

Topic: Definite and Indefinite Articles

1. Definite Article: "The"

The definite article "the" is used to refer to a **specific** noun that is already known to the speaker and listener or has been mentioned before.

It can be used with **singular or plural** nouns.

Examples:

I saw the cat on the roof. (We know which cat is being referred to.)

The books on the shelf are mine. (Referring to specific books.)

2. Indefinite Articles: "A" and "An"

Indefinite articles are used to refer to **non-specific** things, things that are mentioned for the first time, or things that are one of many possible options.

"A" is used before singular countable nouns starting with a **consonant sound**.

"An" is used before singular countable nouns starting with a **vowel sound**.

Examples:

I have a car. (Any car, not specific.)

She wants an apple. (Any apple, not a specific one.)

When to Use "A" vs. "An":

Use "a" before words that start with a **consonant sound**.

Example: I saw a dog.

Use "an" before words that start with a **vowel sound**.

Example: I saw an elephant.

Important Points:

The refers to something specific or known.

A and An refer to something non-specific or general.

Exercises:

Exercise 1: Fill in the blanks with "a," "an," or "the".

1. I saw ____ cat on the street.
2. He is ____ teacher at my school.
3. ____ sun is shining today.
4. I bought ____ book about history.
5. She wants to visit ____ Eiffel Tower someday.
6. We need ____ apple to make the pie.
7. I have ____ idea! Let's go to the park.
8. ____ dogs are barking in the yard.

Exercise 2: Choose the correct article.

1. I met ____ woman yesterday.

- a) a
- b) an
- c) the

2. ____ moon looks beautiful tonight.

- a) a
- b) an
- c) the

3. He is studying ____ engineering.

- a) a
- b) an
- c) the

4. ____ apple a day keeps the doctor away.

- a) a
- b) an
- c) the

5. ____ children are playing outside.

- a) a
- b) an
- c) the