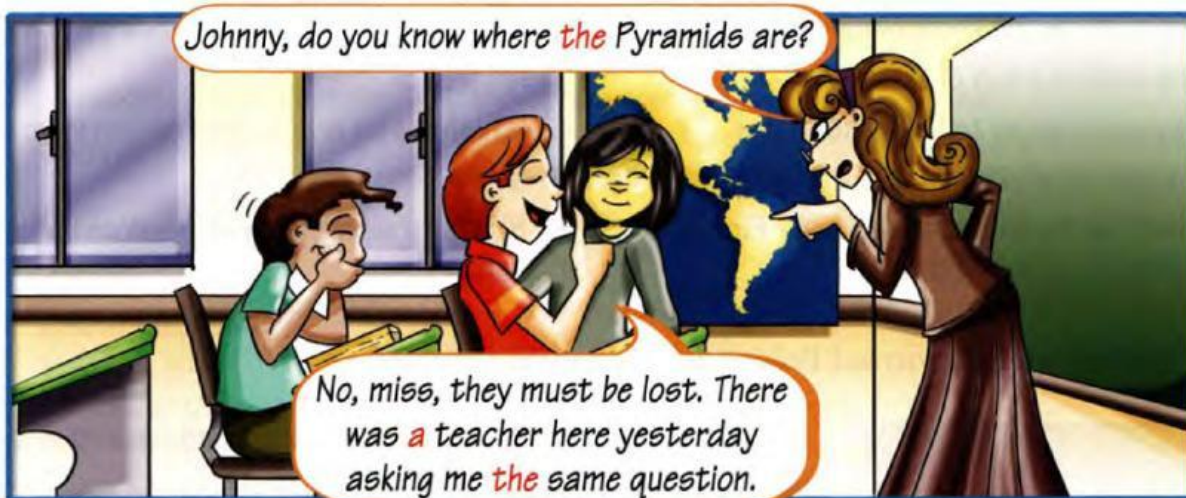




Listen and repeat. Then act out.



a + consonant sound (/b/, /d/, /g/, /f/, /l/, /p/, etc.) a pen
an + vowel sound (/æ/, /e/, /i/, /o/, /ə/, etc.) an apple

- **A / An** is used with singular countable nouns when we talk about things in general.
 An aeroplane is faster than a train. A greengrocer sells vegetables.
 (Which aeroplane? Aeroplanes in general.) (Which greengrocer? Greengrocers in general.)
- We often use **a / an** after the verbs 'to be' and 'have / have got'.
 He is a photographer. He has got a camera.
- We do not use **a / an** with **uncountable** or **plural** nouns. We can use **some** instead.
 Would you like **some** tea? Yes, please! And I'd like **some** biscuits. (NOT Would you like ~~a~~ tea?)
- **A / An** is not used before an adjective if it is not followed by a noun. However, if the adjective is followed by a noun, we use **a** if the adjective begins with a consonant noun and **an** if the adjective begins with a vowel sound.
 It's a ring. It's expensive. It's an expensive ring.
- **The** is used before **singular** and **plural** nouns, both **countable** and **uncountable**, when we talk about something specific or when the noun is mentioned for a second time.
 The boy who has just left is my cousin. (Which boy? Not any boy. A specific boy, the boy who has just left.)
 There is a cat on the sofa. **The** cat is sleeping. ('The cat' is mentioned for a second time.)
- We use **the** with the words **cinema, theatre, radio, country(side), seaside, beach, world, weekend, etc.**
 We go to **the beach** every Sunday.
- We use either **a / an** or **the** before a singular countable noun to represent a class of people, animals or things.
 A / The dolphin is more intelligent than a / the shark. (We mean dolphins and sharks in general.)
ALSO: Dolphins are more intelligent than sharks.

1 Fill in with *a*, *an* or *some*.



1 *an* apple



2 bananas



3 bird



4 cheese



5 diary



6 owl



7 egg



8 lemons



9 camel

2 Fill in: *a*, *an*, *the* or *some*.

1 A: Can I help you?

B: Yes. I'm looking for ... *a* ... book about whales.

2 A: When do you usually go to cinema?

B: At weekend.

3 A: Do you have any plans for tonight, Mandy?

B: Yes, I'm going out with friends.

4 A: Did you have fun at zoo?

B: Yes! We saw penguins and elephant.

5 A: What do you want to be when you grow up?

B: astronaut!

6 A: Where are boys, Bob?

B: They are playing in garden.

7 A: Did you buy anything at shops, Betty?

B: Yes, Mum. I bought silk scarf.

8 A: What's this?

B: It's old radio.

The is also used before:

- **nouns which are unique.**
Haven't you been to **the** Acropolis yet?
- **names of cinemas** (the Odeon), **hotels** (the Hilton), **theatres** (the Rex), **museums** (the Prado), **newspapers** (the Times), **ships** (the Queen Mary).
- **names of rivers** (the Thames), **seas** (the Black Sea), **groups of islands / states** (the Bahamas, the USA), **mountain ranges** (the Alps), **deserts** (the Gobi Desert), **oceans** (the Pacific) **and names with ... of** (The Tower of London).
- **musical instruments.**
Can you play **the** guitar?
- **names of people / families / nationality words.**
the Smiths, the English, the Italians, etc.
- **titles without proper names.**
the Queen, the President
- **the superlative degree of adjectives / adverbs (the best).**
He's **the** most intelligent student of all.

The is omitted before:

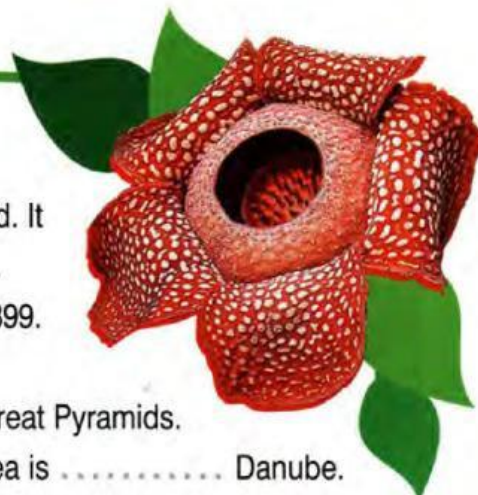
- **proper nouns.** Paula comes from **Canada**.
- **names of sports, activities, colours, substances and meals.**
He plays **tennis** well. She likes **blue**.
Soda isn't expensive. **Lunch** is ready.
- **names of countries** (Italy), **cities** (London), **streets** (Bond Street), **parks** (Hyde Park), **mountains** (Everest), **islands** (Cyprus), **lakes** (Lake Michigan), **continents** (Europe).
- **the possessive case or possessive adjectives.** This isn't **your** coat, it's **Kate's**.
- **the words 'home' and 'Father / Mother' when we talk about our own home / parents.**
Father isn't at **home**.
- **titles with proper names.**
Queen Elizabeth, President Kennedy
- **bed, school, church, hospital, prison, when they are used for the reason they exist.** John was taken to **hospital**. **BUT:** His mother went to **the hospital** to see him.

3 Fill in the where necessary. Then circle the correct answer.**QUIZ TIME**

- Is x Lisbon the capital of x Portugal?
A Yes **B** No
- Is Malta in Caspian Sea?
A Yes **B** No
- Is Lake Baikal in Russian Federation world's deepest lake?
A Yes **B** No
- Where is Sahara Desert?
A In Asia **B** In Africa
- What is biggest island in Greece?
A Corfu **B** Crete
- What is capital of Italy?
A Rome **B** Milan
- Is Arctic Ocean bigger than Indian Ocean?
A Yes **B** No
- Is Everest highest mountain in world?
A Yes **B** No
- Where are Sardinia and Corsica?
A In the Black Sea
B In the Mediterranean Sea
- Where is Mississippi River?
A In the USA **B** In the UK

4 Fill in the where necessary.

Did you know?



- 1 Rafflesia arnoldii is *the* largest flower in world. It weighs 7kg and grows only in Sumatra, Indonesia.
- 2 Johann Vaaler invented paperclip in 1899.
- 3 Badminton became an Olympic sport in 1992.
- 4 It took Egyptians 20 years to build Great Pyramids.
- 5 most important river entering Black Sea is Danube.
- 6 bass is largest of string instruments.

5 Fill in a or the where necessary.

John: Do you want to come to 1) *the* theatre with me tonight?

Ann: Sorry, I can't. I'm going to 2) restaurant with my cousin from 3) America.

John: What part of 4) USA does he come from?

Ann: He lives in 5) Colorado, near 6) Rocky Mountains. He's quite 7) famous musician. He plays 8) guitar in 9) rock band. In fact he's giving a concert at 10) Odeon in 11) Regent Street tomorrow evening.

6 Fill in a, an or the where necessary.

1 A: Can you tell me the way to *the* nearest bank, please?

B: Sure. Turn left here and you'll find it in Green Street.

2 A: Is this Ahmed's motorbike?

B: No, blue motorbike over there is his.

3 A: Where are Wilsons going on holiday?

B: They're going to Bahamas.

4 A: What do you know about Bermuda Islands?

B: They're in North Atlantic Ocean.

5 A: What shall we do tonight?

B: Let's go to Odeon. There's a comedy on with Jim Carrey.

6 A: I'm going to make pie for tonight.

B: Great!

7 A: I saw amazing film last night.

B: Really? What was it about?

8 A: Brad is going to London on business trip.

B: Is he going to stay at Mandeville Hotel again?

9 A: Would you like some ice cream?

B: No, thanks. I'd prefer sandwich.

- 7 Lisa recently went on holiday to Spain. While she was there, she visited three different places, tried the local food and bought some souvenirs. Look at the pictures and the words given and say what Lisa did using *a*, *an*, *some* or *the*, where necessary.



go / Barcelona

..... *Lisa went to Barcelona.*

eat / paella

.....



buy / Spanish fan for herself

.....

visit / Prado Museum

.....



take photos of / Lake Sanabria

.....

buy / flamenco dolls for her friends

.....



- 8 Complete the questions with *a*, *an* or *the*, where necessary, using the words in the list. Ask your partner to answer the questions.

• Mont Blanc

• breakfast

• UK

• African safari

• violin

• restaurant

• aeroplane

• basketball

- 1 A: Can you play *the violin* ?
B: *No, I can't but I can play the piano.*
- 2 What do you usually have for ?
- 3 Have you ever been to ?
- 4 Would you like to climb ?
- 5 Do you like ?
- 6 Would you ever go on ?
- 7 Are you going to eat at tonight?
- 8 Have you ever flown in ?



Speaking Activity

Talking about a place

In pairs, ask and answer questions about where you and your family went on holiday last summer, which places you visited, what local dishes you tried and what souvenirs you bought for your friends.

A: Where did you go on holiday last summer?

B: We went to Venice in Italy, etc.




Writing Activity

You are writing a letter to your English pen friend. You are telling him what you and your family did on your summer holiday. Write about: what places / visit, what / eat and what / buy.

Dear

I've just come back from We had a fabulous time there.

My family and I went to, which was fantastic. We

.....

.....

.....

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.....

.....

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.....

What about you? What did you do on your summer holiday?

Write back,

.....