

Janet is an English Teacher

Practice using articles a, an, and the.

1. Quiz

Complete the quiz with a partner.

- There **is / are** **student / students** in my class.
- There **is / are** **window / windows** in the room.
- Read the sentences and mark for true or for false.

a. The teacher said I had to study more.	b. Teachers have to be intelligent.
We know who the teacher is.	a. <input type="checkbox"/> b. <input type="checkbox"/>
We are talking about all teachers.	a. <input type="checkbox"/> b. <input type="checkbox"/>
We are talking about one person.	a. <input type="checkbox"/> b. <input type="checkbox"/>



2. The Indefinite Article (a/an)

A. Read the information about the indefinite article 'a/an'.

Use 'a/an' when talking about:

- A single, general object.
e.g. I eat a banana every day.
- One of a group of something.
e.g. She is a student in my class.

When using the indefinite article:

- Use **a** before words with consonant sounds: b, c, d, f, g, h, etc...
e.g. She has a dog.
- Use **an** before words with vowel sounds: a, e, i, o, u
e.g. She is an English teacher.
- Don't use an article before plural and uncountable nouns as well as names.
e.g. I like x cats. I eat x rice every day. I live in x Canada.

B. Complete the sentences by filling in the gaps with a/an or 'x' for no article.

- I had omelet for breakfast.
- Paul McCartney is famous singer and original Beatles member.
- Golden Week is national holiday in Japan. It is in May.
- Tokyo is enormous city in Japan.
- Rice is popular food in most Asian countries.
- Hiroshi Amano is Noble Prize winner.
- Auckland is city in New Zealand. About one and a half million people live in Auckland City.
- She has short, blonde hair. She is wearing backpack and a hat.

3. The Definite Article (the)

A. Read the information about the definite article 'the'.

Use **the** when we believe the listener/reader knows exactly what we are talking about because:

1. There is only one.
e.g. The teacher is very good. The Queen of England. The moon. The tallest student in the class.
2. There is only one in that context/situation.
e.g. We live in a small house next to the train station.
3. We have already talked about something.
e.g. I went to a restaurant on the weekend and ate a delicious meal. The restaurant was crowded and the meal was expensive.

B. Complete the profiles with a/an, the, or 'x' for no article.

- a. Meet Janet. She is ^{1.} _____ English teacher in ^{2.} _____ Kobe, Japan and rides ^{3.} _____ bicycle to work every day. In her free time, she likes to sing karaoke and goes to ^{4.} _____ gym near her house three times a week. It is ^{5.} _____ biggest gym in the city.
- b. Meet Kate. She is ^{6.} _____ English teacher like her friend Janet. She also lives in Kobe, Japan. She lives in ^{7.} _____ small apartment that has beautiful views of ^{8.} _____ harbor. On the weekend, she plays ^{9.} _____ tennis. There is ^{10.} _____ tennis court near her ^{11.} _____ apartment.
- c. Meet Michael. He is ^{12.} _____ architect. He designs ^{13.} _____ luxury houses for clients in his city. He is married and has ^{14.} _____ four-year-old daughter. His daughter's name is Jennifer. On ^{15.} _____ weekend, he likes to ride his bicycle and have picnics with his ^{16.} _____ family.
- d. Meet Joe. He is ^{17.} _____ accountant who lives in Los Angeles in The United States. He lives in ^{18.} _____ small house near Hollywood and he sometimes sees celebrities. He isn't married, but he has ^{19.} _____ girlfriend, Emily. They met at ^{20.} _____ university. She is ^{21.} _____ dentist and also lives in ^{22.} _____ LA.

C. Complete the sentences about the information above.

1. _____ and _____ are English teachers and live in Kobe.
2. _____ designs houses for his clients.
3. _____'s girlfriend lives in Los Angeles.
4. _____ likes to goes to the gym.
5. There is a tennis court near _____ house.
6. _____ is working in the picture.



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Level: Beginner: A1
Elementary: A2

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Language: Function: Talking about daily life.
Forms: Articles and quantifiers.

Teaching time: 60 minutes.

Overview: Students are introduced to the indefinite article (a/an) and the definite article (the). Students will be comfortable using articles and be able to identify when they are and aren't required.

1. QUIZ

A warm up activity helps set the mood for the topic/lesson and is a good opportunity to assess students' ability to generate language as well as elicit target vocabulary used in the lesson. If students struggle to engage with their partners, ask questions to encourage participation. Allow a few minutes for students to complete the activity and continue the conversation if interesting.

Elicit answers from the class.

3. We know who the teacher is. a. ✓ b. x
We are talking about all teachers. a. x b. ✓
We are only talking about one person. a. ✓ b. x

2. THE INDEFINITE ARTICLE (A/AN)

- A. Individually or in pairs, students read the explanation about the indefinite article. Check students' understanding after the explanation has been read. Discuss the examples to help understanding. Elicit examples from students to write on the board if necessary.
- B. Individually, students complete the sentences by filling the gaps with a/an or 'x'. Students can compare their answers with a partner and discuss any differences. Check answers with the class.
1. I had **an** omelet for breakfast.
 2. Paul McCartney is **a** famous singer and **an** original Beatles member.
 3. Golden Week is **a** national holiday in Japan. It is in **x** May.
 4. Tokyo is **an** enormous city in **x** Japan.
 5. Rice is **a** popular food in most Asian **x** countries.
 6. Hiroshi Amano is **a** nobel prize winner.
 7. Auckland is **a** city in New Zealand. About one and a half million **x** people live in Auckland City.
 8. She has short, blonde **x** hair. She is wearing **x** backpack and a hat.

3. THE DEFINITE ARTICLE (THE)

- A. Individually or in pairs, students read the explanation about the definite article 'the'. Check understanding after the explanation has been read. Discuss the examples to help understanding. Elicit examples from students to write on the board if necessary.
- B. Individually or in pairs, students complete the introductions of friends Janet, Michael, Kate, and Joe with articles a/an, the, or no article. Students can compare their answers with a partner and discuss any differences or check answers with the class.

1. an
2. x

3. a
4. a/the
5. the
6. an
7. a
8. the
9. x
10. a
11. x
12. an
13. x
14. a
15. the
16. x
17. an
18. a
19. a
20. x
21. a
22. x

- C. Individually, students complete the sentences with articles a/an, the, or 'x' for no article. Students can compare their answers with a partner and discuss any differences or check answers with the class.
1. **Janet** and **Kate** are English teachers and live in Kobe.
 2. **Michael** designs houses for his clients.
 3. **Joe's** girlfriend lives in Los Angeles.
 4. **Janet** likes to go to the gym.
 5. There is a tennis court near **Kate's** house.
 6. **Emily** is working in the picture.