

Articles

a / an

- 1 It's a nice house.
She's a lawyer.
 - 2 I saw an old man with a dog.
 - 3 What an awful day!
 - 4 I have classes three times a week.
- We use a / an with singular countable nouns:
 - 1 when we say what something is or what somebody does.
 - 2 the first time we mention a thing / person.
 - 3 in exclamations with What...!
 - 4 in expressions of frequency.

the

- 1 I saw an old man with a dog. **The dog** was barking.
 - 2 **The bell** rang and my father opened **the door**.
The children are at school.
 - 3 **The moon** goes round **the Earth**.
 - 4 I'm going to **the cinema** tonight.
 - 5 It's **the best** restaurant in town.
- We use **the**:
 - 1 when we talk about something we've already mentioned.
 - 2 when it's clear what we're referring to.
 - 3 when there's only one of something.
 - 4 with places in a town, e.g. *cinema, theatre*.
 - 5 with superlatives.

no article

- 1 Girls often learn to read earlier than **boys**.
Love is more important than **money**.
 - 2 She's not at **home** today.
I get back **from work** at 5.30.
 - 3 I never have **breakfast**.
I'm going to the theatre **on Tuesday**.
 - 4 See you **next week**.
- We don't use an article:
 - 1 when we are speaking in general (with plural and uncountable nouns), e.g. *I love flowers*. Compare: *I love **the flowers** in my garden*. (= the specific flowers in that place)
 - 2 with some nouns, e.g. *home, work, school, church, after at / to / from*.
 - 3 before meals, days, and months.
 - 4 before *next / last + day, week, etc.*

Choose the correct words

1. Yesterday was *hottest / the hottest day* of the year so far.
2. We went to Paris for my birthday *last weekend / the last weekend*.
3. I think *girls / the girls* are better at learning *languages / the languages* than *boys / the boys*.
4. Did you lock *door / the door* when you left *house / the house* this morning?
5. My sister is married to *German / a German*. He's *engineer / an engineer*.
6. I don't usually like *fish / the fish*, but *salmon / the salmon* we had last night was delicious.
7. We go to *cinema / the cinema* once *a week / the week*.
8. Don't worry! It's not *the end / end of the world / world*.
9. Do you think *women / the women* are more sensitive than *men / the men*?
10. What *beautiful day / a beautiful day*! Let's have *lunch / a lunch* in the garden.

Read the sentences, correct mistakes if there are any.

Example: *That's lovely dress. The colour suits you.*

That's a lovely dress. The colour suits you.

1. He's going to visit his parents the next weekends.

2. The money doesn't make people happy.

3. She always leaves the work at half past six.

4. I go to the dentist about twice a year.

5. Have you worn jacket that you bought last week?

6. That was one of the best meals I've ever had.

7. What noisy child! Where are his parents?

8. Alex is studying to become doctor.

9. I like the cats, but my boyfriend doesn't like them.

Complete the text with A / AN / THE or NO ARTICLE

DNA

the reason women
see colours better
than men

Why are women generally able to see ¹ _____ colours better than men? Scientists say there is ² _____ reason for this, and ³ _____ reason is in our DNA. Our chromosomes contain DNA, which controls many things about us. The ability to see ⁴ _____ colour red is carried by the X chromosome. Men have only one X chromosome, but ⁵ _____ women have two of them. This means that it's easier for women to see red. This was important in prehistoric times when women were looking for ⁶ _____ fruit to eat. They needed to choose ⁷ _____ right fruit, so they had to be able to see ⁸ _____ difference between different colours. If they made ⁹ _____ mistake, they could kill their families and themselves. So, it was more important for women to see different colours, while men had ¹⁰ _____ other important skills.

Complete the gaps in the phrases for generalizing and giving opinions.

_____, I think
in my _____,
to be _____,
don't you _____
if you _____ me
I don't think that's _____
I _____
Generally _____
_____ the whole

Make up your own sentences using the phrases above