

GRAMMAR

a/an, the and no article

1 Choose the correct words to complete the sentences.

- 1 I think that **families** / **the families** are really important.
- 2 My sister wants to be **a** / **an** actor.
- 3 I'm learning to play **a** / **the** piano.
- 4 There isn't much for **the young people** / **young people** to do in my town.
- 5 I have **dinner** / **the dinner** with my family most evenings.
- 6 My mum can speak **Spanish** / **the Spanish**.
- 7 My uncle lives in **USA** / **the USA**.
- 8 Some parents put **pressure** / **the pressure** on their children to do well at school.
- 9 Was **a** / **the** film good last night?
- 10 There isn't **a** / **an** university in my town.

2 Complete what the people say about their families with *a/an*, *the* or no article (-).

A

I'm ¹..... only child but it isn't ²..... problem for me. I like spending ³..... time with my parents, and I've got ⁴..... friends I can see if I want to be with people my own age.

B

I come from ⁵..... big family with nine children, and ⁶..... house where we live is always very busy, especially in ⁷..... mornings, when everyone is trying to get ready for ⁸..... school!

C

I've got ⁹..... younger brother and he's really annoying! Like, he always wants to play ¹⁰..... same computer game that I want to play, at ¹¹..... only time I'm free to play! There are often ¹²..... arguments in our house! But other days we get on really well.

3 Read the sentences about Sam and her interesting family. Which sentences use articles correctly? Write C for correct or I for incorrect.

- 1 Sam Briggs lives in a small town in USA.
- 2 She lives with her parents and 24 brothers and sisters.
- 3 Sam's brothers and sisters come from all over the world.
- 4 Two of her brothers are from Mexico, and three sisters are from the Africa.
- 5 All the children had problems in their own countries, so Sam's parents offered them a home.
- 6 They have big house, with 10 bedrooms.
- 7 Sam works hard at school, and she wants to study art when she's older.
- 8 Sam loves her brothers and sisters and is really happy that she has unusual family!

4 Read Helen's blog about her life on a small Scottish island. Complete it with *a/an*, *the* or no article (-).

My home is on ¹..... small Scottish island. It's called Lewis and it's two and a half hours by boat from ²..... west coast of the mainland. About two thousand people live on ³..... island, and I know most of them! A lot of ⁴..... tourists visit in the summer, too. People often ask me what it's like to live here, so I'll tell you. Yes, we **do** have ⁵..... electricity and ⁶..... cars! In fact, we have most of ⁷..... things that you can get in ⁸..... towns and cities, even ⁹..... coffee shops and ¹⁰..... cinema. But it's different here because life is very relaxed. Of course, we have ¹¹..... stress sometimes, but not very much. I get on well with my family, and I know everyone else my age, so I can always ask ¹²..... friend for ¹³..... help if I need it. And it's easy for me to find out what's happening in other parts of ¹⁴..... world, because of course we have ¹⁵..... internet!

5 Read some questions people have left Helen on her blog. Complete them with *a/an*, *the* or no article (-).

- 1 Is there school on the island, or do you have to go across sea to the mainland?
- 2 I love meeting new people. Do you ever get fed up with seeing same people every day?
- 3 Do you want to find job on the island when you leave school, or do you want to move to big city like Edinburgh?
- 4 I think I would enjoy life on Lewis. Can I come and visit you for holiday?

