

Nouns, adjectives and adverbs

31 *the* and *a, an*: definite and indefinite articles

She's got **a** girl and **a** boy. **The** girl's ten and **the** boy's eight.

He gave me **a** book and **a** cassette. I liked **the** book but I didn't like **the** cassette very much.

- **a** + singular noun – the first time we say the noun.
- **a** = one. **a** is not particular.
- **the** + singular/plural noun – the second time we say the noun.
the is particular.

Practice

31 Complete the sentences using **a, an** or **the**.

- 1 I've got *a* lighter and *a* box of matches but *the* lighter doesn't work very well.
- 2 There's *a* doctor and *a* nurse in *the* village but *the* doctor's getting rather old now.
- 3 I bought sandwich and piece of cake. sandwich was all right but cake was horrible.
- 4 woman and two men were here a few moments ago. I think woman wanted to see you.
- 5 They've got dog and cat, rabbit and some goldfish but the children like dog best.
- 6 He sent me two letters and postcard while he was on holiday. postcard didn't say much but letters were very interesting.
- 7 You can have apple or orange. apples are nice and sweet.
- 8 There's plum tree and peach tree in our garden. peach tree doesn't produce many peaches but plum tree produces lots of plums every year.
- 9 There's theatre and two cinemas in town but one of cinemas is closing down.
- 10 There's train at 2.00 and one at 3.30. 2.00 train takes two hours and 3.30 train takes hour and half.

32 The articles *a* and *the*

That's a nice car.	
Did you clean the car?	(the car = our car, or this car)
We've got a dog.	(the dog = our dog, or the dog that
Where's the dog?	lives here)
You've got a big garden.	(the garden = our garden, or the garden
The dog's in the garden.	at this house)
Is there a station in this town?	
The station is in the town centre.	(the station = the station in this town)
This is an interesting book.	
The author has some very unusual ideas.	(the author = the author of this book)
The café next to the station is open all night.	(We know which café. It is the café next to the station.)

- **a, an** + singular noun:
That's a nice car.
 There are other nice cars and we are talking about one of them.
- **the** + singular or plural noun:
the = one in particular. We are talking about a known object, person or animal. The speaker and listener know which one it is. It is not one of many.
 It is one in particular:
Did you clean the car?
 We are talking about *our* car. There is only one of these.

Practice

32 Complete the sentences using *a*, *an* or *the*.

- 1 This is ...*a*... beautiful painting. Does ...*the*... artist live near here?
- 2 I bought ...*a*... new toothbrush this morning and I can't find it. I'm sure I put it in ...*the*... bathroom.
- 3 Can you get fresh cream cake when you're out? shop on corner usually sells them.
- 4 It's very nice school and teachers are all really hard-working.
- 5 'Look! There's cat in garden.'
 'Yes, it's cat from next door.'
- 6 'There's man at door. He wants to see you.'
- 7 We stayed in very nice hotel. room was comfortable and food was excellent.

- 8 I bought Elliot new jacket last week but yesterday two
of buttons came off. I'm taking it back to shop.
- 9 I had bath this morning but water was a bit cold.
- 10 Hannah was at airport, waiting for friend to arrive.

33 *the*: definite article

The moon looks beautiful tonight.
The sky is very grey.

- We use **the** when there is only one: *the moon, the sun, the sky, the sea, the weather, the earth, the world, the President of France, the capital of Great Britain.*
- We don't use **a** or **the** before most names of places: *France, London, Africa.*

Practice

33 Write the sentences, adding **the** where necessary.

- 1 Moon moves slowly round earth.
The moon moves slowly round the earth.
- 2 Sun is very hot today.
The sun is very hot today.
- 3 Did you see Pope when you went to Rome?
.....
- 4 Sky went very grey and it started to rain.
.....
- 5 I hope I can go round world one day.
.....
- 6 Prince of Wales is visiting our town next week.
.....
- 7 What is capital of Sweden?
.....
- 8 It was very cold in sea today.
.....
- 9 How many countries are in European Community?
.....
.....
- 10 I once met Prime Minister of Spain.
.....

ANSWERS

Key

STAGE 2

- 31** 1 a ... a ... the 2 a ... a ... the ... the
3 a ... a ... The ... the 4 A ... the
5 a ... a ... a ... the 6 a ... The ... the
7 an ... an ... The 8 a ... a ... The ... the
9 a ... the 10 a ... The ... the ... an ... a
- 32** 1 a ... the 2 a ... the 3 a ... The ... the
4 a ... the 5 a ... the ... the 6 a ... the
7 a ... The ... the 8 a ... the ... the
9 a ... the 10 the ... a
- 33** 1 The moon ... the earth 2 The sun
3 the Pope 4 The sky 5 the world
6 The Prince of Wales 7 the capital
8 the sea 9 the European Economic
Community 10 the Prime Minister

- 34** paper U
coffee U
cassette C
information U
bottle C
soup U
pen C
metal U
book C
rice U
spaghetti U
child C
milk U
news U
job C
homework U
apple C
toothpaste U
bath C
salt U
girl C
money U
knife C
egg C
table C
shampoo U
coat C
water U
tea U
flour U
bread U

- bag C
ball C
soap U
food U
cup C
cat C
meat U
honey U

- 35** 1 bottle 2 tin 3 bag 4 loaf 5 carton
6 bar 7 tube 8 glass 9 jar 10 slice

- 36** 1 some 2 a 3 some 4 an 5 some 6 a
7 some 8 a 9 some 10 a

- 37a** 1 any 2 some 3 a ... any 4 some ... an
5 some ... any 6 a 7 some ... any
8 some ... any 9 a 10 some ... any

- 37b** 1 a 2 the 3 the 4 the 5 any 6 some
7 some 8 some 9 a 10 some 11 some
12 any 13 a 14 a 15 the 16 some 17 a
18 a 19 some 20 a 21 some 22 any
23 the

- 38a** soft *softly*
quick *quickly*
angry *angrily*
slow *slowly*
nice *nicely*
quiet *quietly*
calm *calmly*
easy *easily*
perfect *perfectly*
polite *politely*
bad *badly*
beautiful *beautifully*
hard *hard*
sad *sadly*
careful *carefully*
good *well*
fast *fast*
clear *clearly*

- 38b** 1 hard 2 beautifully 3 perfectly 4 quietly
5 easily 6 fast 7 clearly 8 carefully
9 calmly 10 politely

- 38c** 1 They work slowly.
2 He drives dangerously.
3 She writes carefully.