

Articles

The article is a word used to denote a single number, a small or large number of any common nouns. A and An is called the indefinite article. The is definite article.

Article-A

‘A’ is used when the noun begins with a consonant **sound**.

Consonant letters in the English alphabet are

B, C, D, F, G, H, J, K, L, M, N, P, Q, R, S, T, V, W, X, Y, Z.

‘A’ is used with **singular noun** like- a boy, a student, a mother, a city, a village etc

A book- correct but A books- incorrect

An egg- correct but An eggs- incorrect

Article-An

‘An’ is used before a word beginning with a vowel **sound**.

Vowel letters in the English alphabet are A, E, I, O, U.

An is used with a singular noun like - An apple, an elephant, an idiot, an orange, an umbrella, etc.

Note that the use of article ‘A’ or ‘An’ here is applicable on the basis of **sound** (pronunciation) and not only on whether it is a vowel or consonant from which the word starts with.

For example: “an hour” / “an honest man” / “a one-eyed dog” / an MBA /
an egg

In the above examples, the words 'hour' and 'honest' both begin with a **vowel sound**, as the consonant 'h' is silent. While speaking “hour” and “honest” we speak vowel sound like ***our*** and ***onest***.

article

So “an” will be used as article. Similarly while speaking the word '**one**', we speak consonant sound like a **van**. Hence the above sentence is written as 'a one eyed dog', not 'an one eyed-dog'.

a user* / a university / a European / a union

(*sounds like 'yoo-zer,' i.e., gives a 'y' sound, so 'a' is used)

Only for students of Gujarati & Hindi languages of India

If first letter of English word is pronounced like Gujarati or Hindi vowels i.e. ં, ઃ, ઇ, ઈ, ઊ, ઋ etc (or) ં, ઃ, ઇ, ઈ, ઊ, ઋ etc. The article “**an**” will be used in singular words. Otherwise article “**a**” will be used.

Following this rule, while speaking word “union” we pronounce like ં (ં). So here we will use “A” as an article but in the word “honest” we will use “An” because while speaking the word “honest” we pronounce like ં (ં) because in “**honest**” “**h**” is silent.

Examples- a union / a united family / an honest man / a European an egg / an honorary president / an hour / an umbrella / an elephant

Use of article “The”

- A doctor came to my house. This sentence suggest any doctor.
But if we write this sentence as under.
- The doctor came to my house.

This sentence suggests a specific doctor say the family doctor.

While noun is plural we use ‘**The**’ like this -

- The books, The children, The school, The buses

article

The is a **definite article** that is used when we wish to particularize a noun.

- I saw a man and woman riding an ass, The man was old but woman was young. The ass walked slowly.

The is also used when a noun is the name of only one thing of this kind.

- The son, The moon, The earth
- **Rivers**- The Ganga, The Nile, The Godavari
- **Oceans** - The Atlantic, The Hind Ocean, The Bay of Bengal
- **Historic Structure**- The Taj Mahal, The Qutab Minar, The Wall of China
- **Whole kind**- The English, The French, The Dutch
- **Holy /famous Books**-The Ramayana, The Mahabharat, The Bhagavat Gita, The Koran, The Bible, the Arabian Nights
- **Directions**- the East, the West, the South, the North

The is sometimes used to indicate a class or kind of anything.-

- The lion is the King of animals

Articles

The misuse of **the** and **a** is very common. Here are the basic rules for the use and omission of articles.

Proper nouns (e.g. John, Alice and India) do not take articles.

- Incorrect: The John is my friend.
- Correct: John is my friend.
- Incorrect: The Tokyo is a big city.
- Correct: Tokyo is a big city.

article

A **singular common noun** (e.g. boy, cat, tree, book, apple, etc.) must have an article.

- Incorrect: There is cat on roof.
- Correct: There is **a cat** on **the roof**.

A **plural common noun** cannot be used with the article **a**.

It is usually used with no article, though '**some**' is sometimes used before it.

Compare:

- **A spider** has eight legs. / Spiders have eight legs.

Remember that a noun can be common in one sentence and proper in another sentence.

A **superlative adjective** is usually used with **the**.

- Incorrect: He is best player in the team.
- Correct: He is **the best player** in the team.

Article 'a' –correct use

The article '**a**' placed in front of a noun conveys the idea of 'one'. When writing about two separate objects, a second '**a**' must be used. If the two objects are considered as one, then the second 'a' may be left out.

- Incorrect: I have a hammer and chisel.
- Correct: I have **a hammer** and **a chisel**.
(Here we are talking about two separate objects.)
- Incorrect: She has a son and daughter.
- Correct: She has **a son** and **a daughter**.
- Incorrect: The mechanic used a block and a tackle to lift the machine.
- Correct: The mechanic used **a block and tackle** to lift the machine.
(Here we are talking about one object.)

Lesson-19A

Interjection

An Interjection is a word that shows sudden feelings such as joy, surprise, shock or disgust. It usually appears in dialogue and informal writing. The interjection is a word added to a sentence to convey emotion.

Generally interjections are used with an exclamation mark (!)

Wow! What a game! / **Oh,** I forgot all about the game last night.

Interjection	Meaning & Examples
hello	Expressing greeting & surprise e.g., Hello John. How are you today?
hey	Calling attention e.g., Hey! Look at that!
hi	Expressing greeting to friend e.g., Hi! What's new?
Oh	Expressing pain e.g., Oh! I have got toothache. / Oh! You are here.
Ouch	Expressing pain & Expressing surprise e.g., Ouch! It hurts!
Shh!	For stopping children noising e.g., Shh! Keep silence
Wow	For showing astonishing e.g., Wow! It's amazing!
Hurrah!	For expressing joy e.g., Hurrah! We have won the game.
Alas!	For expressing sudden grave news e.g., She is dead