

THE INDEFINITE ARTICLES

a vor einem gesprochenen **Konsonanten** (Mitlaut)

an vor einem gesprochenen **Vokal** (Selbstlaut):

a g entleman	an a pple	an e lderly lady
a l ady	an o range	an o ld man
a b ook	an a nimal	an h our
a university [j <u>u</u> ...]	an e -mail	an h onour
a uniform [j <u>u</u> ...]	an e xtraordinary task	an u ncle

THE DEFINITE ARTICLES

the /ə/ vor einem gesprochenen Konsonanten (Mitlaut)

the /i:/ vor einem gesprochenen Vokal (Selbstlaut):

the /ə/	the /i:/
new TV set	orange
living room	apple
nice poster	old house
secretary	animal

Use the indefinite article *a/an* if you refer to

a) professions or jobs

*She is **a** bank manager.*

b) religion

*Mary is **a** Catholic.*

*Molly is **a** Methodist.*

*Mustafa is **a** Moslem.*

c) nationality

Bill is *an* American.

Kent is *a* Dane.

d) weights and measures (with the meaning *per*)

These apples are £ 1.25 *a* kilogram.

He was driving 65 *miles an hour* when the police stopped him.

Use the definite article *the* to refer to something specific (definite) or something that has been mentioned.

I want to buy *a* bike.

I want to buy *the* bike *I've seen in the shop window*.

DON'T use an article

a) when talking about things in general

She listens to classical music.

Life is hard.

b) before names of meals, sports, days, months, festivals and places

Dinner is at seven o'clock.

They usually go shopping in Oxford Street.

c) in certain common expressions

by bus/plane in town

at home to church

at/to school on foot

DON'T use indefinite articles before uncountable nouns.

Water boils at 100 degrees.

Is vegetable margarine healthier than butter?

Coffee keeps him awake at night.

BUT: *"Three coffees, please." = three cups of coffee, please.*