

ARTICLES

In pairs, read the dialogue and decide whether each gap should be *a / an, the* or *–* (no article). Write your answers.

Leah What are you up to at ¹_____ weekend, Toby?

Toby I'm going to go for ²_____ bike ride on Saturday. Do you fancy coming too?

Leah I can't, I'm afraid. I'm going to help my dad with some gardening. We're going to do some work for a neighbour.

Toby That doesn't sound like ³_____ best way to spend your weekend. Gardening is ⁴_____ hard work! And according to the forecast, ⁵_____ weather isn't going to be good.

Leah I know. But ⁶_____ neighbour is going to pay us for it. And my dad's ⁷_____ gardener, so he's got all the right tools.

Toby Really? I'll come and help you. I mean, if that's OK with you and your dad ...

Leah Sure. We'll share ⁸_____ money with you: £10 ⁹_____ hour. But what about ¹⁰_____ bike ride?

Toby I'll go on Sunday instead. The weather will probably be better then. Do you want to come?

Leah Yes, please. I love ¹¹_____ bike rides. But let's go in ¹²_____ afternoon. I'll be exhausted when I wake up!



Listen and check your answers.

Study the use of articles in the dialogue. Complete the **Learn this!** box with **a / an**, **the** or **–** (no article).

LEARN THIS! Articles

- a** We use ¹_____ when we mention something for the first time and ²_____ when we mention it again.
- b** We use ³_____ when it is clear what we are talking about, when there is only one of something, and in superlatives.
- c** We use ⁴_____ to say what someone's job is.
- d** We use ⁵_____ when we make generalisations.
- e** We use ⁶_____ to mean 'per' or 'in each'.
- f** There are set phrases which do not follow a rule.
go to school *at* ⁷_____ *weekend* *watch TV*
go to the cinema *in* ⁸_____ *morning / afternoon*
on Monday *listen to the radio* *at* _____ *night*
on _____ *table* *by* _____ *bus* *on* _____ *bus*

Complete the sentences with **a / an**, **the** or **–** (no article).
Use rules a–f in the **Learn this!** box to explain your answers.

- 1 My mum is _____ violin teacher. In fact, she's _____ only violin teacher in our town.
- 2 If you like _____ tennis, there's _____ sports centre next to _____ town hall. You can hire courts for £5 _____ hour.
- 3 I love _____ Chinese food and there's _____ great Chinese restaurant near my house.
- 4 _____ student in my class is having _____ party on _____ Saturday. I can't go to _____ party because I'm going to _____ theatre.
- 5 My brother, who is _____ accountant with one of _____ largest companies in London, earns £100 _____ hour.
- 6 If you're hungry, there's _____ sandwich in _____ fridge.