

First Certificate Language Practice

Articles: A/An, The, -.

Read the theory and solve the activities.

Put *a/an* or *the* in each space, or leave the space blank.

- a) We went by / - train to **the** west of England.
- b) people who live in Netherlands are called Dutch.
- c) judge sent me to prison for ten years.
- d) Columbus was one of first people to cross Atlantic.
- e) As captain of ship, I have complete authority.
- f) David learned to play violin when he was at university.
- g) Trafalgar Square is near Charing Cross Station.
- h) Did you read book I lent you last week?
- i) We'll put up shelves and then go to cafe for something to eat.
- j) Is that present Bill gave you for Christmas?

Underline the most suitable phrase in each sentence.

- a) Is this *a person/the person* you told me about?
- b) This is *the only cinema/an only cinema* in the area.
- c) Philip has just bought *the Thames barge/a Thames barge*.
- d) I'm going to *the British Museum/British Museum* this afternoon.
- e) Are you going to *church/the church* on Sunday?
- f) Do you have *a milk jug/milk jug*?
- g) *The Prime Minister/Prime Minister* will give a speech this afternoon.
- h) *The computer/Computer* has already changed our lives dramatically.
- i) I haven't been to *an open-air theatre/open-air theatre* before.
- j) Here is *a thousand pounds/the thousand pounds* I owe you.

5 Put *a/an* or *the* in each space, or leave the space blank.

- a) Neil Armstrong made **the** first footprint on **the** Moon.
- b) There was accident yesterday at corner of street.
- c) I need time to think about offer you made me.
- d) recipe for success is hard work.
- e) people who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones.
- f) worst part of living in a caravan is lack of space.
- g) book you ordered last week is now in stock.
- h) dancing is more interesting activity than reading.

i)..... people we met on..... holiday in..... north of England sent us..... postcard.

j)..... little knowledge is..... dangerous thing.

6 Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. Do not change the word given. You must use between two and five words, including the word given.

a) There is one problem here, and that's the weather.

only

The.....**only**..... **problem**..... **here**..... **is**.....the weather.

b) There are no good films on this week.

cinema

There is nothing.....this week.

c) Can't you swim faster than that?

fastest

Is.....can swim?

d) I haven't been here before.

time

This is.....been here.

e) A lot of wine is drunk in France.

French

The.....a lot of wine.

f) If you drive faster, it is more dangerous.

the

The.....dangerous it is.

g) It is difficult to discover what is true.

truth

The.....discover.

h) Are you a good pianist?

piano

Can you.....well?

7 Underline the most suitable phrase in each sentence.

a) I was *under an impression/under the impression* that you had left.

b) I have to go. I'm *in a hurry/in hurry*,

c) I managed to sell the old painting *at a profit/at profit*.

d) I think I prefer the other restaurant *on the whole/on whole*.

e) How many hours do you work, *on average/on the average*, every week?

f) I was *in pain/in a pain* after I twisted my ankle.

g) Jack recovered from his accident and is now *out of danger/out of the danger*.

h) Excuse me, but you're *in the way/in a way*.

i) Sue felt seasick on *the cross-channel ferry/a cross the channel ferry*.

j) The burglar hit me on *my back of the neck/the back of my neck*.

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