

ARTICLES: A, AN, THE

pronunciation

a boy, a cat, a dog, a fire, a girl, a house, a star, a pirate, a uniform
an animal, an egg, an ice cube, an orange, an umbrella, an hour

general / specific - first mention / second mention

I found a dog yesterday. The dog was sleeping outside my apartment.
I went to a great restaurant. The restaurant was near my school.

imperative

the tallest mountain, the best pasta, the most interesting book

some country / famous building names

the US, the UK, the Philippines, the Eiffel Tower, the Statue of Liberty,

number

Do you have any brothers or sisters? Yeah, I have one brother and a sister.

Use a, an, the to complete the story.

I want to tell you about ___ amazing trip I took to New York. I'm from Los Angeles on ___ west coast of ___ United States. Until last year, I had never been to ___ east coast. I have ___ cousin living there though. Actually, I have nine cousins in all, but ___ one living in New York is called Antonio. Antonio lives in ___ Bronx.

When I arrived, he picked me up at ___ airport and took me to his apartment. Later, he introduced me to some of his friends at ___ local restaurant. ___ food was fantastic! I had ___ slice of pizza that was as big as my head! That was ___ biggest pizza ever! ___ next day, Antonio took me to Manhattan. We visited ___ lot of places tourists like to go; ___ Empire State Building, ___ Met, and ___ few others. My favorite was ___ public library. That's ___ building they used in ___ opening of *Ghostbusters* which is ___ best movie ever!

___ trip was ___ great experience for me. Antonio is ___ lucky guy to be living in ___ city that never sleeps! Of course I love L.A., it's ___ incredible place to live too. Maybe, if Antonio has time, he can take ___ trip to ___ west coast's best city, L.A.

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When I arrived, he picked me up at the airport and took me to his apartment. Later, he introduced me to some of his friends at a local restaurant. The food was fantastic! I had a slice of pizza that was as big as my head! That was the biggest pizza ever! The next day, Antonio took me to Manhattan. We visited a lot of places tourists like to go; the Empire State Building, the Met, and a few others. My favorite was the public library. That's the building they used in the opening of *Ghostbusters* which is the best movie ever!

The trip was a great experience for me. Antonio is a lucky guy to be living in the city that never sleeps! Of course I love L.A., it's an incredible place to live too. Maybe, if Antonio has time, he can take a trip to the west coast's best city, L.A.

Using the worksheet.

1. Drill the examples.
2. Students fill in the story.
3. Read the story and check the answers.
4. Drill the examples again.

(optional)

5. Students write their own stories. Check their work with a focus on articles.

Note

Don't waste a lot of time with complicated rules and unnecessary details. Students aren't going to remember the rules. They are going to remember the examples and the patterns.

A lot of teachers make the mistake of over explaining grammar rules and thereby confusing students more. When it comes to articles there are SO many rules it's impossible to keep them all straight and it's not productive to try teaching or learning them all in one go. this worksheet is designed to give people a general understanding of the most common rules and makes it easier for the teacher to refer back to when those general examples come up.

Have a suggestion? Spot a typo? Write in!

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