

Articles

(A, An, The)

1°ESO

Articles are little words placed before nouns.
(A, AN, THE)

<https://www.slideshare.net/TTGroup/articles-inenglishgrammar>

The indefinite article (a/an)

- A/an is a short form of **one** or **any**, which suggests that we can use it only with countable singular nouns.
- For example: **a** dog, **a** car, **NOT**: **a** dogs!

a dog



Ø dogs



The indefinite article (a/an)

- Golden rule number 1: Never use a kangaroo Ø kangaroos

a countable singular noun without an article!
(**NOT**: I saw Ø kangaroo in the zoo.
CORRECT: a kangaroo)

- Golden rule number 2: Never use **plural nouns** with indefinite articles!
(**NOT**: I saw a kangaroos in the zoo(?!?). **CORRECT**: Ø kangaroos).



Golden rule number 3!

- Use a before nouns beginning with consonants (for example: a book, a cup, a picture)

a book



a cup



- Use an before nouns beginning with vowels (for example: an apple, an orange, an egg).

an apple



an orange



Golden rule number 4!

- We use the indefinite article when we describe people's professions.
- For example: My brother is an architect; his sister is an engineer.

an architect



an engineer



1) The zero article (∅)

- We do not use indefinite articles with **uncountable nouns** (examples of uncountable nouns: water, sand, money, rice etc.) So, we do **NOT** say: I eat a rice every day (?!?). **CORRECT**: I eat rice every day.



- We do not use any articles when we talk about things **in general**. For example: People like ∅ music.



2) The zero article (∅)

• We do not use articles when we talk about languages. For example: I like English and French. **BUT** we say: **the** English **language**, the French language.



• We do not need articles when we talk about magazines. For example: My sister likes reading ∅ Cosmopolitan. **BUT** newspapers take the. For example: My uncle reads **the** Times every morning.



The definite article (the)

- To begin with, the is the short form of **this/that** or **these/those**.
- We use the with both countable and uncountable nouns, both singular and plural forms, when everybody knows which noun we are referring to! (For example: Will you, please, answer the phone?)

Answer the phone



The definite article (the)

- We use the when we talk about republics and kingdoms. For example: the Dominican Republic, the United Kingdom, etc.
- We use the when we use plural names: I like to watch the Simpsons. She lives in the States.

The map of the Czech Republic



The Simpsons



Let's exercise!



TRUE OR FALSE

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cr8xuQjCzLk>

Sam is a host.



We saw a sharks.



I saw an angry shark.



They clean **an turtle**.



They clean an turtle.



∅ Sharks live in the ocean.



∅ Sharks live in the ocean.



The shark in the video was so happy.



TRUE OR FALSE

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=75NQK-Sm1YY>

There was a very hungry caterpillar in the video.



The caterpillar ate **an food**.



The caterpillar ate Ø plums.



The caterpillar found **an apples.**



The caterpillar ate **a strawberries.**



The caterpillar ate **a watermelon.**



The caterpillar lived in **the cocoon**.



The caterpillar became **a butterfly.**



Put in a/an, the or Ø where necessary:

- 1. I want _____ apple from that basket.
- 2. _____ church on the corner is progressive.
- 3. Miss Lin speaks _____ Chinese.
- 4. I borrowed _____ pencil from your pile of pencils and pens.
- 5. One of the students said, "_____ professor is late today."
- 6. I bought _____ umbrella to go out in the rain.
- 7. My daughter is learning to play _____ violin at her school.
- 8. Please give me _____ cake that is on the table.
- 9. I lived on _____ Main Street when I first came to town.
- 10. Belgrade is _____ capital of _____ Serbia.
- 11. Our neighbors have _____ cat and _____ dog. _____ dog is very friendly but _____ cat doesn't like company.

Put in a/an, the or Ø where necessary:

1. ___ pasta we had for dinner last night was excellent.
2. Jack is wearing ___ pullover today.
3. Maria likes ___ music.
4. ___ brown cap over there belongs to Mark.
5. My grandfather had ___ long life.
6. That book is about ___ life of ___ Helen Keller.
7. Tommy wants to be ___ tourist guide when he grows up.
8. ___ people wear ___ jewelry to make themselves more attractive.
9. ___ telegraph was a very important invention.
10. Do you know ___ people in ___ next house?

Put in a/an, the or \emptyset where necessary:

- 1) My grandmother likes _____ flowers very much.
- 2) I love _____ flowers in your garden.
- 3) Emily needs _____ new desk in her room.
- 4) Peter has _____ aunt in Berlin.
- 5) I always listen to _____ radio in the morning.
- 6) Alex goes to work by _____ bus.
- 7) Don't be late for _____ school.
- 8) Listen! Dennis is playing _____ trumpet.
- 9) She has never been to _____ Alps before.
- 10) What about going to _____ Australia in February?
- 11) The speed of this car was 160 miles _____ hour.
- 12) There was _____ man this morning looking for you.
_____ man was very polite.

Put in a/an, the or Ø where necessary:

- 1) This is ____ expensive bike.
- 2) ____ Mount Everest is ____ highest mountain on earth.
- 3) She's reading ____ old comic.
- 4) We are listening to ____ English CD.
- 5) ____ most children like ____ sweets.
- 6) ____ summer of 1996 was hot and dry.
- 7) She has ____ exercise book in her school bag.
- 8) Our friends, ____ Millers, moved to ____ Florida last August.
- 9) ____ smog is ____ problem in ____ big cities.
- 10) My brother is ____ honest person.