



## Articles Use – Exercise Sheet 1 - ANSWERS

### Exercise 1: Gap Fill – Choosing "A," "An," or "The"

1. We saw **an** owl in the tree last night. ✓  
**Explanation:** "Owl" starts with a vowel sound, so we use "an."
  2. I bought **an** apple and **a** banana from the market. ✓  
**Explanation:** "Apple" starts with a vowel sound (**an**), while "banana" starts with a consonant sound (**a**).
  3. She has **an** idea for the new project. ✓  
**Explanation:** "Idea" starts with a vowel sound, so we use "an."
  4. They visited **a** museum in London. ✓  
**Explanation:** "Museum" starts with a consonant sound, so we use "a."
  5. I watched **an** interesting documentary about space. ✓  
**Explanation:** "Interesting" starts with a vowel sound, so we use "an."
  6. There is **a** university in my town. ✓  
**Explanation:** Although "university" starts with "u," it makes a "yoo" sound, which is a consonant sound. Use "a."
  7. He found **an** old book in the attic. ✓  
**Explanation:** "Old" starts with a vowel sound, so we use "an."
  8. We stayed in **a** hotel near the beach. ✓  
**Explanation:** "Hotel" starts with a consonant sound, so we use "a."
  9. My father is **a** doctor. ✓  
**Explanation:** "Doctor" starts with a consonant sound, so we use "a."
  10. I saw **an** elephant at the zoo. ✓  
**Explanation:** "Elephant" starts with a vowel sound, so we use "an."
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### Exercise 2: Error Correction – Articles

1. ✗ I saw **a** eagle flying in the sky.  
✓ I saw **an** eagle flying in the sky.  
**Explanation:** "Eagle" starts with a vowel sound, so we use "an."
2. ✗ We visited **the France** last year.  
✓ We visited **France** last year.  
**Explanation:** Countries **do not** usually take "the," unless they include words like "United" or "Kingdom" (e.g., "the United States").
3. ✗ She is **an** university student.  
✓ She is **a** university student.



**Explanation:** "University" starts with a "yoo" sound, which is a consonant sound, so we use "a."

4. ❌ My mother bought **the** milk from the supermarket.

✅ My mother bought **milk** from the supermarket.

**Explanation:** We do **not** use "the" for **uncountable nouns** when speaking generally.

5. ❌ He is playing **a** basketball with his friends.

✅ He is playing - **(no article)** basketball with his friends.

**Explanation:** Sports do **not** take articles before them.

6. ❌ We stayed in **an** hotel near the beach.

✅ We stayed in **a** hotel near the beach.

**Explanation:** "Hotel" starts with a consonant sound, so we use "a."

7. ❌ She always listens to **a** classical music.

✅ She always listens to - **(no article)** classical music.

**Explanation:** "Music" is **uncountable**, so we do not use "a" before it.

8. ❌ There is **a** apple in my bag.

✅ There is **an** apple in my bag.

**Explanation:** "Apple" starts with a vowel sound, so we use "an."

9. ❌ We went to **a** school where my father studied.

✅ We went to **the** school where my father studied.

**Explanation:** If we are talking about a **specific school**, we use "the."

10. ✅ I want to buy **an** umbrella because it's raining. (Correct!)

**Explanation:** "Umbrella" starts with a vowel sound, so "an" is correct.

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## Key Takeaways

- ✅ Use **"a"** before words that start with **consonant sounds**.
- ✅ Use **"an"** before words that start with **vowel sounds** (not just vowel letters!).
- ✅ **No article** for **uncountable nouns** (e.g., music, milk) and **most countries**.
- ✅ Use **"the"** for **specific** things (e.g., "the school where my father studied").