

3. Another word like a possessive adjective may be used instead of the article or vice versa.

Example: The new island of Surtsey is its ideal natural laboratory
A B C
for scientists.
D

The best answer is (C). The indefinite article *an* meaning “one” must be used.

Example: Coral reefs are limestone formations composed of
A tiny sea organisms B and C the remains.
D

The best answer is (D). The possessive adjective *their* must replace the definite article *the* to show its reference to sea organisms.

Exercises on Articles

From the four underlined words or phrases (A), (B), (C), or (D), identify the one that is not correct.

1. The watt is named after James Watt, the British engineer who developed
the steam engine in 1760s.
A B
C D
2. Methane is a odorless burning gas and is the main ingredient of
natural gas.
A B C
D
3. The alcohol acts as a narcotic on the nervous system and the brain.
A B C D
4. Zachary Taylor was first president to be elected from a state west of
the Mississippi River.
A B C
D
5. Barnacles, which are related to lobsters, shrimp, and crabs, make
strongest glue.
A B C
D
6. In the 1860s Louis Pasteur discovered that bacteria in air caused
the perishable food to go bad.
A B
C D

7. Land covers almost third of the earth's surface, of which two-thirds is too cold or too dry for farming.
A B C D
8. "Old Faithful" in the Yellowstone National Park is probably the world's most famous geyser.
A B C D
9. Thermographs are special pictures that show the variation in heat emitted by different areas of body.
A B C D
10. The world's fastest animal is cheetah, but if birds are included, the fastest of all animals is the spine-tailed swift.
A B C D
11. The most of the energy used in our homes and factories is generated from coal, oil, and natural gas.
A B C D
12. Soybeans were first grown in the Orient and brought to the Western world during the World War Two.
A B C D