

Articles

I can correctly use a / an and the with nouns.



This is **a** classroom in **a** primary school in South Korea. **The** classroom is very high-tech. There are some students on the floor. They are playing with a robot dog. Is there **a** teacher? Yes, there is, but **the** teacher is a robot! It is difficult to find English teachers in South Korea, so they are starting to use robots instead. **The** robot can speak, and correct pronunciation. Are **the** robots popular with **the** students? Chung Cha, **the** girl on the right, says, 'The robots are fun, but I think **a** real teacher is better. I hope robots don't replace teachers because I want to study languages **at university** and be **an** English teacher one day!'

- 1 Look at the photo of the classroom. What is unusual about it?
- 2 Read the text and check your ideas. Would you like to learn English in a classroom like this? Why? / Why not?

LEARN THIS! Articles

- a We use ¹_____ to talk about something for the first time.
*There's **an** interactive whiteboard in our classroom.*
- b We use ²_____ when we mention something again.
*Our teacher often **uses the** interactive whiteboard.*
- c We use ³_____ when it is clear what we are talking about, or when there is only one of something.
*We **play basketball in the** gym. (The gym at school)
The sun **is** shining.*
- d We use ⁴_____ to say what someone's job is.
*My mum's **a** teacher.*
- e Note these set phrases.
 - ⁵_____: listen to the radio, go to the cinema, play the guitar
 - ⁶_____: watch TV, listen to music, in / to bed, to / at / from school, at home / work, in hospital

- 3 Read the **Learn this!** box. Complete the rules with *a / an, the, or no article (-)*.
- 4 Read the text in exercise 2 again. Match each of the highlighted words with a rule in the **Learn this!** box.

- 5 Complete the dialogue. Use *a / an or the*. Explain your choices.

Martha I go to school near ¹**the** city centre.
 Jake Really? What's ²_____ name of ³_____ school?
 Martha St Mark's. It's ⁴_____ private school.
 Jake I know ⁵_____ girl who goes there. Alice Smith.
 Martha There's ⁶_____ Alice Smith in my class. I wonder if it's ⁷_____ same one.
 Jake She's got blue eyes, long wavy hair and ⁸_____ nice smile.
 Martha That's her! Which school do you go to?
 Jake Hadfield College.
 Martha Oh. My dad's ⁹_____ maths teacher there: John Chapman.
 Jake You're joking! He's my teacher!

LOOK OUT!

We do not use *the* when we make generalisations.

I don't like history. (the history X)

I like playing basketball at school. (the basketball X)

- 6 Read the **Look out!** box. Are the sentences below generalisations or not? Circle the correct words.

- 1 Dogs / The dogs are more intelligent than cats / the cats.
- 2 Weather / The weather is nice today.
- 3 Football / The football is more fun than volleyball / the volleyball.

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- 7 Read the **Learn this!** box and complete the rules with *is or are*. Find one example of *there is* and one example of *there are* in the text in exercise 2.

LEARN THIS! *There is / are*

- a We use *There* ¹_____ with singular nouns.
*There **is** a book on the desk.*
- b We use *There* ²_____ with plural nouns.
*There **are** twenty children in the class.*
- c The short form of *There* ³_____ is *There's*. *There* ⁴_____ does not have a short form.

- 8 **VOCABULARY** Check the meaning of the words below. Which ones are in your classroom?

In school canteen classroom computer corridor
 desk gym hall interactive whiteboard
 laptop noticeboard playing field reception
 staff room textbook whiteboard

- 9 **SPEAKING** Imagine you are describing your school to a visitor. Talk about some of the places and things in exercise 8. Use *There is / are* and articles correctly.

There's a canteen and a gym. There are ...