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A, An, The [ARTICLES]

You have learnt in previous class that there are five vowels - **a, e, i, o, u**.

A, An

We use 'an' before words that begin with a vowel and 'a' before words that do not begin with a vowel.

For example: I have **a** dog.

I have **an** umbrella in my bag.

a school, **a** table, **a** pen, **a** book, **a** cat

an honest person, **an** engine, **an** egg

**Remember**

Not only see the vowels (a,e,i,o,u). See the sounds also that they make. For example: honest. We write an honest. Here 'H' is kept silent. Words like honourable, hour.

A Some sentences are given below. Use a or an to fill up the blanks. One has been done for you.

1. Navneet hasa..... new pair of shoes.
2. Tushar is carryingan..... umbrella.
3. Leela is playing upona..... harmonium.
4. I sawa..... snake in the jungle.
5. The boy gotan..... x-ray of his toe.
6. Sheela purchaseda..... car.
7. Mr Alex is ridinga..... bike.
8. Bob broughtan..... inkpot.



9. Hema is ..*an*..... engineer.
10. Kanha writes on*an*.... envelope.
11. There is*a*..... vase on the table.
12. We saw ...*an*..... ostrich at the zoo.



The

- When we talk about a particular person or thing.

For example: the Principal, the General Manager

- When there is only one of its kind in the world.

For example: the king, the Taj Mahal, the Ganga, the sun, the sky

- When we talk or write about something that is already spoken about.

For example: There was a fox. The fox was very hungry.

- With time

For example: in the morning, in the evening, in the afternoon.

Now look at these sentences

1. There is **a** book on **the** table.
2. **The** English book is on **the** table.



In the first sentence, **a** book can mean any book. The word **a** makes it clear that we are not talking about any particular book. The word, **the** in **the** table, however, makes it clear that we are referring to a particular table.

In the second sentence, **the English book** refers to a particular book which is kept on the table.

B Fill in the blanks with a, an, the.

Last Sunday we went to attend*a*..... party.*The*.... party was organised by Mukul's father on*the*.... birthday of his son, Tapan. Tapan is*a*..... good friend of mine. He is*the*.... only son of his father. He is not

only ...*an*... intelligent boy but also*a*... helpful boy. We saw ...*a*..... man who was very fat. Everybody's attention was rested on ...*the*... man. ...*The*... man was really very funny. We really enjoyed ...*the*... party.

C

Fill in the blanks with a, an, the.

1. I ate*an*..... apple.
2. I take*an*..... umbrella when it rains.
3. She goes to the temple in*the*..... morning.
4. Kiran is*the*..... best student in the class. ¹
5.*The*..... camel is the ship of desert.
6. I visited*the*..... Taj Mahal yesterday.
7. Harishchandra was*an*..... honest king.
8. Kartik bought*an*..... ink pot.
9. I met*a*..... boy in*the*..... store.
10. Ken is reading*an*..... interesting book.
11. She returned after*an*..... hour.
12. There is*an*..... institution for*the*..... blind in this city.
13.*The*..... sun rises in the east.
14. He works in*a*..... factory.
15. He is*the*..... oldest member of the club.

