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## Mini Lesson 020 - The Use of Articles: A, An, The

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### Explanation:

Articles are small words that define whether a noun is specific or unspecific.

### - Indefinite Articles: A, An

- **'A'** is used before words that begin with a consonant sound.
  - Example: \*a cat, a house, a university\*
- **'An'** is used before words that begin with a vowel sound (a, e, i, o, u).
  - Example: \*an apple, an hour, an honest person\*

### Usage Tips:

- Use **'a'** or **'an'** when mentioning something for the first time.
  - Example: \*I saw a dog.\* (Any dog, not a specific one)
- Use **'a'** or **'an'** when referring to a member of a group.
  - Example: \*She is an engineer.\* (Any engineer, not a specific one)

### - Definite Article: The

- **'The'** is used when referring to a specific item or items that are already known to the listener/reader.
  - Example: \*The cat is sleeping.\* (A specific cat)

### Usage Tips:

- Use **'the'** when both the speaker and listener know the specific noun being discussed.
  - Example: \*The teacher gave us homework.\* (A specific teacher both people know)
- Use **'the'** when there is only one of something.
  - Example: \*The sun is bright today.\*





### Special Cases:

- No article is used before uncountable nouns or plural nouns when speaking in general.
- Example: \*Water is essential for life.\* (General statement)
- **'The'** can be used with uncountable nouns when the context is specific.
- Example: \*The water in this bottle is cold.\*

### Lets Practice:

#### 1. Fill in the blanks with 'a', 'an', or 'the':

1. She wants to buy \_\_\_\_\_ new car.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Eiffel Tower is in Paris.
3. He is \_\_\_\_\_ honest man.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ sun rises in the east.
5. They found \_\_\_\_\_ interesting book in the library.

#### 2. Choose the correct article:

1. I saw \_\_\_\_\_ (a/an/the) elephant at the zoo.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ (A/An/The) internet is a great source of information.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ (A/An/The) apple a day keeps the doctor away.
4. She has \_\_\_\_\_ (a/an/the) blue dress.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ (A/An/The) moon is very bright tonight.





**3. Decide if the sentence needs 'a', 'an', 'the', or no article:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ water in this glass is cold.
2. She is \_\_\_\_\_ artist.
3. I need \_\_\_\_\_ advice from you.
4. We visited \_\_\_\_\_ museum last weekend.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ life is full of surprises.

**4. True or False:**

1. We use 'an' before words starting with a vowel sound. (True/False)
2. 'The' is used to refer to something specific. (True/False)
3. 'A' is used before plural nouns. (True/False)
4. No article is used for uncountable nouns when speaking generally. (True/False)
5. 'An' is used before words like 'hour' and 'honor'. (True/False)





## Answers:

### 1. Fill in the blanks:

1. She wants to buy **a** new car.
2. **The** Eiffel Tower is in Paris.
3. He is **an** honest man.
4. **The** sun rises in the east.
5. They found **an** interesting book in the library.

### 2. Choose the correct article:

1. I saw **an** elephant at the zoo.
2. **The** internet is a great source of information.
3. **An** apple a day keeps the doctor away.
4. She has **a** blue dress.
5. **The** moon is very bright tonight.

### 3. Decide if the sentence needs 'a', 'an', 'the', or no article:

1. **The** water in this glass is cold.
2. She is **an** artist.
3. I need **no article** advice from you.
4. We visited **the** museum last weekend.
5. **No article** life is full of surprises.

### 4. True or False:

1. We use 'an' before words starting with a vowel sound. (True)
2. 'The' is used to refer to something specific. (True)
3. 'A' is used before plural nouns. (False)
4. No article is used for uncountable nouns when speaking generally. (True)
5. 'An' is used before words like 'hour' and 'honor'. (True)

