where it would be included in English, especially when describing people's profession or nationality. For example:

E jist Tskotaz.

He's (a) Scotsman.

Me jist oberquichtat.

I'm (a) translator.

However, the article returns before an adjective:

E jist an wéri Tskotaz.

He's a true Scotsman.

Me jist veln an nankani oberquichtat. I'm just a humble translator.