



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Class: VII	Department: ENGLISH	Date of submission: JUNE, 2025
Worksheet No: 9	Topic: The Articles	Note: To be done in notebooks



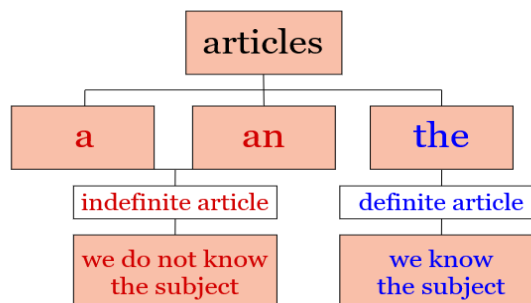
Definition of an Article

An article is defined as any of a small set of words or affixes (such as **a**, **an**, and **the**) used with nouns. An article is a kind of determiner.

Types of Articles

There are three articles in English – ‘a’, ‘an’ and ‘the’.
These articles are divided into two types namely:

- Definite Article
- Indefinite Article



Definite Article

Among the three articles, ‘the’ is said to be the definite article. A definite article is used to determine something that is specific or particular. It is also used before plural nouns and to indicate the superlative degree of comparison. Furthermore, it can be used before collective nouns as well.
For example:

- **The** Sun sets in **the** west.

In the above sentence, the nouns ‘Sun’ and ‘west’ are proper nouns and are specific and so the definite article has to be used.

- **The** children are playing cricket.

In the above sentence, the definite article is used to determine the plural noun, 'children'.

- This is **the** world's longest river.

In the above sentence, the definite article is used to denote the superlative degree of comparison.

- **The** crowd sang along with **the** band.

In the above sentence, the definite article is used before the collective nouns, 'crowd' and 'band'.

Indefinite Article

The articles 'a' and 'an' are termed as indefinite articles. An indefinite article, as the name suggests, is used to indicate something that is not definite or specific. It can also be used before singular nouns.

Among the indefinite articles, 'an' is used before singular nouns that start with vowel sounds and 'a' is used before singular nouns that begin with consonant sounds.

For example:

- I had **an** apple for breakfast.
- Do you have **an** eraser?
- I saw **an** aeroplane.
- She has **a** pet dog.
- My father is **a** doctor.
- My brother gave me **a** calculator.

Usage and Exceptions – Points to be Remembered When Using Articles.

A or an?

The article 'an' is normally used before words that begin with vowel sounds. However, this is often confused with the idea that it can be used before words that start with a vowel. Look at the examples given below to understand how this works.

- I have **an** umbrella.
- This is **an** orange.
- **An** elephant was crossing the road.

If you see here, the words 'university' and 'unique' start with a vowel. However, it does not have a vowel sound but a consonant sound 'yu' in the beginning. It is because of this reason that the indefinite article, 'a' is used instead of 'an'.

- Studying in **a** university will give you a lot of exposure.

- This is **a** unique way of communicating with birds.

In the examples given below, ‘an’ is used before ‘MBA’ and ‘hour’ though they are words starting with consonants. This is because the word ‘MBA’ starts with ‘m’ which has a vowel sound (em) in the beginning. Likewise, the ‘h’ in the word ‘hour’ is silent, thus having a vowel sound in the beginning.

- I have completed **an** MBA degree.
- It took **an** hour to reach the airport.

Exceptions

 ***Words starting with a vowel, but use ‘a’ instead of ‘an’:***

- One
- University
- Unique
- Uniform
- Unit
- Eucalyptus
- Utensil
- Euro
- UFO

 ***Words starting with a consonant, but use ‘an’ instead of ‘a’.***

- Hour
- Honest
- Hourly
- MBA
- MBBS
- MA
- MSc
- MMR
- MCom
- MLA
- NCC
- Honorary
- X-ray
- Xmas

There are also some cases in which you will have to use the definite article ‘the’ before a common noun. Look at the following set of sentences to understand how this works.

Example 1: My brother and I are going for **a** wedding reception. **The** reception is held in an open lawn at 7 p.m.

Example 2: I saw **a** dog at the end of the street. **The** dog came running to me.

Example 3: Tarun watched **a** movie yesterday. He felt that **the** movie was too slow.

Examples of Articles

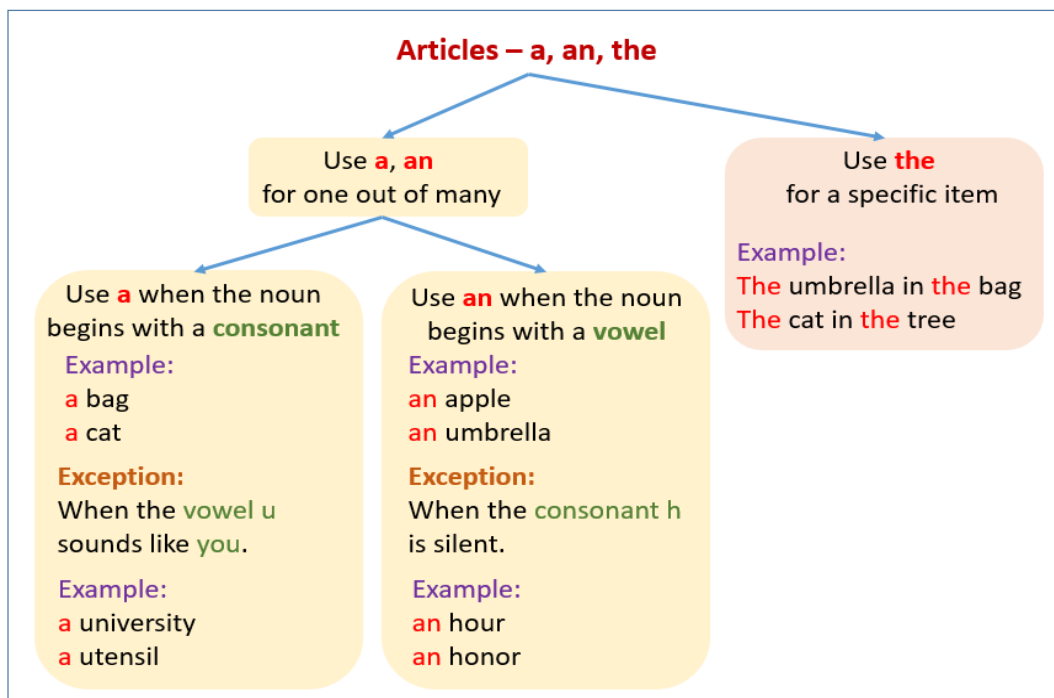
Let us look at a few more examples to find out how articles can be used.

- **The** English teacher is absent today.
- I saw **a** bird sitting on **the** tree in front of my house.
- Not many know how to use **an** oven properly.
- Tom has **a** cat.
- We are going to buy **a** dress for our daughter.
- Carry **an** umbrella. I am sure it will rain.
- Keren found **a** puppy on the road.
- **The** parents have been asked to attend **a** meeting tomorrow.
- **The** committee has decided to bring down **the** fuel rates.
- Due to **a** strike, **the** shops have been closed.

EXERCISE

Fill in the blanks with the appropriate articles in the following sentences:

1. Have you watched _____ new movie?
2. I have never used _____ computer.
3. Do you know _____ multiplication tables?
4. Sandra brought _____ apple.
5. Madhu has _____ teddy bear.
6. _____ chairs are all broken.
7. The janitor asked _____ students to walk carefully as _____ floor was wet.
8. I have finished reading _____ book you lent me.
9. Hari is planning to buy _____ new car.
10. He has been waiting for _____ hour.



Exercise

Fill in the blanks with definite article. (Put 'X' if no article required)

1. My grandmother likes ----- (flowers) very much.
2. I love ----- (flowers) in your garden.
3. Listen! Dennis is playing ----- (trumpet).
4. I always listen to ----- (radio) in the morning.
5. Alex goes to work by -----_(bus).
6. We often see our cousins over -----(Easter).
7. I think ----- (women) are more sensible than men.
8. This is ----- (sixth) day of our holidays.
9. I went to London and saw ----- (National Gallery).
10. I don't take ----- (sugar) in my coffee, thanks.



Exercise

Fill in the blanks with suitable articles:

1. Here is ----- green English book on the desk.

2. She's reading ----- old comic.
3. They've got ----- idea.
4. He is drinking ----- cup of coffee.
5. The girl is ----- pilot.
6. Leipzig has ----- airport.
7. This is ----- expensive bike.
8. Look! There's ----- bird flying.
9. My father is ----- honest person.
10. My friend likes to be ----- astronaut.