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AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION

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ARTICLES

What Are Articles?

Articles are words that define a noun as specific or unspecific. Consider the following examples:

After the long day, the cup of tea tasted particularly good.

By using the article *the*, we've shown that it was one specific day that was long and one specific cup of tea that tasted good.

After a long day, a cup of tea tastes particularly good.

By using the article *a*, we've created a general statement, implying that any cup of tea would taste good after any long day.

English has two types of articles: definite and indefinite. Let's discuss them now in more detail.

The words *a*, *an*, and *the* are special adjectives called articles.

Indefinite Articles: a, an

an - used before singular count nouns beginning with a vowel (a, e, i, o, u) or vowel sound:

- an apple, an elephant, an issue, an orange

a - used before singular count nouns beginning with consonants (other than a, e, i, o, u):

- a stamp, a desk, a TV, a cup, a book

Definite Article' the

1. Can be used before singular and plural, count and non-count nouns

Indefinite Article (*a*, *an*)

Used before singular nouns that is unspecified:

- a pencil
- an orange

Used before number collectives and some numbers:

- a dozen
- a gallon

Used before a singular noun followed by a restrictive modifier:

- a girl who was wearing a yellow hat

Used with nouns to form adverbial phrases of quantity, amount, or degree:

- I felt a bit depressed.

2. Definite Article (*the*)

Used to indicate a noun that is definite or has been previously specified in the context:

- Please close the door.
- I like the clothes you gave me.

Used to indicate a noun that is unique:

- Praise the Lord!
- The Columbia River is near here.

Used to designate a natural phenomenon:

- The nights get shorter in the summer.
- The wind is blowing so hard.

Used to refer to a time period:

- I was very nave in the past.
- This song was very popular in the 1980s.

Used to indicate all the members of a family:

- I invited the Bakers for dinner.
- This medicine was invented by the Smiths.

Choose the correct article in each sentence.

- 1) Did you bring (a, an, the) umbrella?
- 2) Are you looking for (a, an, the) shampoo?
- 3) I checked (a, an, the) mailbox again.
- 4) Can I have (a, an, the) spoon please?
- 5) I was born into (a, an, the) poor family.
- 6) She will come back in (a, an, the) hour.
- 7) Have you been to (a, an, the) Space Needle Tower in Seattle?
- 8) I would love to talk to one of (a, an, the) managers.
- 9) What (a, an, the) amazing view!
- 10) The helicopter landed on (a, an, the) roof of a building.

Complete the following sentences using appropriate articles. In some cases, no articles are needed.

1. man is mortal.
2. I am university student.
3. She goes to the temple in mornings.
4. Kiran is best student in the class.
5. camel is the ship of the desert.
6. This book has won Booker prize.
7. Harishchandra was honest king.
8. I am fond of classical music.

9. I met boy in store.
10. Gold is precious metal.
11. She returned after hour.
12. There is institution for blind in this city.
13. sun rises in the east.
14. He works at factory.
15. He is oldest member of the club.
16. I like to watch football.