Unit 76 **Geographical names with and without the**

a *Continents*: We do not say the with the names of continents:

Africa (*not* 'the Africa') **Asia** **Europe** **South America**

b *Countries and states*: We do not usually say the with the names of countries and states:

France (*not* 'the France') **Japan** **West Germany** **Nigeria** **Texas**

But we say the with names which include words like 'republic', 'union', 'kingdom', 'states':

the **German Federal Republic**   the **Soviet Union**   the **United States** (of
(usually called 'West Germany')   the **United Kingdom**   America)
the **Republic** of **Ireland**   the **United Arab
                                                                   Emirates**

We also use the with *plural* names:

the **Netherlands**   the **Philippines**

c *Cities*: We do not use the with the names of cities/towns/villages:

Cairo (*not* 'the Cairo') **New York** **Glasgow** **Madrid**

Exception: The **Hague** (in the Netherlands)

d *Islands*: Island groups usually have *plural* names with the:

the **Bahamas**   the **Canaries** / the **Canary Islands**   the **British Isles**

Individual islands usually have singular names without the:

Corfu   **Sicily**   **Bermuda**   **Easter Island**

e *Regions*: We say:

the **Middle East**   the **Far East**
the **north of England**   the **south of Spain**   the **west of Canada**
(*but*: northern England / southern Spain / western Canada - without the)

f *Mountains*: Mountain ranges usually have *plural* names with the:

the **Rocky Mountains** / the **Rockies**   the **Andes**   the **Alps**

But individual mountains usually have names without the:

(Mount) **Everest** **Ben Nevis** (in Scotland) (Mount) **Etna**

g *Lakes*: Lakes usually have names without the:

Lake Superior **Lake Constance**

h *Names of oceans/seas/rivers/canals* have the:

the **Atlantic** (Ocean) the **Indian Ocean**
the **Mediterranean** (Sea) the **Red Sea** the (English) **Channel**
the **Nile** the **Amazon** the **Thames** the **Rhine**
the **Suez Canal** the **Panama Canal**

Note: On maps the is not usually included in the name.