

Articles

An article accompanies a noun. There are two kinds of articles: definite and indefinite.

There is only one definite article and it is the word "**the**". A definite article points to a specific thing.

Example:

The chair is uncomfortable. → Here, we are talking about a specific chair.

There are two indefinite articles and they are "**a**" and "**an**". You use the article "**an**" when the word after the article begins with a vowel. You use the article "**a**" when the word after the article begins with a consonant.

Examples:

an apple → Apple begins with the letter a, which is a vowel

a banana → Banana begins with the letter b, which is a consonant

An indefinite article identifies that you are talking about one thing, but it is not pointing to a specific thing.

Example:

I want to eat an apple. → Here, we could be talking about **any** apple.

A. Give the appropriate indefinite article for each word.

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| 1. ____ hat | 5. ____ mountain |
| 2. ____ umbrella | 6. ____ elephant |
| 3. ____ insect | 7. ____ desk |
| 4. ____ old car | 8. ____ book |

B. Complete each sentence with the appropriate indefinite article.

1. I need ____ egg for my cake recipe.
2. Thomas gave me ____ pencil in English class.
3. Can I have ____ extra helping of fries, please?

4. My grandmother gave me _____ beautiful necklace for my birthday.
5. Gavin has three pets: _____ cat, _____ dog, and _____ iguana.
6. Martha wears _____ orange coat in the fall, but she wears _____ green one in the winter.
7. Harriet found _____ twenty dollar bill in a library book. What luck!

C. Complete each sentence with either a definite or an indefinite article. Use the context to help you decide which one to use.

1. Yesterday, I saw _____ moose.
2. Can you please put that glass in _____ dishwasher?
3. Ryan has _____ apple in his lunchbox.
4. _____ movie theatre is close to my house.
5. There was _____ accident on the highway last night.