

Complete the text with a / an, the or - (no article).

DNA the reason women see colours better than men

Why are women generally able to see ¹ ____ colours better than men? Scientists say there is ² ____ reason for this, and ³ ____ reason is in our DNA. Our chromosomes contain DNA, which controls many things about us. The ability to see ⁴ ____ colour red is carried by the X chromosome. Men have only one X chromosome, but ⁵ ____ women have two of them. This means that it's easier for women to see red. This was important in prehistoric times when women were looking for ⁶ ____ fruit to eat. They needed to choose ⁷ ____ right fruit, so they had to be able to see ⁸ ____ difference between different colours. If they made ⁹ ____ mistake, they could kill their families and themselves. So, it was more important for women to see different colours, while men had ¹⁰ ____ other important skills.

PRONUNCIATION /ə/, two pronunciations of *the*

3.3 Listen and complete the sentences.

1. I'd like _____ to the _____.
2. The bus is _____ train.
3. What are we going _____?
4. Could you open _____?
5. She needs _____ her ankle.
6. We want _____ tomorrow.

3.4 Listen and repeat the phrases. Pay attention to the pronunciation of *the*.

1. The conversation was about the woman next door.
2. The university invited a guest to speak at the meeting.
3. I sometimes go to the theatre in the evening.

4. We took the lift instead of walking up the stairs.
5. The office gave me all the information I needed.
6. The grey skirt is nice, but I prefer the black one.