

2/8/2021

There are three articles – **a**, **an**, **the**.

We use **a** before words that begin with a consonant sound.

We use **an** instead of **a** before words that begin with a vowel sound.

EXAMPLES: There is **a** tiger in the jungle.

Take **an** umbrella with you because it is raining outside.

Some words may begin with a vowel but may have a consonant sound.

In such cases we use **a** before the word.

EXAMPLES: Gopal has gone to study at **a** university in England.

Anne Marie is **a** European.

In these cases, the pronunciation of **u** is **yu** and **y** is a consonant.

Some words may begin with a consonant but may have a vowel sound.

EXAMPLES: Raman has gone out for **an** hour.

(**h** is silent, so the word begins with the vowel sound of **o**)

Mridula is **an** MA in history.

(the pronunciation of **M** is **em**, so the letter **M** begins with the vowel sound of **e**)

A. Fill in the blanks with a or an.

1. Mohini wants to eat an orange.
2. Elephants are said to have a good memory.
3. Sumeet is as proud as a peacock.
4. The man was wearing a uniform.
5. A clown performs in a circus.
6. An emu is an Australian bird.
7. Please give me the book quickly. I am in a hurry.
8. I am looking for a red shirt.
9. Dilesh has an idea. It is a good one.
10. Would you like a cup of tea?
11. Shreeja is an English teacher.
12. An umbrella is a useful thing to carry when it is raining.
13. Please give Shashi a one-rupee coin.
14. This is a story about a horse and a unicorn.
15. The boy wanted to buy a red kite.



B. Fill in the blanks with a or an to complete the paragraph.

One day a monkey found an orange and a carrot in an old shed. It gave the orange to an ape that lived in a tree. The ape put the carrot in an empty box to eat it later. A little while later a hungry fox found the carrot and took it to its lair under an old oak tree in a field.

A and **an** are called **indefinite articles**. When we talk about something for the first time we use an indefinite article. If we talk about it again, we use **the**.

EXAMPLE: Once there was **a** forest near Ranchi.

There was **a** jamun tree in **the** forest. **The** tree was twenty years old.

The is called the **definite article**.

The definite article is also used when we talk about a particular thing.

EXAMPLE: We went to Agra to see **the** Taj Mahal.

The is also used when we wish to use a noun to represent a whole class.

EXAMPLES: **The** peacock is said to be a proud bird.

The computer stores and analyses information.

We use **the** before some proper nouns. It is used before the names of

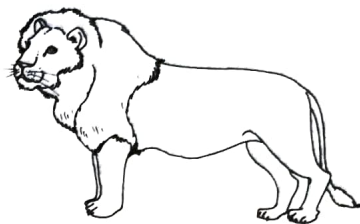
- ❖ mountain ranges — the Alps, the Himalaya, the Nilgiris
- ❖ oceans and seas — the Arctic Ocean, the Indian Ocean, the Arabian Sea
- ❖ rivers — the Indus, the Amazon
- ❖ famous monuments — the Taj Mahal, the Vivekananda Memorial
- ❖ certain books and newspapers — the Bible, the Hindu
- ❖ things that are only one of their kind — the Earth, the Sun

C. Fill in the blanks with a, an or the.

1. Pamela is the fastest runner in the school.
2. There is a girl in my class who has brown hair.
3. Would you like a peach?
4. Tom is the best player in the football team.
5. What an interesting story it is!
6. Uncle Tom's Cabin is a book I really like.
7. Rama reads the Bhagavadgita every morning.
8. The Nile flows through Egypt.



9. A belt is worn around the waist.
10. Do you know the name of the tallest person in the world?
11. My mother bought a kilogram of grapes and a dozen bananas from the market.
12. Please return the pencil and the pen that I lent you.
13. I like looking at the picture of my grandparents on a wall in my room.
14. A lion is the king of the jungle.
15. A neem tree is very useful.
16. There are dark clouds in the sky.
17. Nisha is wearing a new pair of shoes.
18. I saw the famous Grand Canyon while I was in the United States.
19. Mr Smith was a soldier in the Second World War.
20. Mahua saw Santa Claus giving toffees to the children.



D. Circle the articles and fill in the blanks with words from the box.

kingfisher egg snake cat present dust book
father eyes cow playwright crop

1. I saw the snake bite the man.
2. Would you like an egg for breakfast?
3. Henry gave me a present for my birthday.
4. A cow was in the shed.
5. I think I saw a pair of eyes shining in that bush.
6. I read a very funny book yesterday.
7. Tigers and leopards belong to the cat family.
8. Pataudi's father was a cricketer too.
9. I saw a little kingfisher near the Gateway of India.
10. Wheat is the main crop of Punjab.
11. A vacuum cleaner is useful for cleaning the dust hidden in corners.
12. Shakespeare is the greatest playwright the world has ever known.