

**FORM 3**

**CLOSE-UP**

**UNIT 3 : THE WONDERS OF NATURE**

**GRAMMAR : Page 39**



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(illustration)

Upgrade your English with **CLOSE-UP!**

# Grammar

## Articles

**A** Read the sentences 1–6 and look at the nouns in bold. Which words come before 1–4?

- 1 The **water** in this pond is dirty.
- 2 A cave can be a dangerous place.
- 3 The **trees** in this forest are very old.
- 4 A scientist at this university has discovered a new species. The **scientist** has worked here for many years.
- 5 **Pollution** is a very serious problem.
- 6 Have you ever seen **whales** in the sea?

**B** Match the sentences in A with the descriptions below. Which sentence has ...

- a a noun used for the first time and then mentioned again?
- a specific plural noun?
- a specific uncountable noun?
- a plural noun with a general meaning?
- a singular countable noun with a general meaning?
- an uncountable noun with a general meaning?

**C** Complete the rules with *a / an* or *the*.

- We use the indefinite article \_\_\_\_\_ with singular countable nouns with a general meaning or when we mention them for the first time.
- We use the definite article \_\_\_\_\_ with countable and uncountable nouns with a specific meaning or when the noun has already been mentioned.
- We don't use \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ with plural nouns or uncountable nouns with a general meaning.

### Be careful

We always use:

- *a / an* with jobs.  
*She is a biologist.*
- the* with instruments, unique nouns, names of rivers, deserts and mountain ranges.  
*She plays the violin.*
- The Earth is round.*
- He loves the Rockies.*
- No article with proper names.  
*Is James here?*

Grammar Focus p. 165 (3.7 & 3.8)

**D** Complete the sentences with *a, an, the* or *-*.

- 1 There is \_\_\_\_\_ elephant in the zoo. \_\_\_\_\_ elephant is nearly 40 years old.
- 2 John is \_\_\_\_\_ teacher.
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_ millions of people speak Chinese.
- 4 He plays \_\_\_\_\_ piano very well, so his parents want to buy him \_\_\_\_\_ piano for his birthday.
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_ Sahara Desert is huge.
- 6 In \_\_\_\_\_ 80s \_\_\_\_\_ Jacques Cousteau became famous for his expeditions.
- 7 \_\_\_\_\_ moon is round and it orbits \_\_\_\_\_ Earth.
- 8 I saw \_\_\_\_\_ octopus in the sea. \_\_\_\_\_ octopus had eight 'arms'.
- 9 Everyone should try to help \_\_\_\_\_ poor.
- 10 There is \_\_\_\_\_ article in \_\_\_\_\_ *Times* about \_\_\_\_\_ Alps.
- 11 I love \_\_\_\_\_ music, but \_\_\_\_\_ music I don't like at all is \_\_\_\_\_ jazz.

**E** Complete the text with *a, an, the* or *-*.

## Angel Falls

At a height of 979 metres, Angel Falls is (1) \_\_\_\_\_ highest waterfall in the world. It is situated in (2) \_\_\_\_\_ Auyantepui Mountain in Venezuela.

Because of its location deep in the Venezuelan rainforest, nobody in (3) \_\_\_\_\_ outside world knew about Angel Falls until 1935. However, (4) \_\_\_\_\_ local people called, (5) \_\_\_\_\_ Pemones, knew about it for thousands of years before that. Its name in (6) \_\_\_\_\_ Pemon language is Kerepakupai Merú, which means 'waterfall of the deepest place'.

In 1935, (7) \_\_\_\_\_ American pilot, Jimmie Angel, was flying his plane along (8) \_\_\_\_\_ Carrao River when he discovered the falls. He went back in 1937 and tried to land his plane on top of the falls, but (9) \_\_\_\_\_ wheels of the plane got stuck in mud. Angel and the three other passengers had to walk down from (10) \_\_\_\_\_ top of the falls on foot. It took them 11 days, but (11) \_\_\_\_\_ people all over the world learnt of his adventure and the existence of (12) \_\_\_\_\_ waterfall. He became (13) \_\_\_\_\_ legend and the falls were named after him.

Thirty-three years later, (14) \_\_\_\_\_ helicopter lifted Jimmie Angel's plane from the mountain and today it is in front of (15) \_\_\_\_\_ airport at Ciudad Bolívar in Venezuela. Sadly, Jimmie Angel was hurt very badly while he was landing (16) \_\_\_\_\_ aeroplane on 17th April, 1956 in (17) \_\_\_\_\_ Panama. He died eight months later from his injuries. His ashes were scattered over Angel Falls.



Angel Falls, Venezuela, South America