

## ARTICLES

In pairs, read the dialogue and decide whether each gap should be *a / an, the* or *–* (no article). Write your answers.

**Leah** What are you up to at <sup>1</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ weekend, Toby?

**Toby** I'm going to go for <sup>2</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ bike ride on Saturday. Do you fancy coming too?

**Leah** I can't, I'm afraid. I'm going to help my dad with some gardening. We're going to do some work for a neighbour.

**Toby** That doesn't sound like <sup>3</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ best way to spend your weekend. Gardening is <sup>4</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ hard work! And according to the forecast, <sup>5</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ weather isn't going to be good.

**Leah** I know. But <sup>6</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ neighbour is going to pay us for it. And my dad's <sup>7</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ gardener, so he's got all the right tools.

**Toby** Really? I'll come and help you. I mean, if that's OK with you and your dad ...

**Leah** Sure. We'll share <sup>8</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ money with you: £10 <sup>9</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ hour. But what about <sup>10</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ bike ride?

**Toby** I'll go on Sunday instead. The weather will probably be better then. Do you want to come?

**Leah** Yes, please. I love <sup>11</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ bike rides. But let's go in <sup>12</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ afternoon. I'll be exhausted when I wake up!



Listen and check your answers.

Study the use of articles in the dialogue. Complete the **Learn this!** box with **a / an, the** or **–** (no article).

### LEARN THIS! Articles

- a** We use <sup>1</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ when we mention something for the first time and <sup>2</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ when we mention it again.
- b** We use <sup>3</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ when it is clear what we are talking about, when there is only one of something, and in superlatives.
- c** We use <sup>4</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ to say what someone's job is.
- d** We use <sup>5</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ when we make generalisations.
- e** We use <sup>6</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ to mean 'per' or 'in each'.
- f** There are set phrases which do not follow a rule.  
*go to school*     *at* <sup>7</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ *weekend*     *watch TV*  
*go to the cinema*     *in* <sup>8</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ *morning / afternoon*  
*on Monday*     *listen to the radio*     *at* \_\_\_\_\_ *night*  
*on* \_\_\_\_\_ *table*     *by* \_\_\_\_\_ *bus*     *on* \_\_\_\_\_ *bus*

Complete the sentences with **a / an, the** or **–** (no article).  
Use rules a–f in the **Learn this!** box to explain your answers.

- 1 My mum is \_\_\_\_\_ violin teacher. In fact, she's \_\_\_\_\_ only violin teacher in our town.
- 2 If you like \_\_\_\_\_ tennis, there's \_\_\_\_\_ sports centre next to \_\_\_\_\_ town hall. You can hire courts for £5 \_\_\_\_\_ hour.
- 3 I love \_\_\_\_\_ Chinese food and there's \_\_\_\_\_ great Chinese restaurant near my house.
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_ student in my class is having \_\_\_\_\_ party on \_\_\_\_\_ Saturday. I can't go to \_\_\_\_\_ party because I'm going to \_\_\_\_\_ theatre.
- 5 My brother, who is \_\_\_\_\_ accountant with one of \_\_\_\_\_ largest companies in London, earns £100 \_\_\_\_\_ hour.
- 6 If you're hungry, there's \_\_\_\_\_ sandwich in \_\_\_\_\_ fridge.