

# FCSkills

## Articles: A/An, The, - .

Read the Theory and solve.

### 7.1 Articles 1

**A** Complete this text using the articles *a* or *the*.

#### Frank Leonard – Private Eye

When private investigator Frank Leonard got back to his office, there was 1 ..... woman waiting for him, 2 ..... woman he had never seen before. Or at least, he thought he had never seen her before, but when 3 ..... woman began to speak, he felt that there was something familiar about her. 'My name is Toyah Hart,' she said, offering him 4 ..... business card. 'I'm 5 ..... dancer,' she said, smiling in 6 ..... way that made Frank highly suspicious. She clearly wasn't 7 ..... person she said she was, he decided instantly. He looked at 8 ..... card closely and then took 9 ..... file out of his desk. He opened 10 ..... file. It was full of papers and photographs. He took 11 ..... photograph out of it and placed it on 12 ..... desk so that 13 ..... woman could see it. She looked briefly at 14 ..... photograph and 15 ..... smile that had been on her face disappeared. 'OK,' she said, her voice hardening, 'let's talk business.'

**B** Complete this text by filling the gaps with *a* or *the*.

#### Newspapers in Britain

An enormous number of people in Britain read 1 ..... national newspaper every day. Some have 2 ..... newspaper delivered to their home, while others buy one from 3 ..... shop, usually a newsagent. 4 ..... paper that people choose to read is 5 ..... paper which they feel corresponds with their own interests, often with regard to their political opinions.

There are basically two kinds of national newspaper in Britain: the 'broadsheets' and the 'tabloids'. Broadsheets focus on 6 ..... news and serious social

matters; tabloids focus more on 7 ..... latest gossip and scandal concerning famous people. *The Sun*, which is 8 ..... tabloid, is 9 ..... daily newspaper with 10 ..... highest sales figures. Some people are critical of 11 ..... approach taken by the tabloids, saying that they have 12 ..... bad effect on society. Nevertheless, 13 ..... fact that so many people buy them shows that there is 14 ..... big demand for 15 ..... kind of story they print.

**D** For the following sentences, fill the gaps with *a*, *an* or *the*, or put a dash (-) into the gaps if it is correct to leave them blank.

- 1 Don't lose ..... hope! I'm sure that ..... things will get better.
- 2 Ken feels that ..... job satisfaction is more important than ..... money.
- 3 Many people feel that ..... violence is a big problem in ..... society.
- 4 You need both ..... determination and ..... luck to succeed in that profession.
- 5 I read ..... interesting article about ..... changes that have been happening in ..... climate in this country recently.
- 6 Many people don't trust ..... politicians because all they want is ..... power.
- 7 This used to be ..... job that only ..... men did, but now ..... women do it, too.
- 8 They're protesting because they want ..... democracy, ..... freedom and ..... human rights.
- 9 What ..... surprise! I didn't expect you to buy me ..... present.
- 10 She finds ..... work she has to do quite easy; ..... boredom is her biggest problem.
- 11 I think ..... life must be ..... terrible struggle if you haven't got enough money to buy ..... things that you need.

- 12 You take ..... life too seriously – there's a place for ..... fun, too!
- 13 To achieve ..... success in some careers often depends on ..... support of ..... friends and ..... family.
- 14 Passing exams is not simply ..... matter of ..... knowledge or ..... intelligence; ..... techniques you use are also important.
- 15 ..... TV documentaries don't interest him; ..... programmes he likes are purely for ..... entertainment.
- 16 I told ..... Head of Department that I had ..... bad cold and couldn't go to ..... meeting that day.
- 17 She has never liked ..... authority; she won't take ..... orders and she hates ..... discipline.
- 18 Be careful what you say – ..... strangers find it difficult to understand ..... sense of humour in this region.
- 19 What ..... wonderful music this is and what ..... amazing songs they write! I think they are ..... group I like best of all.
- 20 I never discuss ..... religion or ..... politics; it always leads to ..... arguments.

## 7.2 Articles 2

**C** Complete these sentences using *the* if it is required and a preposition if one is required. It may be correct to put nothing (–) in the gap.

- 1 She's very ill and she's been ..... hospital for a couple of weeks.
- 2 Which subjects did you study when you were ..... university?
- 3 The police caught him and he is ..... prison now.
- 4 I go ..... church every Sunday.
- 5 Whereabouts in the city is ..... university?
- 6 ..... prison here was built centuries ago.
- 7 The ambulance took the injured people ..... nearest hospital.
- 8 ..... Church has a big influence on the community in that place.
- 9 I met him when we were in the same class ..... school.
- 10 I found ..... bed in my hotel room rather uncomfortable.
- 11 I came ..... home and went straight ..... bed.
- 12 I went ..... hospital to visit a friend.

**D** Complete these sentences using *the* if it is required. It may be correct to put nothing (–) in the gap.

- 1 I haven't been to ..... cinema for ages.
- 2 The tourists arrive by ..... ferry.
- 3 It's too far to walk, so we'll go in ..... car.
- 4 It says that ..... public do not agree with what ..... government is saying on that subject.
- 5 I travelled around the country on ..... train.
- 6 He's not very good at ..... physics but he's very good at ..... Spanish.
- 7 I don't know anything at all about ..... cricket – what are the rules?
- 8 He plays ..... saxophone in a local group.
- 9 Sometimes it's true that ..... rich get richer and ..... poor get poorer.
- 10 Did you know that ..... poker is my favourite card game?
- 11 They usually play ..... dance music in that club.
- 12 We were sitting next to each other on ..... plane.

*Teacher Daniela.*

