

Articles I

a & an

The indefinite article

Grammar Focus

a - before a consonant	an – before a vowel
a box	an apple
a cloud	an orange
Note!	
pay attention to the pronunciation rules	
a uniform /ˈjuːnɪfɔːm/	an uncle /ˈʌŋkl/
The indefinite article is used:	
✓ with singular nouns: a cat, a window	
✓ before phrases of time and measurements: <i>twice a week, a year, an hour</i> etc.	
✓ when we mention someone or something for the first time: <i>I had a book with me.</i>	
✓ with an adjective describing a noun: <i>a good girl, an orange car</i> etc.	
✓ to refer to a particular member of a group:	
• with names of jobs: <i>John is a doctor.</i>	
• with religions: <i>Kate is a Catholic.</i>	
✓ mind the words with silent “h”: e.g. <i>an hour, an honor, an honesty</i> etc.	

Practice

1. Fill in with a or an

- This is Anna. She's ____ housewife.
- My friend is not ____ Buddhist, he is ____ Christian.
- Kate Winslet is ____ actress.
- He lives in ____ old house.
- You have such ____ nice dress.
- What ____ sunny morning.
- She plays tennis three times ____ week.
- She doesn't like to wear ____ uniform.
- Tommy is going to meet his friend in ____ hour.
- He has ____ banana and ____ orange.
- Alice is ____ good dancer.
- She went to the zoo to see ____ 'h ____ uncle.

3

a an English teacher
a an opera singer
a an wonderful day
a an university

4

a an adult
a an pizza
a an car
a an artist

5

a an sandwich
a an armchair
a an teenager
a an football player

2. Fill with a/an or empty

- ____ group of ____ stars is called ____ galaxy.
- ____ adult elephant can drink around 210 litres of water ____ day.
- ____ tigers can weigh as much as 300 kilograms (660 pounds).
- Sting is ____ famous singer, but he was ____ teacher in 70s.
- ____ octopus has 3 hearts!
- ____ tiger has striped skin, not just striped fur!
- ____ rainbow is such ____ beautiful thing.