

THE METHODS OF USING DEFINITE AND INDEFINITE ARTICLES IN ENGLISH CLASSES

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Abstract:

The purpose of organizing definite and indefinite articles in English classes is to help you speak and write clearly and without mistakes in English. The main purpose of writing this essay is to learn the rules of the place and use of articles in English and in what situations they are used.

Keywords. English classes, main purpose, without mistake, rules, situations.

Introduction

An article is a crucial element of almost every sentence we create in English. They're like building blocks of the language. Many people who learn English as a second language have problems with articles, especially those learners whose own language does not have them. To help you use definite and indefinite articles correctly, we've created a complete guide with some examples.

What is An article? The article is a tiny word that precedes a noun and indicates whether it is singular or plural form, in specific instances or unspecific ones.

Consider the following examples: I need a phone. — Not a specific phone, any phone.

Please give me the phone on the table. — One specific phone that the listener can see on the particular table.

There are three articles in English: a, an, and the. "A/an" called the indefinite article, "the" is the definite one. Let's see these two types in more details.

What to choose A vs Ana: As you can see, "a" and "an" are used in the same way. But when to use a or an? The rule is simple: "a" goes before a word beginning with a consonant sound: a cucumber, a rabbit, a pen; "an" goes before a word beginning with a vowel sound (a, e, i, o, u): an apricot, an antelope, an idea. While this rule is easy to remember, there are some exceptions. When choosing what type of indefinite article to use, always trust the sound, not the first letter of the word. After all, it's about pronunciation.

It's important to note that not all words that begin with the consonant letter start with the consonant sound. For example, pay particular attention to what type of indefinite article, a or an, use before h. Before a noun starting with a pronounced "h" use "a". Choose "an" with



specific nouns beginning with an unpronounced “h”. So what is correct: a hour or an hour? Of course, “an hour” is the right answer.

Likewise, some words start with a vowel that makes a consonant sound. For instance, there is a rule about “a” or “an” before “u”. Use “a” before “u” when it sounds like [ju:]. So an university or a university? In this case, “a” is required.

The same rules apply to acronym and initialism. Thus, when you need to choose the right form of the indefinite article, pay attention to what sound is used in front of it. Here are some examples: \

a MBA or an MBA — an MBA is correct because M sounds like [em]. a URL or an URL — a URL is correct as U sounds like [ju].

Indefinite article + Adverb + Adjective:

The same rule comes in handy when we need to use the indefinite article that comes before an adverb followed by adjective before a noun. But in such a case, choose the indefinite article based on the first sound of the adverb, not the adjective or noun.

a generous man — an unbelievably generous man

an interesting book — a very interesting book

Pay attention to the use of the indefinite article followed by adverbs such and quite. Here are some examples:

Mr. Houston is a such great teacher. — Incorrect

Mr. Houston is such a great teacher. — Correct

This is a quite delicious apple. — Incorrect

This is quite a delicious apple. — Correct

THE definite article:

What is a definite article? There is only one definite article in English — ‘the’. And it’s the most frequently used English word. “The” can precede the singular, plural and some uncountable nouns when we talk about a specific object and believe the reader or listener knows exactly what we’re referring to. Let’s see in detail when to use “the”.

When the definite article is needed: we talk about or identify a specific person or object; ‘She is the doctor I came to see. My bag is still in the car. I’ll get it. Could you shut the door, please? Do you know where I left the car keys?’

We’ve already mentioned the noun we’re referring to in a previous sentence; “There is a book in my bag. The book is about war. This is a train. The train goes to London.”

A person or object is unique, or there is just one of something in a certain place; “The North Star is the guiding star. The moon is huge tonight. The president will give a press conference tonight. We live in a small town next to the church. superlatives and ordinal numbers come before a noun; It’s the most interesting movie I’ve ever seen. She is the tallest girl in the class. Sara is the first person I’ve met in this city. This is the third cup of coffee I have today.”

We want to say something about a whole group of people, animals or objects. “The tiger is a dangerous animal. He gives a lot of money to the poor. The rich should pay more taxes. The Browns live next door.”

How to use “the” with names: The definite article is never used with the names of person, country, language, months and specific places. “Berlin is the capital and largest city of



Germany. Joanne Rowling wrote Harry Potter. But we must use “the” when it comes to: countries that include words like state, republic or kingdom in their names (the United States, the United Kingdom);”

Countries that have plural nouns as their names (the Philippines, the Netherlands); geographical areas, mountain ranges, groups of islands, canals, rivers, seas, and oceans (the Atlantic, the Arctic Circle, the Rocky Mountains, the Himalayas); famous buildings and places of interest (the Colosseum Theatre, the Royal Opera House, the Lincoln Memorial, the Louvre). But there are some exceptions such as Big Ben, Stonehenge, Trinity Church, Carnegie Hall, etc.; newspapers (The Sun, The Times, The Washington Post); works of art (the Mona Lisa, the Sunflowers); organizations, unions, and clubs (the United Nations Organization, the World Health Organization, the European Union, the Kennel Club). But: Greenpeace; names of restaurants and hotels, unless they are named after a person (the Plaza, the Hilton Hotel).

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