a /an	the	-
When something is not specific or is one of many.	With specific things, things the speaker and the listener know.	To talk about things in general (plural) [1]
I need a book, a pencil and an eraser.	I need the books on the table.	Dolphins are very clever
To talk about something for the first time.	With things we've mentioned before.	Before possessive adjectives: my your his her its our your their
I saw a film last night.	The film was great!	My friend loved the film!
To talk about jobs or hobbies.	With a specific job only one person can have.	Before names and before Mr. Mrs. ....
Chrisa is a teacher. Habib is a swimmer.	She is the manager of the company.	Chrisa likes music. Mr. George is happy!
With singular countable nouns. [2]	With something unique or if there's one of it.	To talk about abstract concepts.
Give me a kiss!	The moon is full tonight	Life is beautiful.
In exclamations with What. . .!	With supelatives.	With certain phrases.
What a beautiful life!	You're the best friend I've ever had!	at school /home, in bed at university on holiday

[1] But: when it's specific:

The dolphins in the Amazon are pink.

(we're talking about a specific group of dolphins in the Amazon river)

[2] Right: I need a bottle of water.

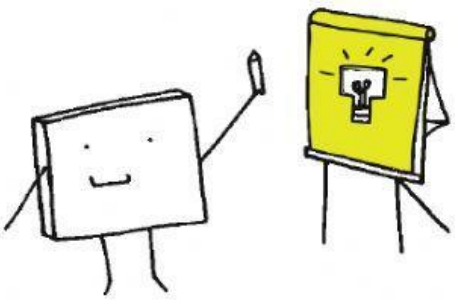
(bottle is countable)

Wrong: I need ~~a~~ water

Right: I need (some) water.

(water is uncountable)

Let's practise together !



1. Choose the correct article.

1. Hello, can I have cup of coffee, please?
2. I've got brother, my brother is teacher.
3. I love my friends! They are best!
4. Oh, what mess! What happened in room?
5. There is fly in my soup, flies are disgusting!
6. I love cats, but cat here is very naughty.
7. I'd like orange and three apples.
8. I'm engineer. George is manager of the company.
9. I listened to song last night. song made me cry.
10. He's at home. I think he went to bed.