

The Difference Between "Other" and "Another"

Other v. Another: How many choices?
[NOTE: "Another" is always paired with a singular noun]

Only two choices (A or B)
 [Note: one choice can represent an entire group]

I mean **ONE** of exactly **TWO** SPECIFIC things

the + other + singular noun

Ex: I want the other book and not the one you gave me.

I mean **ALL** remaining things in a category **AS A SINGLE, SPECIFIC GROUP**

the + other + plural noun

Ex: The other kids (in the same classroom/group) are not as nice as Joe.

Ex: Carol also likes the other ideas (all the ideas presented by the group).

I want to **GENERALLY COMPARE/CONTRAST ONE** thing with **MOST OR ALL** remaining members of the same category

other + plural noun [no article]

Ex: Joe is different from other kids (most or all kids, generally).

Ex: My dog is like other dogs (most or all dogs, generally).

I mean **ANY AND ALL** of the remaining members of the same category

other + plural noun [no article]

Ex: We are open to other ideas (not just idea #1 but also the all rest of the possible ideas out there).

I mean **ANY ONE** of many

another + singular noun

Ex: Can't we find another way (one of many other possibilities)?

Ex: I think we can take another road to get there.

Many choices or possibilities (A, B, C, etc.)

I mean **ONE MORE** of the same thing

another + singular noun

Ex: I want another cup of coffee (one more)