**Articles**

**Indefinite articles** *a/an* are used:

1 to say what something or somebody is.

*This is* ***a*** *book. Jane’s* ***a*** *teacher.*

2 to refer to a thing or a person for the first time.

*She lives in* ***a*** *farmhouse. He goes out with a model.*

3 to refer to a thing or a person when it doesn’t matter which one.

*Can you lend me* ***a*** *pen? Shall we go for* ***a*** *drink?*

4. use **a/an** when **the listener doesn’t know** which thing we mean. We use **the** when it is clear which thing we mean.

*Tom sat down on a chair. Tom sat down on* ***the*** *chair nearest the door.*

5. with jobs

*Tom’s mother is a doctor. I would like to be an English teacher.*

6. to say WHAT something/someone is: *A dog is an animal. I want to be a rich man.*

to say WHAT so./stg. is LIKE: *Sue is a very nice person. What a nice dress!*

**Definite article** *the* is used:

1 to refer to a person or a thing known to the speaker and the listener.

*Have you got* ***the*** *car keys? The children are in* ***the*** *garden.*

2 to refer to a person or a thing for the second time.

*I got* ***a book*** *and* ***a computer*** *for Christmas.* ***The book*** *is about the*

*British Empire. I haven’t unpacked* ***the computer*** *yet.*

3 when it is clear which one(s) we mean.

*I’m going to* ***the*** *shops. Do you want anything? Dave’s in* ***the*** *kitchen.*

*Did you enjoy* ***the*** *party? What’s* ***the*** *score?*

***Also****:I have to go to the bank, the doctor (=my doctor), the post office*

4 to refer to the only one there is: *the capital, the moon, the world, the ground, the Spanish*

***The*** *sky is very grey today. T****he*** *earth is older that we think.*

***The*** *government in this country is rubbish.* ***The*** *French like all things French.*

5 to refer to things in our physical environment that we all know.

*I love walking in* ***the country****. People always talk about* ***the weather****.*

*We can see* ***the sea*** *from our house. We’re going to* ***the cinema*** *tonight.*

6 with superlatives.

*You’re* ***the best*** *teacher. He was* ***the first*** *boy I kissed.*

7. Also: *the movies, the theatre, the cinema, the radio* BUT: *television*

8. with types of machines, musical instruments or inventions (in singular): *the telephone, the bicycle, the guitar, the piano*  BUT: (in plural) *Bicycles are ecological means of transport.*

*When was the telephone invented?*

9. The + adjective (without a noun): *the rich, the poor, the sick, the young, the old, the unemployed*

10 with some geographical names:

**island groups:** *the Bahamas, the Canaries*

**countries***:* names that include „republic“, „kingdom“, „states“ ***the*** *United States of America* **regions***: the middle East, the west of Canada* BUT**:** *northern France*

**mountains: mountain ranges:** *the Rocky Mountains, the Alps, the High Tatras*

*B*UT: individual mountains: (-)(Mount) Everest, (-)Fuji

**names of oceans/seas/rivers/canals:** *the Atlantic, the Nile, the Panama Canal*

**place names with *of*:** *the Sea of Japan, the Gulf of Mexico*

**hotels/restaurants:** *the Hilton Hotel, the Bombay Restaurant*

**theaters/museums/galleries***: the National Theater, the National Gallery, the Louvre*

**buildings/monuments:** *the Empire State Building, the Washington Monument, the**Eiffel Tower, the**Pyramids*

**Zero article** No article (–) is used:

1 to refer to things or people in general.

*I like (–) cheese. (–) Doctors earn more than (–) teachers.*

*I’m afraid of (–) dogs. (–) English is spoken all over the world.*

*Roses are my favourite flowers. Elephants are clever animals.*

2 in some common expressions.

**places** *He’s at (–) work. She’s at (–) home, at (–) school, at (–) university.*

**travel** *I travel by (–) car/bus/train …*

**meals** *We had (–) lunch at 12.00. What do you want for (–) dinner/breakfast?*

**time** *I’ll do it (–) next week. I saw her (–) last year.*

**academic subjects** *I’m no good at (–) maths.*

**games** *I like (–) chess.*

3. most people/ most dogs (not the most people) *Most people like George.*

4. After expressions: *I like..., I think..., In my opinion..., I’m against ..., I’m interested in...*

5. in some geographical and place names.

**continents, countries, states, cities:**

*I’ve travelled a lot in (–) Europe and (–) South America. I’ve visited Madrid, Japan...*

BUT: use **the** with names that include „republic“, „kingdom“, „states“

*the Republic of Ireland, the United States, the United Kingdom*

**lakes**: Lake Superior

**individual mountains**: *(-)(Mount) Everest, (-)Fuji* *I climbed (–) Mount Everest.*

**names of streets/roads/avenues/squares**: *Bloor Street, Fifth Avenue, Red Square*

**places with the name of a person or a place:** *Kennedy Airport, Boston University, Hyde Park, Oxford University, Buckingham Palace, Luigi’s Restaurant*

**banks:** *Citibank, Lloyds Bank*

Exercise:

1. What is an onion? It’s .................................
2. What is a pidgeon? It’s ..............................
3. What is a skyscraper? It’s ..............................
4. Mary teacher math. She is ...............................
5. This morning I bought ...................newspaper and .................magazine. ................ newspaper is in my bag, but I don’t know where is ...............magazine.
6. My parents have ................cat and ................dog. ................ dog never bites ............. cat, but ............. cat often scratches ............... dog.
7. Could you close ..............window?
8. We live in .............small apartment near ............. centre of town.
9. Have you finished with............. book I lent you last week?
10. Did ............. police find .......... person who stole your bicycle?
11. I’ve got a lot of flowers in ............ garden.
12. I went into the store and asked to speak to ........... manager.
13. Please, take .......... chair.
14. As soon as I saw fire, I called ............. firemen.
15. We didn‘t have any stamps, so we had to go to ........... post.
16. I had a toothache, so I made an appointment at ............... dentist.
17. Lucy is ............. best friend I’ve ever had.
18. Church is ........... highest building in our town.
19. ........... moon goes around ............ earth.
20. Did you see ........ movie on .............television?
21. After ............. lunch, we went for a walk.
22. I’m not very hungry. I’ve had ............ big breakfast.
23. I don’t eat ................ breakfast.
24. Peru is ........ country in South America. .............. capital is Lima.
25. I never listen to ......... radio. In fact, I don’t have ............ radio.
26. It was ............ beautiful day, ....... sun shone brightly in ......... sky.
27. Can you turn ........ television, please?
28. What is youf favourite instrument? ...................................
29. What is your favourite flower? ......................................
30. ................................ is the tallest of all animals. (elephant/lion/giraffe)
31. .............................. is a mammal, but it lives in the sea. (octopus/crocodile/whale)
32. .......... frogs live in the water and on the land.
33. ...........people are mammals who can communicate.
34. After a plane crash: the bodies of ................... were taken away. ...................... were taken to hospital. (injured, dead)
35. .............. blind read in Braille.
36. Look! ............. blind person. Let’s help him.
37. I love ........... Italians. They are so temperament.
38. ............. French eat a lot of ............. cheese and drink ............. wine.
39. I don’t mind............ horror movies.
40. Apples/The apples are good for you.
41. Look at apples/the apples on that tree.
42. I like ...................swimming.
43. I’m against ............. violence.
44. In Britain coffee/the coffee is more expensive than tea/the tea.
45. Life/The life is difficult.
46. He wrote a book about life/the life of Gandhi.
47. Do you know people/the people who live next door?
48. Most people/The most people still believe that marriage/the marriage is necessary.
49. Don’t stay in that hotel. Beds/The beds are very uncomfortable.
50. Last year we visited Canada and United States Right/Wrong ...................
51. Africa is much larger than Europe Right/Wrong ...................
52. South of England is warmer than north. Right/Wrong ...................
53. We went to Spain and we swam in Mediterranean. Right/Wrong ...................
54. Next year we are going skiing in Swiss Alps. Right/Wrong ...................
55. Nile is longest river in Africa. Right/Wrong ...................
56. We are very close to Capitol Building/the Capitol Building.
57. Frank is a student at Georgetown University/ the Georgetown University
58. My favourite restaurant is the Luigi’s/ Luigi’s.
59. Have you ever visited Lincoln Memorial/the Lincoln Memorial?
60. The best shops are on Yonge Street/the Yonge Street.