

Articles



1. Complete the e mail with *a*, *an*, *the*, or - (=no article)

From: Friday, 8 July 16:13
To: Carola Whitney
Subject: Re: Hello!

Hi Carola

Thanks for your email. I would really like to write to you and practise my English.

I'm ¹ student at Buenos Aires University – it's ² biggest university in Argentina. I'm studying ³ medicine. I live in Buenos Aires with my grandmother, ⁴ my mother's mother, because my family live in ⁵ small town quite far away, but I go ⁶ home at ⁷ weekend.

I love listening to ⁸ classical music, and ⁹ last week I went to ¹⁰ amazing concert at ¹¹ Opera House here.

2. Read the following explanation. Then complete the activities.

11C articles

1 *a/an*

A. What's this? B. It's *a* photo of my daughter. (5 37))
A. What do they do? B. Jim's a doctor. Sally's *an* engineer.
A. How often do they have classes? B. Three times a week.

2 *the*

Can you close *the* window, please?
Can you check their address on *the* internet?
It's *the* best restaurant I know.

3 *a or the*

Let's have a pizza. *The* pizzas are very good here.

4 *no article*

Men are usually more interested in sport than women.
She's *my* mother's *cousin*. That's Tom's chair!
Jim goes to school by bus.

4

1 We use *a/an*
• to say what something is or what job people do.
• in expressions of frequency.

2 We use *the*
• when the speaker and hearer know the thing we are talking about: *Close the window* = the one that is open.
• when there is only one of something: *the internet*, *the sun*, etc.
• before superlative adjectives: *the biggest*, *the best*, etc.

3 We often use *a* the first time we mention a person or thing and then *the* the next time because it is now clear who or what we are talking about.

4 We don't usually use *the*
• when we talk about people or things in general:
Men are more interested in sport than women. (general)
The women in this class work harder than the men. (specific)
• before possessive's: *She's my mother's cousin*. NOT *She's the my mother's cousin*:
• with the following:
meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner, etc.
places: work, school, university, bed, home, etc.
by + transport: go by car, travel by train, etc.

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a Circle the correct word or phrase.

How much time do you spend on *internet* / *the internet*?

1 My brother is *at university* / *at the university* studying Maths.
2 I'd like *cup of tea* / *a cup of tea*, please.
3 We're going to visit my aunt *at weekend* / *at the weekend*.
4 We have English classes *twice a week* / *twice week*.
5 I love reading *novels* / *the novels*.
6 Yolanda is *best* / *the best* student in our class.
7 My mum's *lawyer* / *a lawyer*.
8 He's *the man* / *a man* that I told you about yesterday.
9 Can you open *a door* / *the door* for me, please?
10 He had *breakfast* / *the breakfast* late this morning.

b Complete with *the*, *a* / *an*, or -.

I'm going to buy *a* new laptop next week.

1 What time do you finish *the* work?
2 We usually go to the cinema once *the* month.
3 *The* children behaved very badly yesterday.
4 Lorena doesn't like *the* dogs.
5 I want to be *an* engineer when I finish studying.
6 *The* sun came out so we went for a walk.
7 Can you pass *the* salt, please?
8 My mum chose *the* most expensive dessert.
9 Last year we went on holiday by *the* train.
10 This is Joanne. She's *the* very good friend.

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