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## Articles for kids

**A, An, The** - are Articles

**A, An- Indefinite Articles.**

**The - Definite Articles**

*Read the following sentences -*

- Ice cream is delicious.  
**An** ice cream is delicious.
- Jaipur is beautiful city.  
Jaipur is **a** beautiful city.

The word '**a**' or '**an**' are called **Indefinite Articles** because these words do not point out to any definite person or thing.

*Examples -*

- Bird in nest is beautiful.  
**The** bird in **the** nest is beautiful.

The word '**the**' is called the **Definite Articles** because it points out some particular person or thing.

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<b>A, An, The</b>	->	<b>Articles</b>
<b>A, An</b>	->	<b>Indefinite Articles.</b>
<b>The</b>	->	<b>Definite Articles</b>

*Read the following sentences -*

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**An** ice cream is delicious.
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Jaipur is **a** beautiful city.
- Bird in nest is beautiful.**  
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## Usage of 'A' and 'An'

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1. Only countable nouns in singular take **A** or **An**, whereas **A** is used words beginning with a constant sound and **An** is used before words beginning with a vowel sound or with a silent 'h'.  
**For Example** - **a** book, **a** boy, **a** cow, **an** orange, **an** eye, **an** honest man, **an** ear, etc.
2. **A** and not **An** is used before words which begin with a vowel but have the sound of a consonant like 'university' or 'one'.  
**For Example**. - I hope to go to **a** university soon. Such **a** one was never seen before.
3. Things that cannot be counted have no **indefinite articles A, An**.  
**For Example** - *ink, wood, milk*.
4. **A/An** is also not used before plural nouns (hats) or proper nouns. (Holi)

## More Examples:

The Metro in Delhi is fascinating.

- We use '**A**' before a constant sound and before 'u' pronounced as 'you':  
**a** bus, **a** house, **a** dog, **a** year.  
**a** university, **a** useful thing, **a** European, **a** union.
- We use '**An**' before a **vowel** sound (a, e, i, o, u) and 'a' before silent 'h':  
**an** aeroplane, **an** engine-driver, **an** island, **an** orange, **an** umbrella.  
**an** honest man, **an** hour late.

When we speak of a person or thing for the *first time*, we use '**a**' or '**an**' before the noun. But afterward, we use '**the**' before it.

When we wish to particularise a noun, we use '**the**' before it:

**The** red books are on **the** table.

**The** small baby is in **the** cot.

The is used before a common noun when the noun is the name of only one thing of its kind:

**the** sun, **the** moon, **the** earth, **the** sky.

The is used with a single common noun to represent a whole class:

**The** tiger is a fierce animal. (Tigers are fierce animals.)

The is used before *superlatives* and *ordinals* (first, second, third twelfth, etc.)

**The** best book. **The** most interesting story. **The** most useful tool. **The** first of March,  
on **the** third occasion, **the** twelfth man.

**The** is used to indicate a particular direction:

**the** east, **the** west, **the** north, **the** south.

**The** sun rises in the east. **The** sunsets in **the** west.

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## Usage of 'The'

1. **The definite article** is used when we speak of a particular person or thing or one who has already been referred to,  
**For Example** - I saw **a** house at the corner of the street. **The** house was built with red bricks.
2. **The** is used with a singular **countable noun** which represents a whole class,  
**For Example** - **The cow** is a useful animal.
3. **The** is used with **superlative** forms,  
**For Example** -  
He is **the** tallest boy.  
Honesty is **the** best policy.
4. **The** is used with the names of **rivers, seas, gulfs, oceans, groups of islands, mountain ranges, newspapers, holy books**, etc.  
**For Example** - **The** Bay of Bengal, **The** Persian Gulf, **The** Himalaya, **The** Ganges, **The** Indian Ocean, **The** Arabian Sea, **The** Ramayana, **The** Mahabharata, and **The** Hindustan Times, etc.
5. **The** is used before common nouns which are only one of their kind.  
**For Example** - **The** Sun rises in **the** East. **The** Earth revolves around the Sun.
6. **The** is not used before **proper, abstract nouns**, names of metals or substance used for making things, names of **languages, games** or **names of meals**.  
**For Example** - *Canada, India, Suresh, honesty, happiness, gold, silver, Russian, Spanish, cricket, football, coffee, biscuits*, etc.

### More Examples:

- Names of rivers:  
**the** Ganges, **the** Hooghly, **the** Thames, **the** Nile.
- Names of *seas, oceans, gulfs* and *bays*:  
**the** Red Sea, **the** Atlantic, **the** Persian Gulf, **the** Bay of Bengal.
- Names of mountain ranges:  
**the** Himalaya, **the** Alps, **the** Rocky mountains.
- Names of people (nations):  
**the** English, **the** french, **the** dutch, **the** Japanese, **the** Chinese.
- Names of newspapers and holy books:  
**The** Times of India, **The** Statesman, **the** Ramayana, **the** Bible.
- Names of famous buildings:  
**the** Taj Mahal, **the** Red Fort, **the** Quatab Minar.

### Omission of Articles

Articles are omitted before: most proper nouns, names of countries, states, cities and towns, names of days and months.

### Articles solved examples for kids

In the passage given below, one article has been omitted in each line. Write the most appropriate article against the correct blank with the word that comes before and the word that comes after.

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	before	word	after
When our class planned excursion we did not have any idea	planned	an	excursion
about procedure for hiring a private bus. We had very few days left for	about	the	procedure
our preparation. School had given	preparation	the	school
us unique opportunity to travel.	us	a	unique
Our teacher provided great help	provided	a	great
and gave us perfect guidance.	us	the	perfect
Even Principal was equally helpful in	even	the	principal
making it great success.	it	a	great

## Worksheet/Exercise

### Exercise 1

*There is an error in the following sentences. Tick the correct sentences, choosing from the options given below.*

**Question 1:** A pen is mightier than a sword.

1. The pen is mightier than the sword.
2. A pen is mightier than the sword.
3. An pen is mightier than a sword.
4. No error.

**Question 2:** A Rajdhani Express is the fastest train in India.

1. The Rajdhani Express is the fastest train in India.

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2. A Rajdhani Express is a fastest train in India.
3. An Rajdhani Express is the fastest train in India.
4. The Rajdhani Express is a fastest train in India.

**Question 3:** Yesterday we met an European who was the University Professor.

1. Yesterday we met an Europe who was an University Professor.
2. Yesterday we met the European who was the University Professor.
3. Yesterday we met a Europe who was a University Professor.
4. No error.

**Question 4:** Sri Lanka is the island in an Indian Ocean.

1. The Sri Lanka is an island in an Indian ocean.
2. Sri Lanka is the in the Indian Ocean.
3. Sri Lanka is a island in an Indian ocean.
4. Sri Lanka is an island in the Indian Ocean.

**Question 5:** An union of domestic servants was formed.

1. An union of the domestic servants was formed.
2. A union of domestic servants was formed.
3. The union of domestic servants were formed.
4. A union of an domestic servants was formed.

**Question 6:** Is he a heir to the throne?

1. Is he the heir to a throne?
2. Is he an heir to the throne?
3. Is he a heir to an throne?
4. Is he an heir to an throne?

**Question 7:** A Yamuna is a sacred river.

1. An Yamuna is the sacred river.
2. The Yamuna is an sacred river.
3. The Yamuna is a sacred river.
4. A Yamuna is the sacred river.

**Question 8:** The proposal was accepted by the unanimous vote.

1. The proposal was accepted by a unanimous vote.
2. A proposal was accepted by an unanimous vote.
3. A proposal was accepted by the unanimous vote.
4. A proposal was accepted by a unanimous vote.

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## Exercise 2

*Fill in the blanks with suitable articles wherever necessary. Put a (x) where no article is required.*

1. The world is \_\_\_\_ happy place.
2. She is \_\_\_\_ untidy girl.
3. Let us discuss \_\_\_\_ matter seriously.
4. Which is \_\_\_\_ longest river in India?
5. The old man saw \_\_\_\_ three monkeys but paid no attention to them.
6. \_\_\_\_ Ganga is \_\_\_\_ sacred river.
7. I first met him \_\_\_\_ year ago.
8. India is one of \_\_\_\_ most industrial countries in Asia.

## Exercise 3

*There is an article missing in each line in the given passage. Write the missing article in the space provided. If no article is required, write 'no article'.*

1. I was / eyewitness to  
(a) \_\_\_\_
2. / accident on Delhi-Panipat line  
(b) \_\_\_\_
3. I was travelling by / Shatabdi Express.  
(c) \_\_\_\_
4. I heard / loud explosion when  
(d) \_\_\_\_
5. / train was about to reach  
(e) \_\_\_\_
6. Sonipat.  
(f) \_\_\_\_

## Exercise 4

*Fill in the blanks with the suitable articles, whenever necessary.*

This year (a) \_\_\_\_ English club of our school is organising (b) \_\_\_\_ Inter House debate competition on (c) \_\_\_\_ 'Environment Day' (d) \_\_\_\_ topic is 'Pollution Free Delhi' Each house will have to select (e) \_\_\_\_ team of two participants. Invitations will be sent to (f) \_\_\_\_ judges and (g) \_\_\_\_ chief guest. (h) \_\_\_\_ competition is for classes V and VI.

## Exercise 5

*Exercise the correct article in the following sentences.*

1. Raghav is reading **a/an/the** excellent book on science fiction.
2. Zoya's mother is **a/an/the** Christian and her father is a/an/the Muslim.
3. My uncle is **a/an/the** University professor.
4. **A/An/The** rich should always help a/an/the poor.

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5. **A/An/The** Mangeshi Temple in Goa attracts a/an/the large number of pilgrims from all over India.
6. Would you like to see **a/an/the** plans before we go for a/an/the meeting?
7. Nikhil saw a/an/the owl in **a/an/the** Park near his house yesterday.
8. My father is leaving for **a/an/the** European tour next week.

## Exercise 6

*Complete the following passage with appropriate articles.*

We only take (a) \_\_\_\_ few seconds to pass through (b) \_\_\_\_ earth's atmosphere which is relatively hardly thicker than (c) \_\_\_\_ skin of an orange (d) \_\_\_\_ apple or (e) \_\_\_\_ peach.

## Exercise 7

*Choose the correct sentences from the given options.*

**Question 1:** Honesty is a best policy.

1. Honesty is an best policy.
2. Honesty was a best policy.
3. The honesty is the best policy.
4. Honesty is the best policy.

**Question 2:** He is a engineer in a big firm.

1. He is the engineer in a big firm.
2. He is an engineer in the big firm.
3. He is an engineer in a big firm.
4. He is the engineer in the big firm.

**Question 3:** Gorillas that live in the western part of central Africa are called a Lowland Gorillas.

1. Gorillas that live in a western part of central Africa are called a Lowland Gorillas.
2. Gorillas that live in the western part of the central Africa are called a Lowland Gorillas.
3. The Gorillas that live in a western part of the central Africa are called the Lowland Gorillas.
4. Gorillas that live in the western part of central Africa are called the Lowland Gorillas.

**Question 4:** Ravi bought a dozen apples and a orange.

1. Ravi bought the dozen apples and the orange.
2. Ravi bought a dozen apples and an orange.
3. Ravi bought an dozen apples and a orange.
4. Ravi bought the dozen apples and a orange.

**Question 5:** You are going too fast, you are exceeding a speed limit.

1. You are going too fast, you are exceeding the speed limit.

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2. You are going too fast, you are exceeding the speed limit.
3. You are going too fast, you are exceeding an speed limit.
4. You going fast, you are an exceeding a speed limit.

## Exercise 8

*Fill in the blanks with appropriate articles.*

Simla is one of (a) \_\_\_\_ most popular hill stations in India. It is (b) \_\_\_\_ beautiful city. It used to be (c) \_\_\_\_ winter capital of India before independence. People visit this place to enjoy (d) \_\_\_\_ charging beautiful of Simla.

## Exercise 9

*Fill the blanks with 'A', 'An' or 'the':*

1. \_\_\_\_ Kingfisher is \_\_\_\_ small bird.
2. \_\_\_\_ honest man will speak \_\_\_\_ truth.
3. \_\_\_\_ sewing machine is \_\_\_\_ useful invention.
4. \_\_\_\_ earth moves round \_\_\_\_ sun.
5. I bought \_\_\_\_ buffalo, \_\_\_\_ ox and \_\_\_\_ horse.
6. February is \_\_\_\_ shortest month of \_\_\_\_ year.
7. \_\_\_\_ soldier wears \_\_\_\_ uniform.
8. \_\_\_\_ cold winds were blowing last night.
9. \_\_\_\_ children found \_\_\_\_ egg in \_\_\_\_ nest.
10. \_\_\_\_ lion is \_\_\_\_ king of beasts.
11. \_\_\_\_ Germans defeated \_\_\_\_ Fresh in \_\_\_\_ Second World War.
12. \_\_\_\_ school will close for \_\_\_\_ Diwali holidays on \_\_\_\_ tenth of October.
13. \_\_\_\_ spacecraft flew over \_\_\_\_ Atlantic ocean.
14. \_\_\_\_ moon looks like \_\_\_\_ lamp in \_\_\_\_ sky.
15. \_\_\_\_ Taj Mahal is one of \_\_\_\_ wonders of \_\_\_\_ world.

## Exercise 10

*Insert articles where necessary and rewrite the sentences:*

1. Cow is useful animal.  
The cow is a useful animal.
2. Ant is insect.  
Ans. \_\_\_\_
3. Chilka lake lies on eastern coasts of Orissa.  
Ans. \_\_\_\_
4. Bible is holy book for Christians.  
Ans. \_\_\_\_
5. He is wisest man in village.  
Ans. \_\_\_\_
6. Lily is beautiful flower.  
Ans. \_\_\_\_
7. World is happy place.  
Ans. \_\_\_\_



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8. Guide knows way.  
Ans. \_\_\_\_\_
9. Ganges rises in Himalayas.  
Ans. \_\_\_\_\_
10. I waited for hour and half.  
Ans. \_\_\_\_\_
11. He plays guitar and tabla.  
Ans. \_\_\_\_\_
12. Sun, moon and stars are heavenly bodies.  
Ans. \_\_\_\_\_

## Exercise 11

*Fill the blanks with suitable articles -*

1. She is \_\_\_\_\_ woman who works in the hospital as \_\_\_\_\_ nurse.
2. We take breakfast in \_\_\_\_\_ morning.
3. I wish you all \_\_\_\_\_ Happy New Year.
4. There are many seats in \_\_\_\_\_ yellow bus.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ European came to my house yesterday.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ honest man is respected by all.
7. That is \_\_\_\_\_ shop which has all \_\_\_\_\_ Harry Potter books.
8. In the zoo, I saw \_\_\_\_\_ owl, \_\_\_\_\_ elephant, and \_\_\_\_\_ lion.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ Indian team defeated \_\_\_\_\_ Pakistan team in T-20 World Cup 2007.
10. I am going out for \_\_\_\_\_ hour.

## Exercise 12

**Question 1:** *Fill in the blank with a suitable article.*

Mr. Gupta is \_\_\_\_\_ taxi driver. One rainy day \_\_\_\_\_ old woman flagged down his taxi. She was carrying \_\_\_\_\_ umbrella and \_\_\_\_\_ basket of fruit. Mr. Gupta stopped the taxi. \_\_\_\_\_ old woman tried to open the door of the taxi but she could not. Mr. Gupta got off his taxi and opened \_\_\_\_\_ door for her. As \_\_\_\_\_ old woman was getting into \_\_\_\_\_ taxi, \_\_\_\_\_ pear and \_\_\_\_\_ orange fell out of her basket. Mr. Gupta picked up \_\_\_\_\_ pear and \_\_\_\_\_ orange for her. Poor Mr. Gupta got very wet.

**Question 2:** *Fill in the blank with a suitable article.*

It was \_\_\_\_\_ cold winter night. There was \_\_\_\_\_ slight breeze and \_\_\_\_\_ few drops of rain fell gently on \_\_\_\_\_ roof of our house. Outside on \_\_\_\_\_ branch of \_\_\_\_\_ tree \_\_\_\_\_ owl hooted at \_\_\_\_\_ sound of \_\_\_\_\_ mouse jumping in \_\_\_\_\_ bushes. Suddenly \_\_\_\_\_ cloud came in front of \_\_\_\_\_ moon and darkness covered \_\_\_\_\_ ground like \_\_\_\_\_ umbrella.

## Exercise 13

An article is missing from each line. A slash [/] has been given. The first one has been done for you.

It had been / a long time since I visited / \_\_\_\_\_ Lotus Pond. I went there recently and was

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surprised to see / \_\_\_\_ changes that had taken place. / \_\_\_\_ Bird Park and / \_\_\_\_ Butterfly Farm was full of visitors. There was also / \_\_\_\_ aquarium but I did not have / \_\_\_\_ opportunity to visited it because I had only / \_\_\_\_ hour to spare. Any person visiting / \_\_\_\_ place must have / \_\_\_\_ lot of time to spare.

