

Articles: A, An, The



Articles are small words, but they make a big difference!

A
An
The

Definite
&
Indefinite

1 Quick Summary



Articles (**a, an, the**) are special words used before nouns. They help us show whether a noun is **specific** (a particular person, place, or thing) or **general** (any person, place, or thing).

Articles:

- **a** – used before a singular noun that begins with a consonant sound.
- **an** – used before a singular noun that begins with a vowel sound.
- **the** – used before a **specific** noun that we all know about or have already mentioned.

2 Memory Trick



Use "**A/An**" for **general** things you talk about for the first time, and "**The**" for **specific** things everyone knows!

A / An = General

Used when mentioning a **noun** for the first time (any person, place, or thing).



A dog
(any dog)

The = Specific

Used when the noun is particular or already known to the listener.



The dog
(a specific dog)

3 Let's See It in Action!



Look at the examples to see how articles work in everyday sentences.

Indefinite Article: A

Used before a singular noun that begins with a **consonant sound**.



a cat

I see **a** cat.

(any cat, not a specific one)

Indefinite Article: An

Used before a singular noun that begins with a **vowel sound**.



an apple

I have **an** apple.

(any apple, not a specific one)

Definite Article: The

Used before a **specific noun** that we all know about.



the sun

The sun is bright today.

(a specific sun that we all know)

4 Why It Matters



Articles help make our meaning **clear and natural**. They tell the listener whether we are talking about **any** person, place, or thing, or a **specific** one. Using articles correctly makes our English sound more natural and easier to understand!

For example:

- ✓ I saw **a** bird. (any bird)
- ✓ I saw **the** bird. (a specific bird)



When to Use A vs. An

Listen
to the
Sound!

Small
Words
Big
Meaning!

It's all about
the sound!
Let's make it simple
and easy!

Vowel Sound
or
Consonant
Sound?

1 Using 'A'

Use **a** before singular nouns that start with a **consonant sound** (not a vowel sound).



a dog
(d sound)



a house
(h sound)



a book
(b sound)



a car
(c sound)



a tree
(t sound)



a university
(y sound:
"you" sound)

2 Using 'An'

Use **an** before singular nouns that start with a **vowel sound** (a, e, i, o, u).



an apple
(a sound)



an elephant
(e sound)



an ice cream
(i sound)



an orange
(o sound)



an umbrella
(u sound)



an hour
(h is silent,
so vowel sound)

3 Using 'The'



Use **the** before a **specific noun** or something that is **already known, unique, or previously mentioned**.



the moon
(unique – only one)



the Earth
(unique – only one)



the book
(we already know
which one)



the cat
(we already mentioned it)



the school
(a specific school)



the sun
(unique – only one)

4 Common Mistakes



Be **careful!** Here are some common mistakes and how to correct them.

✗ **a apple**
(wrong – vowel sound)

→ ✓ **an apple**



✗ **a elephant**
(wrong – vowel sound)

→ ✓ **an elephant**



✗ **an dog**
(wrong – consonant sound)

→ ✓ **a dog**



✗ **an university**
(wrong – consonant sound
you sound)

→ ✓ **a university**



✗ **a hour**
(wrong – silent h, vowel sound)

→ ✓ **an hour**



Remember!

- ✓ **A** = before consonant sounds (a dog, a house).
- ✓ **An** = before vowel sounds (an apple, an elephant).
- ✓ **The** = for specific or already known nouns (the moon, the book).

Say the word
out loud and listen
to the first sound!



Practice
Activities
Part 1Small
Steps
Big
Progress! ♥Let's practice
using articles!
You can do it! ♥Practice
Learn
Improve
Grow! ♥

1 Choose 'A' or 'An'

Fill in the blank with the correct article (a or an) based on the starting sound of the noun.

- 1 cat 
- 2 umbrella 
- 3 dog 
- 4 orange 
- 5 elephant 

- 6 egg 
- 7 book 
- 8 hour 
- 9 apple 
- 10 university 

2 Insert 'The' or 'A/An'

Choose the correct article (the, a, or an) for each sentence.

- 1 I saw bird in the tree. **A** a **B** an **C** the
- 2 This is interesting book. **A** a **B** an **C** the
- 3 We visited zoo yesterday. **A** a **B** an **C** the
- 4 She has umbrella. **A** a **B** an **C** the
- 5 sun is bright today. **A** a **B** an **C** the
- 6 He is honest boy. **A** a **B** an **C** the
- 7 I saw elephant at the zoo. **A** a **B** an **C** the
- 8 We live in big city. **A** a **B** an **C** the
- 9 moon shines at night. **A** a **B** an **C** the
- 10 She is artist. **A** a **B** an **C** the

3 Identify the Article Rule

Look at each noun and choose the correct article rule it belongs to.

- 1 apple → **A** Consonant sound (use a)
- 2 car → **B** Vowel sound (use an)
- 3 hour → **C** Use the (specific/known)
- 4 university → **A** Consonant sound (use a)
- 5 book → **B** Vowel sound (use an)
- 6 cat → **A** Consonant sound (use a)
- 7 umbrella → **B** Vowel sound (use an)
- 8 Earth → **C** Use the (specific/known)
- 9 elephant → **A** Consonant sound (use a)
- 10 school → **B** Vowel sound (use an)
- C** Use the (specific/known)



Practice
Activities
Part 2Keep going!
Practice makes
progress! ♥Find
Correct
Complete
Write! ♥Practice
Learn
Improve
Grow! ♥A
An
The
Let's Practice!

4 Spot the Article Mistake

Each sentence has one article mistake.
Find the mistake and write the correct sentence.

1 She has a orange.



2 He is an honest boy.



3 I saw a elephant.



4 This is an unique idea.



5 We visited a Louvre Museum.



6 It is a useful book.



7 She bought an university.



8 The sun is a bright today.



9 He has an old car.



10 They saw a interesting movie.



5 Fill in the Blanks

Complete the paragraph by adding the correct article
(a, an, the) in each blank.

Last weekend, I went to zoo with my family. We saw elephant,
 lion, and giraffe. elephant was very big. I also saw
 monkey sitting on tree. After that, we had ice cream
at small café near zoo. It was fun day!



6 Write Your Own Sentences

Use the prompts to write your own sentences.
Make sure to use the correct articles (a, an, the).1 Write a sentence about **an animal**
(use **a** or **an**).2 Write a sentence about **a school item**
(use **a** or **an**).3 Write a sentence about **a specific place**
(use **the**).4 Write a sentence about something **unique**
(use **the**).

Well done!
You've completed
the lesson on
Articles: A, An, The!
Let's see your answers
and what's next! ❤️

You
Did It!
Great
Learning! ❤️

Keep
Learning
Keep
Growing! ❤️

Answer Key

1 Choose 'A' or 'An' (Page 3)

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| 1 a cat | 6 an egg |
| 2 an umbrella | 7 a book |
| 3 a dog | 8 an hour |
| 4 an orange | 9 an apple |
| 5 an elephant | 10 a university |

2 Insert 'The' or 'A/An' (Page 3)

- | | |
|-------|-------|
| 1 a | 6 an |
| 2 an | 7 an |
| 3 the | 8 a |
| 4 an | 9 the |
| 5 the | 10 an |

3 Identify the Article Rule (Page 3)

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 A (Consonant sound) | 6 A (Consonant sound) |
| 2 B (Vowel sound) | 7 B (Vowel sound) |
| 3 C (Use the: specific/known) | 8 C (Use the: specific/known) |
| 4 A (Consonant sound) | 9 A (Consonant sound) |
| 5 B (Vowel sound) | 10 B (Vowel sound) |

4 Spot the Article Mistake (Page 4)

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 an orange | 6 a useful book |
| 2 an honest boy | 7 a university |
| 3 an elephant | 8 the sun |
| 4 a unique idea | 9 an old car |
| 5 the Louvre Museum | 10 an interesting movie |

5 Fill in the Blanks (Page 4)

- | | |
|-------|-------|
| 1 the | 6 an |
| 2 an | 7 the |
| 3 a | 8 the |
| 4 an | 9 a |
| 5 a | 10 a |

6 Write Your Own Sentences (Page 4)

Answers may vary. Check that the sentence uses the correct article and fits the prompt.

Key Takeaways

- Articles (**a, an, the**) are small words used before nouns.
- A** is used before nouns that start with a **consonant sound**.
- An** is used before nouns that start with a **vowel sound** (a, e, i, o, u).
- The** is used before specific, unique, or already known nouns.
- A/An** refer to **general** things (first time we mention them).
- The** refers to **particular** things (the one we know about).
- Using the correct article makes our English clear, natural, and easy to understand.

What's Next?

Let's continue your English learning journey!

Next Lesson: Demonstratives

- Learn what demonstratives are and how we use them (this, that, these, those).
- See clear examples in everyday sentences.
- Practice with fun activities and real-life situations.
- Build your confidence step by step!

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My Learning Progress

- ☐ I completed the lesson.
- ☐ I finished the practice activities.
- ☐ I checked my answers.
- ☐ I'm ready for the next lesson!



Small steps. Big progress. ❤️



<https://dailyenglishwithai.com/>

PRACTICE TODAY • BRIGHTER TOMORROW