

# Articles



Listen and repeat.



a book



a ruler



an eraser



an atlas

## The Indefinite Article 'A' - 'An'

a + consonant sound

an + vowel sound (a, e, i, o, u)

We use **a** before **u** when we pronounce it with a **y** sound. a uniform **BUT** an umbrella

We use **an** before **h** when it is silent. an hour **BUT** a horse



Listen and repeat.



the bookcase



the chair



the armchair



the umbrella

## The Definite Article 'The'

The /ðə/ + consonant sound

The /ði/ + vowel sound (a, e, i, o, u)

1



Write a or an. Then match the items. Listen and check. Listen and repeat.

- 1 .. a .. guitar
- 2 ..... accordion
- 3 ..... violin
- 4 ..... organ
- 5 ..... piano
- 6 ..... drum
- 7 ..... harp
- 8 ..... tambourine

A



B

C



D



E



F



G



H

2



Put the nouns in the correct columns. Listen and check. Listen and repeat.

baby

orange

meat

animal

egg

octopus

apple

elephant

woman

fork

dress

chocolate

the /ðə/

the /ði/

baby,

apple,



## The Chain Game

Play in teams. Student A says a word. Student B must then say a word that begins with the last letter of Student A's word. Whoever breaks the chain is out of the game. Don't forget to use *a/an*!

Student A: an orange

Student B: an egg

Student C: a girl, etc.

### We use **a / an**:

- with singular countable nouns when we are talking about them in general.

An elephant is a big animal.  
(Which elephant? We don't mean a specific elephant; we mean elephants in general.)

- after the verbs 'to be' and 'have got'.

He's **an** astronaut.  
He's got **a** pet cat.

### We don't use **a / an**:

with uncountable or plural nouns.

We can use **some** instead.  
I don't like **apples**.  
I want **some** sugar and **some** strawberries.

### We use **the**:

- with singular or plural nouns when we are talking about something specific which we either already know about or it is mentioned for a second time.

**The** car in front of **the** house is Ted's. (Which car? Not any car. **The** car which is in front of the house.)

- with nouns which are unique.

**The** sun is shining. (= There's only one sun.)  
**The** Acropolis is in Athens.

- before the names of rivers (the Amazon) and countries when they include words such as **state**, **kingdom**, etc. (the United Kingdom)

### We don't use **the**:

with proper nouns or possessive adjectives.

Emma is from **London**.  
Her father is from **Leeds**.

**BUT**

family names and nationalities take **the**.

**The** Browns live next door.  
**The** Italians eat a lot of spaghetti.

### 3 Write **a**, **an** or **some**.

- |                       |                   |                  |                |
|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------|
| 1 <del>some</del> tea | 4 ..... ice cream | 7 ..... sandwich | 10 ..... bread |
| 2 ..... lemon         | 5 ..... burger    | 8 ..... butter   | 11 ..... grape |
| 3 ..... omelette      | 6 ..... egg       | 9 ..... onion    | 12 ..... juice |



## 4

## Articles

## 4 Write the or - .

- 1 Look at ..... Layla!
- 2 ..... weather is nice today.
- 3 ..... Smiths are on holiday.
- 4 Is this ..... Tom's cat?
- 5 Ben is in ..... New York.
- 6 Where is ..... hotel?
- 7 Dad is in ..... kitchen.
- 8 We are from ..... Italy.
- 9 ..... blue bag is yours.
- 10 There is some cheese in ..... fridge.

## 5 Choose the correct item.

- 1 Have you got ..... onion?  
A a                      **B an**                      C the
- 2 Where is ..... supermarket?  
A a                      B an                      C the
- 3 Is this ..... lobster?  
A a                      B an                      C the
- 4 Are ..... Pyramids in Egypt?  
A a                      B an                      C the
- 5 My mum is ..... artist.  
A a                      B an                      C the
- 6 The children are in ..... garden.  
A a                      B an                      C the
- 7 I haven't got ..... umbrella. I need to buy one.  
A a                      B an                      C the
- 8 ..... apple in my bag is fresh.  
A A                      B An                      C The
- 9 Ben has got ..... new digital camera.  
A a                      B an                      C the
- 10 ..... black dog is ours.  
A A                      B An                      C The
- 11 Ann's brother is ..... doctor.  
A a                      B an                      C the

## 6 Fill in the gaps with a/an or the.

- 1 A: Where are you going this summer?  
B: Well, we want to go to 1) ...**an**... island in Greece.  
A: That's fantastic. Which one?  
B: We want to go to 2) ..... island of Corfu.  
A: It's 3) ..... beautiful island.
- 2 A: Do you know Justin?  
B: Yes, I do. He is 1) ..... friend of John's, isn't he?  
A: Right. He is 2) ..... one who wants to become 3) ..... pilot. He loves planes.
- 3 A: I eat 1) ..... apple and 2) ..... banana every day.  
B: Why do you do that?  
A: Don't you know that 3) ..... apple a day keeps 4) ..... doctor away?  
B: What about 5) ..... banana then?  
A: Well, I don't know but I love bananas.
- 4 A: What does your mother do?  
B: She's 1) ..... doctor.  
A: And what about your father?  
B: He's 2) ..... artist.  
A: Oh, that's great.