



There are two categories of articles in English

or

The neighbor dog barked at me again

A neighbor dog barked at me again

The speaker is referring to a specific neighbor dog one has probably been mentioned before. The is specific

The speaker is referring to a dog that could belong to any one of his/her neighbors

When the word begins with a consonant
Example: We saw an armadillo on the side of the road

When the word begins with a vowel
Example: We saw a raccoon on the side of the road

When defining articles makes sense when learning English. For example, here are some times when you will see a non-specific indefinite article or an article referring to a noun followed by a specific definite article when referring back to a noun. Of course, in speech and in writing, we can all refer to something and hence reference has nothing again specific. This is the way we refer to something.