

a /an

the

-

When something is not specific or is one of many.

I need **a** book, **a** pencil and **an** eraser.

With specific things, things the speaker and the listener know.

I need **the** books on the table.

To talk about things in general (plural) ¹

Dolphins are very clever

To talk about something for the first time.

I saw **a** film last night.

With things we've mentioned before.

The film was great!

Before possessive adjectives: my your his her its our your their

My friend loved the film!

To talk about jobs or hobbies.

Chrisa is **a** teacher.

Habib is **a** swimmer.

With a specific job only one person can have.

She is **the** manager of the company.

Before names and before Mr. Mrs.

Chrisa likes music.

Mr. George is happy!

With singular countable nouns. ²

Give me **a** kiss!

With something unique or if there's one of it.

The moon is full tonight

To talk about abstract concepts.

Life is beautiful.

In exclamations with What...!

What **a** beautiful life!

With superlatives.

You're **the** best friend I've ever had!

With certain phrases.

at school /home, in bed
at university on holiday

¹

But: when it's specific:

The dolphins in the Amazon are pink.

(we're talking about a specific group of dolphins in the Amazon river)

²

Right: I need **a** bottle of water.

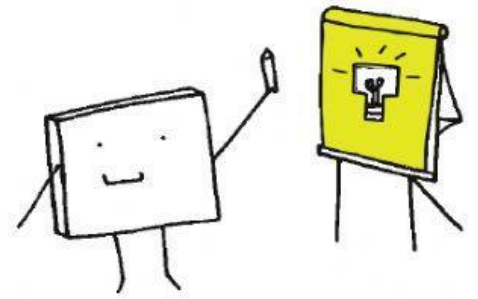
(bottle is countable)

Wrong: I need **a** water

Right: I need (some) water.

(water is uncountable)

Let's practise together !



1. Choose the correct article.

1. Hello, can I have cup of coffee, please?
2. I've got brother, my brother is teacher.
3. I love my friends! They are best!
4. Oh, what mess! What happened in room?
5. There is fly in my soup, flies are disgusting!
6. I love cats, but cat here is very naughty.
7. I'd like orange and three apples.
8. I'm engineer. George is manager of the company.
9. I listened to song last night. song made me cry.
10. He's at home. I think he went to bed.