

# Articles

## [a, an, the]

Sunita Thankappan

## About the book

This book is for everyone who knows to read, write and understand English language. It will guide you to understand the articles of English language. Articles uses and examples are provided to understand this term better.

\*Repeat each page at least 3 to 5 times for better results.

Also read my other books “Grammar Hint” & “Every day Reading Book for everyone” to improve your spoken and writing skills.

Thank you for choosing this book!

**Sunita Thankappan**

# Articles

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## Let's start the topic Articles.

### In English language there are main 3 articles.

What do you understand by Articles in English language?

Articles are words that define nouns. In simple words, nouns are words that name things, people, animals & places.

Articles are (a) 1 letter, (an) 2 letters, (the) 3 letters, which are used before a noun. And it's very important to add or include these articles in our sentences or phrases to identify things or define nouns. Articles are mostly used with nouns.

In English there are three types of articles as mentioned earlier:

**a**, **an** and **the**

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## Articles are divided into 2 categories:

- 1) Indefinite Articles (non particular/ non specific thing)
- 2) Definite Article (particular/specific thing)

We use Indefinite Articles:

before **nouns**

before **countable noun(which can be countable)**

before **singular number of thing.**

### Basic method to use these articles:

A and An are called Indefinite articles.

A and An are used and placed before countable noun in the singular number.

### Use the indefinite article “a or an” with countable nouns

singular. A and An are used and placed before countable noun singular number and **not for uncountable noun**; we cannot say **a** juice or **an** rice because juice and rice are not countable. Articles are, in fact,

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adjectives, A and An are called Indefinite articles. To refer to a non-specific thing or person. It is the first time we mention it, or

It is not important which specific thing or person we are talking about.

a book

a pen

an apple

an umbrella

Words like:

**Countable nouns** are those nouns which can be countable.

e.g. apple, mango, box, basket, pen, pencil.....

**Singular in number:** Singular means one in number or one thing:

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e.g. 1 apple, 1 mango, 1 box, 1 basket, 1 pen, 1 pencil etc.

### or you can write;

an apple, a mango, a box, a basket, a pen, a pencil.

Now will see, why it's mentioned above an apple and why not a apple?

Even though apple it's countable singular in number but when you say apple, you sound not by letter name Apple you sound like aahple so aah is the sound of letter A.

**Vowels: In English language, there are main 5 vowels:**

A, E, I, O, U

There is no word without vowel in English language.

Use "an" before words that begin with a vowel.

Use "an" before words that begin consonant that sounds like a vowel.

A, letter A makes "aah" sound.

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An Apple

E, letter E makes “a” sound

An Elephant

I, letter I makes “e” sound

An Igloo

O, letter O makes “ou” sound

An Orange

U, letter U makes “uh” sound

An Umbrella

### Vowels: a, e, i, o, u

#### Use of ‘an’

- An engine
- An umbrella,
- An alarm clock,

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- An hour,

### We use “an” before a vowel sound

**An apple**

**An orange**

**An umbrella**

**An owl**

**An Ink pen**

**An eagle**

**An eye**

**An hour**

**An honest person**

It is the **vowel sound of the letter is important**, not the letter name. So before the vowel sound of the letter we need to place “an”.

**For e.g.:** An hour

“hour” begins with a consonant letter, but it is a vowel sound.



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**Consonants:** An alphabet has 26 letters, out of which 5 are vowels and 21 are consonants.

## When to use “a”?

**We use “a” before words beginning with a consonant sound.**

- 1) Use **“a”**, we use “a” before words beginning with consonants sound.
- 2) Use **“a”** before words that begin with vowel letter but it sounds like a consonant.
- 3) Consonants are 21.

If the sound of a word begins with a, e, i, o, u, then use “an”. Otherwise use “a”

“a” before a consonant sound

“an” before a vowel sound

\*It is the consonant sound which is important not the letter when placing “a” or “an” article.

## **Examples are:**

a book, a chair, a marker, a pencil, a crayon, a board, a bat, a one rupee, a uniform, a girl, a map, a

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uniform, a one rupee, a comb, a car, a dog, a camel, horse, a house, a hotel, a dog, a boat, a cat, a toothbrush, a ball, a pan

### Remember:

**The use of 'a' or 'an' depends on the beginning sound of the letter sound of the word, not on the actual letter with which it begins.**

### Some examples are:

Letter 'h' is consonant but it has vowel sound so we place "an" before hour.

An hour

Now here letter 'h' has consonant sound.

A hat

Next....

The word "University"

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University begins with a vowel letter, but it is a consonant sound.

A university and not **an university**

## When to use “an”

We use “an” before words beginning with a vowel sound.

We use “an” with singular countable nouns.

We use “an” before words beginning with a vowel sound.

**We do not use “an” with plural or uncountable nouns.**

## Examples are:

an apple, an umbrella, an honest, an egg, an eraser,  
an apple, an orange, an ink pot, an uncle etc.

**Not to use “a” or “an” for the following:**

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We do not use “a” or “an” before a plural countable noun.

We do not use “a” or “an” before an uncountable noun.

We do not say **milk** or **honesty** because milk and honesty are not countable.

You can watch my YouTube videos for vowels and consonant sounds

### Let's make some examples:

#### Use 'a'

##### a cat

This is a cat.

That is a cat.

There is a cat.

It is a cat.

##### a dog

This is a dog.

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That is a dog.

There is a dog.

It is a dog.

### **a slice of bread**

This is a slice of bread.

That is a slice of bread.

There is a slice of bread.

It is a slice of bread.

### **a letter**

This is a letter.

That is a letter.

There is a letter.

It is a letter.

### **a story book**

This is a story book.

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That is a story book.

There is a story book.

It is a story book.

### **a train**

This is a train.

That is a train.

There is a train.

It is a train.

### **a monkey**

This is a monkey.

That is a monkey.

There is a monkey.

It is a monkey.

### **a cricket match**

This is a cricket match.

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That is a cricket match.

There is a cricket match.

It is a cricket match.

### **a one rupee note**

This is a one rupee note.

That is a one rupee note.

There is a one rupee note.

It is a one rupee note.

### **a fifty-paisa coin**

This is a fifty-paisa coin.

That is a fifty-paisa coin.

There is a fifty-paisa coin.

It is a fifty-paisa coin.

### **an empty glass**

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This is an empty glass.

That is an empty glass.

There is an empty glass.

It is an empty glass.

### **a cloth**

This is a cloth.

That is a cloth.

There is a cloth.

It is a cloth.

### **a giraffe**

This is a giraffe.

That is a giraffe.

There is a giraffe.

It is a giraffe.



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### **a university**

This is a university.

That is a university.

There is a university.

It is a university.

### **a banana**

This is a banana.

That is a banana.

There is a banana.

It is a banana.

### **a tree**

This is a tree.

That is a tree.

There is a tree.

## Articles

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It is a tree.

### **a bangle**

This is a bangle.

That is a bangle.

There is a bangle.

It is bangle.

### **a crab**

This is a crab.

That is a crab.

There is a crab.

It is a crab.

### **a flag**

This is a flag.

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That is a flag.

There is a flag.

It is a flag.

### **a uniform**

This is a uniform.

That is a uniform.

There is a uniform.

It is a uniform.

### **an urn**

This is an urn.

That is an urn.

There is an urn.

It is an urn.

### **a unicorn**

This is a unicorn.

That is a unicorn.

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There is a unicorn.

It is a unicorn.

### **an apron**

This is an apron.

That is an apron.

There is an apron.

It is an apron.

### **a chocolate**

This is a chocolate.

That is a chocolate.

There is a chocolate.

It is a chocolate.

### **an omelet**

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This is an omelet.

That is an omelet.

There is an omelet.

It is an omelet.

### **a taxi**

This is a taxi.

That is a taxi.

There is a taxi.

It is a taxi.

### **a book**

This is a book.

That is a book.

There is a book.

It is a book.

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### **a pen**

This is a pen.

That is a pen.

There is a pen.

It is a pen.

### **a chair**

This is a chair.

That is a chair.

There is a chair.

It is a chair.

### **a marker**

This is a marker.

That is a marker.

There is a marker.

## Articles

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It is a marker.

### **a pencil**

This is a pencil.

That is a pencil.

There is a pencil.

It is a pencil.

### **a duster**

This is a duster.

That is a duster.

There is a duster.

It is a duster.

### **a crayon**

This is a crayon.

That is a crayon.

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There is a crayon.

It is a crayon.

### **a white board**

This is a white board.

That is a white board.

There is a white board.

It is a white board.

### **a bag**

This is a bag.

That is a bag.

There is a bag.

It is a bag.

### **a mat**

This is a mat.



## Articles

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That is a mat.

There is a mat.

It is a mat.

### **a uniform**

This is a uniform.

That is a uniform.

There is a uniform.

It is a uniform.

### **a cockroach**

This is a cockroach.

That is a cockroach.

There is a cockroach.

It is a cockroach.

### **a laptop**

This is a laptop.

## Articles

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That is a laptop.

There is a laptop.

It is a laptop.

### **a mobile**

This is a mobile.

That is a mobile.

There is a mobile.

It is a mobile.

### **a pencil**

This is a pencil.

That is a pencil.

There is a pencil.

It is a pencil.

### **an eraser**

This is an eraser.

That is an eraser.

## Articles

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There is an eraser.

It is an eraser.

### **a rubber**

This is a rubber.

That is a rubber.

There is a rubber.

It is a rubber.

### **a map**

This is a map.

That is a map.

There is a map.

It is a map.

### **a fan**

This is a fan.

That is a fan.

There is a fan.

## Articles

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It is a fan.

### **a bat**

This is a bat.

That is a bat.

There is a bat.

It is a bat.

### **a ball**

This is a ball.

That is a ball.

There is a ball.

It is a ball.

### **a goat**

This is a goat.

That is a goat.

## Articles

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There is a goat.

It is a goat.

### **a hut**

This is a hut.

That is a hut.

There is a hut.

It is a hut.

### **a horse**

This is a horse.

That is a horse.

There is a horse.

It is a horse.

### **a house**

This is a house.

That is a house.

## Articles

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There is a house.

It is a house.

### **a bat**

This is a bat.

That is a bat.

There is a bat.

It is a bat.

### **a fish**

This is a fish.

That is a fish.

There is a fish.

It is a fish.

### **a jug**

This is a jug.

That is a jug.

## Articles

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There is a jug.

It is a jug.

### **a kangaroo**

This is a kangaroo.

That is a kangaroo.

There is a kangaroo.

It is a kangaroo.

### **a lock**

This is a lock.

That is a lock.

There is a lock.

It is a lock.

### **a key**

This is a key.

That is a key.

There is a key.

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It is a key.

### **a mat**

This is a mat.

That is a mat.

There is a mat.

It is a mat.

### **a net**

This is a net.

That is a net.

There is a net.

It is a net.

### **a pot**

This is a pot.

That is a pot.

There is a pot.



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It is a pot.

### **a queen**

This is a queen.

That is a queen.

There is a queen.

It is a queen.

### **a ring**

This is a ring.

That is a ring.

There is a ring.

It is a ring.

### **a shop**

This is a shop.

That is a shop.

## Articles

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There is a shop.

It is a shop.

### **a table**

This is a table.

That is a table.

There is a table.

It is a table.

### **a van**

This is a van.

That is a van.

There is a van.

It is a van.

### **a watch**

This is a watch.

That is a watch.

There is a watch.

## Articles

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It is a watch.

### **a xylophone**

This is a xylophone.

That is a xylophone.

There is a xylophone.

It is a xylophone.

### **a zebra**

This is a zebra.

That is a zebra.

There is a zebra.

It is a zebra.

### **a tube light**

This is a tube light.

That is a tube light.

There is a tube light.

## Articles

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It is a tube light.

### **a tin**

This is a tin.

That is a tin.

There is a tin.

It is a tin.

### **a pen**

This is a pen.

That is a pen.

There is a pen.

It is a pen.

### **a plate**

This is a plate.

That is a plate.

There is a plate.

## Articles

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It is a plate.

### **a box**

This is a box.

That is a box.

There is a box.

It is a box.

### **a girl**

This is a girl.

That is a girl.

There is a girl.

### **a shopkeeper**

This is a shopkeeper,

That is a shopkeeper.

## Articles

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There is a shopkeeper.

### **a noble master**

This is a noble master.

That is a noble master,

There is a noble master.

### **a European artist**

This is a European artist.

That is a European artist.

There is a European artist.

### **a man**

This is a man.

That is a man.

There is a man.

### **a girl**

This is a girl.

## Articles

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That is a girl.

There is a girl.

### **Use of 'an' examples**

#### **an orange**

This is an orange.

That is an orange.

There is an orange.

It is an orange.

#### **an egg**

This is an egg.

That is an egg.

There is an egg.

It is an egg.

#### **an envelope**

This is an envelope

## Articles

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That is an envelope.  
There is an envelope.

It is an envelope.

### **an essay**

This is an essay.

That is an essay.

There is an essay.

It is an essay.

### **an application**

This is an application.

That is an application.

There is an application.

It is an application.

### **an eraser**

This is an eraser.



## Articles

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That is an eraser.

There is an eraser.

It is an eraser.

### **an octopus**

This is an octopus.

That is an octopus.

There is an octopus.

It is an octopus.

### **an elephant**

This is an elephant.

That is an elephant.

There is an elephant.

It is an elephant.

### **an inkpot**

This is an inkpot.

## Articles

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That is an inkpot.

There is an inkpot.

It is an inkpot.

### **an ant**

This is an ant.

That is an ant.

There is an ant.

It is an ant.

### **an igloo**

This is an igloo.

That is an igloo.

There is an igloo.

It is an igloo.

### **an insect**

This is an insect.

That is an insect.

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There is an insect.

It is an insect.

### **an apple**

This is an apple.

That is an apple.

There is an apple.

It is an apple.

### **an egg**

This is an egg.

That is an egg.

There is an egg.

It is an egg.

### **an umbrella**

This is an umbrella.

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That is an umbrella.

There is an umbrella.

It is an umbrella.

### **an astronaut**

There is an astronaut.

He is an astronaut.

She is an astronaut.

You are an astronaut.

### **an Indian engineer**

There is an Indian engineer.

He is an Indian engineer.

She is an Indian engineer.

You are an Indian engineer.

### **an honest person**

There is an honest person.

He is an honest person.

She is an honest person.

You are an honest person.

**Uncountable nouns are which cannot be countable:**

**smoke**

**rain**

**rice**

**sugar**

**water**

**precious**

**coffee**

**juice**

**love**

## news

### Let's learn about definite article "the"

Use the definite article "the" with particular nouns.

The word "the" is one of the most common words in English its called definite article.

The is called definite article.

Articles are actually Adjectives because it describes noun.

Before you start, let's learn the meaning of each term mention above

#### Uses of "The"

- We use the word 'the' before nouns to show that we are referring to that particular person, place or thing.

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In simple words, we use “the” when we mean particular person or things.

## For example:

Take a pen. (any pen)

Take **the** pen near your desk. (particular or specific pen)

- We use “the” before a noun; when we talk about someone or something particular or **the** things we already mentioned before. Use **“the”** for things we already mentioned before:

## For example:

- The stranger wanted to meet my father.  
(stranger already met before my father)
- I will reach the airport at 10 am. (You know the airport which is talking about.)
- Please give me the worksheet. (You know about the worksheet which is talking about.)

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- She kept the candy. (You know about that candy which is talking about.)
- I have asked the kids to wipe their tables. (You know about the tables which are talking about.)
- I bought a sari day before yesterday. The sari is made of silk thread. (You know about that sari which is talking about.)

### **More examples are:**

- The cupboard was full of toys.
- The door of the drawing room is opened.
- Mumbai is the big city.
- She is the most beautiful girl in the world.
- I am standing near the table.
- The national flag of India.
- Take the book near your desk.
- The boy is my cousin.
- The box was full of chocolates.



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- The door of the drawing room is opened.
  - The water we use for drinking.
  - The moon looks beautiful.
  - Mumbai is the best city.
  - She is the most beautiful girl.
  - I am standing at the door.
  - The national flag of India.
  - The man is waiting at the door.
  - I go to the airport.
  - The Ganges is a big river.
  - The weather is very hot today.
- 
- We will see 13 more uses of “the” article with the following:

### **Please Note:**

- the names of rivers,
- the name of seas,
- the oceans,
- the mountain ranges,
- the superlatives,
- the names of well known/ famous buildings,
- the name of holy books,

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- **the** names of newspapers.
- **the** names of trains.
- **the** names of aero planes.
- **the** names of some countries.
- **the** before things that are only one of their kind.

### 1) **“the”** names of rivers,

- the Kaveri
- the Ganges
- the Nile
- the Amazon river
- the Brahmaputra river
- the Rhine river

### 2) **“the”** names of seas

- the Red sea
- the Yellow sea
- the Arabian sea
- the Mediterranean sea
- the Baltic sea

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### 3) "the" names of Oceans

- the Indian Ocean
- the Pacific Ocean
- the Atlantic Ocean
- the Arctic Ocean

### 4) "the" names of Mountain ranges

The Andes

The Alps

The Himalaya Range

The Aravalli Range

The Western Ghats

The Eastern Ghats

The Karakoram

### 5) "the" names of some superlatives:

the best

the most

the worst

the prettiest

the brightest

the largest

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6) "the" names of famous buildings:

- the Red Fort,
- the Eiffel Tower
- the Taj Mahal
- the Gateway of India
- the Victory Tower

7) "the" names of some holy books:-

- the Bible,
- the Quran,
- the Bhagwad Gita
- the Ramayana
- the Vedas
- the Upanishads

8) "the" names of newspapers:

- The Hindu
- The Economic Times
- The Times of India
- The Indian Express

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9) "the" names of trains

The Rajdhani Express

The Shatabdi Express

The Sampark Kranti Express

10) "the" names of aero planes/ air plane

The Jet Airways

The Air India Express

The Wright Brothers

11) "the" names of some countries

The Netherlands

The Bahamas

The Maldives

The Gambia

The United States

The United Arab Emirates

The United Kingdom

12) "the" before things that are only one of their kind.

The sun

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The moon

The earth

The sky

The solar system

The planets

I hope now you know, what are articles and its uses?

\*Don't forget to give your review on Amazon's site about the book, this will encourage the author to write more and make a difference to people who are like you!

Thank You for learning!