

Articles: a/an before noun phrases

1 Tick the correct sentence in each pair.

- 1 a The company has captured a significant share of the market.
b The company has captured significant share of the market.
- 2 a I think they are also right to certain extent.
b I think they are also right to a certain extent.

Don't forget to include *a/an* before an adjective + singular noun combination:

*He clearly has **a good understanding** of the issues.*

*Many students have **a part-time job** while studying.*

Notice the position of adverbs (*very, really, quite, etc.*) in these phrases:

*We have **a very high percentage** of women working in senior government posts.*

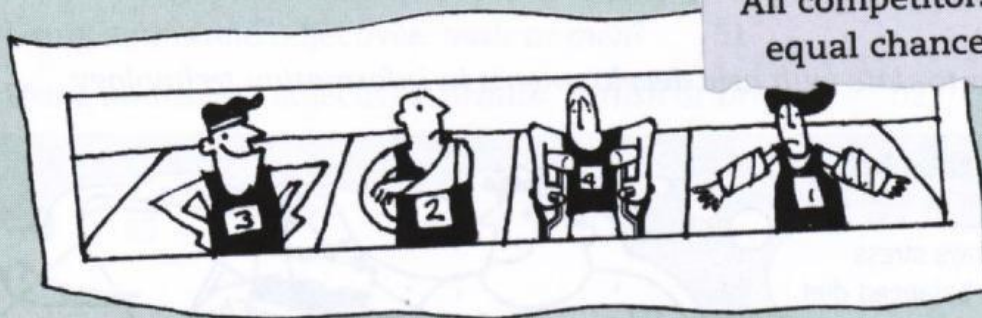
*There was **a really good atmosphere**.*

*In my view, this is **quite a strong argument**.*

Some common noun phrases to be careful with:

- *to a certain extent/degree: I agree with you **to a certain degree**.*
- *a wide range/variety: We have **a wide range of** books to choose from.*
- *a(n) large/small/equal number/amount: **an equal number of** men and women*
- *a high/large/small/greater proportion/percentage: **a small proportion of** patients*
- *a long time: I haven't seen her for **a long time**.*

2 Correct the mistake below.



All competitors should have equal chance of winning.

All competitors should

3 Use the words below in the same order to form correct sentences, adding any necessary articles or prepositions.

- 1 Only / small / number / troublemakers / were / responsible for / problems.
- 2 Computers / play / very / important / role / education / nowadays.
- 3 She / can't / afford to / study / full-time / basis.
- 4 Teenagers / should be / allowed / greater / degree / freedom.
- 5 They / have / slightly / different / approach to / studying.
- 6 We / had / one-week / intensive / training / course.
- 7 There / has been / gradual / increase / number / thefts.
- 8 They / offer / quite / wide / variety / courses.